

Faculty Senate Minutes
Wednesday, April 6, 2016
JCK 880, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Attending

Senators: Augustine Agwuele, Rebecca Bell-Metereau, Scott Bowman, Michel Conroy, Barbara Covington, Dana Garcia, Lynn Ledbetter, Ju Long, Audrey McKinney, Shirley Ogletree, Emily Miller-Payne, Jovita Ross-Gordon, Vedaraman Sriraman, Susan Weill, Alex White

Faculty Senate Fellow: Andrew Marks

Guests: Denise Trauth (President); Gene Bourgeois (Provost); Cynthia Opheim (Associate Provost); Faculty Senate Liaison Selene Hinojosa (Library); *University Star* reporter Lesly De Leon

Meeting called to order at 4 p.m. by Senate Chair Conroy

Presidential Academic Advisory Committee (PAAG)

- Campus carry and spring Board of Regents meeting
 - Texas State has submitted our policy statement which is with the system attorneys who are responsible for assisting in crafting Regents' Rules; they will fold our policies into the rules, and that package will go to the Board of Regents meeting in late May.
 - There will be a "special called" Board of Regents meeting April 22. One item on the agenda is a gift to the university to make an acquisition for the Witliff collection.
- Promotion and tenure cycle
 - The President is currently completing her review, and a report will be slated for the May PAAG meeting.
- Governor's college affordability task force
 - With the current narrative going around the country that college students are graduating with large amounts of debt, we are under increasing pressure to keep tuition increases low, as with our 2.75% increase for next year.
 - Folded into the new strategic plan is a requirement from the coordinating board for identifying marketable skills. Academic units will compile lists of such skills associated with their programs that our graduates will need in future employment.
 - We need to find ways to make sure that students are aware of these skills.
- University fundraising structure
 - Discussion of the role of deans and program directors to assist in fundraising, but not to take sole responsibility for it; the ultimate goal is the coordination of efforts in "donor cultivation" and "prospect management" with fundraising priorities relating directly to the university's strategic plan.
 - Discussion of importance for clearer understanding of "thresholds of giving" for buildings and for scholarships
- Online Proctoring
 - Debbie Thorne is still working with the system to look at the contract for online proctoring

Election of Faculty Senators

- Top vote-getters have been identified and contacted to ascertain their willingness to go forward with the final round of voting that opens April 11.
- Request for encouraging voting

Council of Academic Deans April 5 meeting report (Senator Conroy)

- Council of Funded Research
 - Report on the need to designate a “research point of contact” person for purchasing, HR, payroll, faculty records, etc.
 - Discussion of data sharing plans and university support and infrastructure
- “10 Colleges That Attract Most Transfer Students”. U.S. News article distributed by Michael Heintze
 - In fall 2014, Texas State was 7th on a national list of universities accepting new transfer students. The current number of transfer students who have applied fall 2016 is running below the projected target.
- Safe Places for Disciplinary Action (Campus Carry)
 - Subcommittee of the Campus Carry Task Force wanted input from faculty and deans on where to establish carve out locations for disciplinary action.
 - Discussion of definition of “disciplinary”; permanent vs. temporary signage; and what policies and procedures statements need clarification.
- Assistant Provost Opheim is stepping down in December and will return to the faculty
 - There will be an internal search that will begin in September.
 - Due to the change in duties, the job description will be reviewed.
- Associate VP candidates for Enrollment Management and Marketing will be on campus June 30.

Nontenure Line Faculty Committee April 1 meeting report (Senator White)

- Faculty constitution discussion
 - Senate Chair Conroy was asked to write a memo to chairs of all departments about the NLFC and its charge.
- Senate voted to endorse the recommendation of the Nontenure Line Faculty Committee for Part-time Faculty Awards for Excellence in Teaching.

Bobcat Pause memorial service, Thursday, April 7, 6 p.m., LBJSC ballroom

Approval of March 30 meeting minutes

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

~Minutes submitted by Lynn Ledbetter