**Faculty Senate Minutes**

Wednesday, April 29, 2020

Zoom Meeting, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**Attending** **Senators**: Janet Bezner, Rebecca Bell-Metereau, Natalie Ceballos, Rachel Davenport, Jesse Gainer, Jennifer Jensen, Lynn Ledbetter, Benjamin Martin, Vince Luizzi, Stan McClellan, David Nolan, Michael Supancic, Diego Vacaflores, Nicole Wesley.

**Guests**: Bill Stone (chair, Committee on Committees), Stephanie Towery (Library), Shannon Duffy (Senate Fellow), Dale Blasingame, Karen Sigler, Taylor Acee, Judy Oskam, Roque Mendez, Joni Charles, Andrew Ojede, Dianna Morganti.

Meeting called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Senate Chair Bezner.

**Committee on Committees Report**

Bill Stone, chair, Committee on Committees, presented the recent work by the committee to place faculty in open seats on senate and university committees. Senators went through the recommended committee list and made minor adjustments and substitutions to various assignments. There was a question concerning the operation of the University Leadership Assembly (ULA) and how faculty are assigned each year. The senate chair will contact the provost’s office for more information. Faculty assignments to the ULA will not be confirmed until information is received from the provost’s office.

The senate suspended the rules and made a motion to approve all recommendations with changes. The senate voted to approve the recommendations.

**Nontenure Line Faculty Committee (NLFC) Instructor Ranks Policy Recommendations**

Senators discussed the recent changes made by the Nontenure Line Faculty Committee (NLFC) to the draft policy on Instructional Faculty Appointments. Senators recommended removing the statements concerning graduate faculty appointments. However, whether or not to include the graduate policy statement will be discussed with Associate Provost (AP) Thorne. The next step with the policy is to present and discuss the policy with AP Thorne on May 7.

The senate voted to approve the draft policy with indicated changes and to forward the document to AP Thorne in advance of the May meeting.

**Faculty Senate Fellow 2020-2021**

A senate subcommittee looked at the applications and presented information to senators on the Faculty Senate Fellow position for 2020-2021. There were two strong candidates for the position and senators discussed the strengths of each candidate. After some discussion the senate voted to approve a candidate. The candidate will be notified by the senate chair.

**Personnel Committee Policy**

The senate subcommittee to address the draft personnel committee policy has been finalized. Senators McClellan, Ledbetter, and incoming senator Ojede, along with Beth Erhart (Academic Governance Committee), will review the draft policy and bring recommendations to the senate.

**Faculty Development Leave (FDL) Rubric**

Senators discussed changes to the current Faculty Development Leave (FDL) rubric and the reasons for the changes. After some discussion, points for item F. (FDL report) were increased from one (1) to two (2) points. Points for item D. (resources and agreements) were increased from one (2) to two (3) points. Senators voted to approve the changes.

**President’s Academic Advisory Group (PAAG) Agenda**

Senators discussed possible agenda items for the President’s Academic Advisory Group (PAAG) meeting on May 6, 2020. Two items for discussion were identified:

* University budget and the risks to nontenure line faculty.
* Current university COVID 19 issues and the proposed university working groups.

**Policy Review**

Assignment of senator to review specific University and Academic Affairs policy:

* [AA/PPS 01.02.10, Role of the Academic Dean](https://policies.txstate.edu/division-policies/academic-affairs/01-02-10.html). Due May 6, 2020. Senator Nolan

**Approval of Minutes**

The April 22, 2020 minutes were approved by senators.

**Action Items**

* The Faculty Senate Alumni Association representative needs to be replaced as senator Nolan’s term is ending. Senator Jensen and incoming senator Blasingame volunteered for the position. The item will be discussed at the next senate meeting.
* The Voting and Civic Engagement Committee needs a replacement as senator Gainer’s term is ending. The item will be discussed at the next senate meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

Minutes submitted by David Nolan