Faculty Senate Meeting  
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi  
Minutes of March 14, 2003


Absent:  Balasubramanuya, Crowley, Meyer, Middleton, Moore, and Zebda

Guest:  None acknowledged.

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Dr. John Brendel.

I. Approval of February 21, 2003 Minutes
A correction to the spelling of Dr. Pat Carroll’s name at the bottom of page three (3a) with the comments he made. Also, under the section for “Guest”, there is a question mark next to David Blanke’s name. The question mark was to determine, if this was indeed the correct person or not. It was determined that the gentlemen that attended the meeting as a guest, was David Blanke and this was the correct spelling of his name, therefore, the question mark will be removed. Dr. Ivy, make note of Dr. Meyers last name, a couple paragraphs up from Dr. Carroll’s name, needed the correct spelling as well, section three (3a). No other changes were noted or made. The Minutes were approved unanimously.

II. Faculty Affairs
A. Only two items to be addressed at this time.
1. The grievance situation filed by the College of Education, has been handled. A report was turned in to the Provost on March 7, 2003.
2. And the next item was the “Chairs” policy project. There will be a meeting held on Monday afternoon, March 31, 2003, at which time, two related policies will be discussed. One will be evaluation and the other is the cycle of performance, which is related to what is going on concerning the policy of the “Chair”.

B. Awards/Bylaws/Election
1. The committee did a couple of weeks ago to look over the nominations for the three university awards. The nominations were sent to Dr. Harper.
2. Just a reminder, the awards ceremony is scheduled for Friday, April 11, 2003, tentatively.
3. There is a deadline of April 7, 2003 for the regency.
4. Concerning the elections, Ed Kownslar thanked many for encouraging others to run for faculty senate.
5. The nominees are as follows:
The absentee voting will begin directly after spring break. The elections will begin on Monday, March 31, 2003, which will be election day. And there will be additional information sent out by Ed Kowalskar in the next couple of weeks.

Also, on the ballots, the revision of the constitution will be included.

Dr. Brendel stated that the campus wide meeting for the changing of the constitution was held this week also.

C. Budget Analysis
1. Dr. Zebda was not present, therefore, Dr. Brendel asked Dr. Friday to give the report for this committee.
   a. Dr. Friday was not aware of anything that needed to be reported from this committee, at the present time.

D. Committee of Committees
1. Dr. Brendel and Ms. Sandra Cabrera meet this week to iron out some of the problems in the committees, trying to convert everything into slots. Attempting to set up everything in a more process oriented way. So as to have the slots stay consistent, although the people may rotate. There is an area to still iron out, but progress is being made.

2. The Committee on Committees was asked to do some research for the Academic Affairs Committee on the dissertation chair work loads through out Texas. Dr. Brendel has completed this research and provided the results to the Academic Affairs Committee so that this information can be factored into their recommendation concerning dissertation work load policy.
3. Dr. Ivy inquired about the terms served for faculty representatives. Dr. Brendel made additional comment: Hypothetically, everyone is on a three year term. There is however, some which are placed on a two year term. And some have been placed on staggered terms. Therefore, a third of the faculty representatives roll off each year.

III. Academic Affairs Committee
A. Dr. Bala’s father is gravely ill, therefore, he had to leave the country. and Dr. Middleton is out of town.
B. There are three Action Items to be addressed. First the Catalog Copy on page 11.
   1. A recommendation was made to the Senate to approve the Catalog Copy as it is listed here today.
   2. Discussions were made before being approved: Page 15, item #4, Item #5, on the same page. Page 17, about ½ way down Educational Administration – MS
   3. The recommendations were accepted with the exceptions of the OCTD 4337, which wasn’t modified and with Dr. Lewin corrections. The approval was accepted and passed, with the corrections made.
C. The recommendation for the approval of pages 23 through 26, by the committee, to accept it as it is written was approved.
D. It was decided to go back to the Academic Affairs recommendations to the Senate, which was to approve it as submitted. If the degree requirements are not included, there will no longer be 133 hours but 141. A vote was taken for the inclusion, with the approvals. The vote was 5 – for, 5 – abstention and 1 opposed. It was approved.
E. Letters of support have been written for the support Dr. Jose Giraldo concerning his VISA. Signatures are needed prior to mailing.
F. A vote was taken on the rule, pages #6 - #10. It was decided to go with the Academic Affairs Committee recommendation for approval as presented. And it carried, received approval. No opposition and no abstentions.
G. The next vote was taken on the University statement and change, listed at the bottom of page #5, in the cover memo. The Academic Affairs Committee recommended that it be approved as it is laid out. The motion to approve this statement was passed. No opposed, no abstentions.
I. The freedom of speech issue will be addressed at the next meeting.
K. The issue of the “last day to drop” a class was discussed.

IV. Provost’s Report
A. The American Association of State Colleges and Universities has a Hall Mark of Excellent project going that will assist us with the core
curriculum assessment. We will need to turn in a report on October 2004.

B. As mentioned in the January meeting, there is also the American Democracy Project. Those who will be participating in this, will be contacted after spring break.

C. The Ph.D. program in proposal for the heart center. There were a couple of out state reviewers to look at the proposal, prior to sending it in to the system or the coordinating board. The department is responding to their report.
   a. One concern they had, was the “name” - Environmental Systems.
   b. Dr. Johnson is meeting with the individuals for program reviews.
   c. The external reviewing will not be done uniformly, as in the past.
   d. However, some have been requested. An attempt has been made to obtain one for in state and one for our of state.

D. The goals for 2010 and the Budget issues will be viewed.
   1. Additional information was given about the Budget Committee activity.
      a. The Sub-committee is divided into 5 committees.
      b. The Pros and Cons were expounded upon.

E. The House moves for a 5% cut.
   1. The winners and losers were discussed.

IV. The Speakers Report
   A. A congratulations was given to Dr. Melrose on becoming a new father as of Last Wednesday.
   B. Dr. Brendel gave his report on the Association of Faculty Senate in Austin.
      1. The focus was on four issues.
         a. One was concerning the impact potential war would have on campus.
         b. Professional development.
         c. Diversity among students body on campus
         d. The Budget
   C. There is a Resolution that is attached to your packet today that came out of the Texas Council of Faculty Senate Meeting in Austin.
   D. We have one more meeting for the Faculty Senate.
   E. Academic Affairs and Faculty Affairs has the most on their plate as we move into the end of the year.
   F. Try to work through the unfinished business, as much as possible, in April. The Senate will probably have a meeting during the summer, at some point, maybe in July.
   G. A reminder that anything that goes before the Senate, needs to first go before the Executive Committee. And their next meeting will be April 7th. Therefore, anything you may want to be included in the packet, need to be ready by the 7th of April.
H. One thing that is required from each of “Chair” of the Senate sub-committees, is to generate a year end report. It does not have to be long, or detailed. But it will have to be turned in by April 7, 2003 also, in order for it to be included in the packet.

I. The Executive Committee meeting will be moved to the 14th of April, Instead of April 7, 2003.

J. Dr. Brendel and Dr. Harper will have a closing meeting with the new Faculty that came in this year.

V. Other Business
   None

VI. Announcements
   None

VII. Adjournment
    The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be Friday, April 25, 2003