**Faculty Senate Minutes**

Wednesday, March 31, 2021

Zoom Meeting, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**Attending Senators:** Taylor Acee, Rebecca Bell-Metereau, Stacey Bender, Janet Bezner, Dale Blasingame, Rachel Davenport, Jennifer Jensen, Lynn Ledbetter, Vincent Luizzi, Benjamin Martin, Stan McClellan, Roque Mendez, Andrew Ojede, Michael Supancic, Nicole Wesley

**Guests:** Scott Pope (Library), Tina Marie Cade (Senate Fellow), Kiana Burks (University Star), Karen Sigler, Joni S J Charles, Aimee Roundtree.

Meeting called to order at 4:02 p.m. by Senate Chair Bezner

**Curriculum Committee Report**

Senators heard proposals and asked questions corresponding to proposed curriculum changes including:

* Add a Minor in Dance (undergraduate)
* Add a Minor in Sustainability Studies (undergraduate)
* Add a Minor in Chinese (undergraduate)
* Delete the Master of Science (M.S.) Major in Software Engineering (Non-thesis Option)
* Delete the Master of Science (M.S.) Major in Software Engineering (Thesis Option)

**University Lecturers Committee Report**

Senators voted to approve the recommendations from the University Lecturers Committee.

**Consideration of Academic Computing Committee Report**

Senators voted to approve recommendations from the Academic Computing Committee to fund three proposals.

**PAAG Meeting Agenda**

Senators discussed potential agenda items for the April 7, 2021 meeting with the PAAG.

**Presidential Excellence Awards**

Senator Wesley provided a summary of feedback she received from faculty who have served at the college level on PEA committees. Feedback included standardizing the process between colleges, modification of rubrics, the significant time investment for nominees to prepare materials, lack of feedback to nominees who do not move to the next round, and parity between colleges and expectations for applicants. Senators discussed their experiences with serving on PEA committees and being nominees. A senator suggested a FAQ document to help nominees with common problems or questions with the application process.

**Miscellaneous**Senators voted to co-sponsor with Student Affairs the April 14, 2021 Texas State Social Justice Speaker Michelle Alexander.

**Senate Bulletin**

Senators reviewed items for inclusion in the April Faculty Senate bulletin.

**Policy Review**

UPPS 06.05.02 Responding to media inquiries, due April 9, 2021 (full review of policy, no edits suggested) (Senator Blasingame)

**Adoption of Minutes**

Senators voted to adopt the minutes of the March 24, 2021 meeting.

**Executive Session**

Senators voted to approve the Minors in Dance, Sustainability Studies and Chinese as well as to delete the MS Majors in Science in Software Engineering (thesis and non-thesis options).

Senator Martin provided an update on the DEI Training Task Force.

Senator Jensen initiated a discussion about the faculty and PC roles in the faculty search committee process.

Meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jennifer Jensen