

**Faculty Senate Minutes**  
**OCNR 363**  
**February 15, 2013**

**Present:** J. Anderson, S. Anderson, Baldwin, Beltz, Billiot, Bowden, Chambers, Concannon, Engelhardt, Friday, Garrett, Giraldo, Griffith, Keys, Klaus, Larkin, Louis, Miller, Spencer, Tejada-Delgado, Zimmer

**Absent:** Garcia

**Ex-Officio Present:** Basse, Billeaux, Graham, Markwood, Tatum

**Guests:** None

1. Speaker, Spencer, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. A quorum was established.
2. The agenda was reviewed. Miller moved, Tejada-Delgado seconded, that the agenda be approved as presented. Motion carried.
3. Minutes of the 1-25-2013 meeting: moved by Louis, seconded by Garrett to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Tejada-Delgado brought the following proposal for the reorganization of curricular committees and councils, as a motion from the Committee on Committees:

All Texas A& M University committees and councils, whose primary role is to help to develop, assess and recommend changes to curricula are required to report to the Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) for review of developments, assessments and any change recommendations. AAC will make its recommendations concerning curricular changes to Faculty Senate (FS), which will consider and vote on those recommendations.

FS further recommends that AAC include members of each of the colleges and the library, and that each member of AAC also serve as an ex officio member of one of these committees/councils.

Committees and Councils include, but may not be limited to, the following:

- Undergraduate Council
- Graduate Council
- Core Curriculum Committee
- Honors Council
- First Year Islander Committee

Reports should be made to FS on a monthly basis, as needed, and should be included as part of FS's monthly agendas. It is the responsibility of AAC to contact the FS speaker to request that curricular recommendations be placed on an appropriate FS agenda, as needed.

The motion carried unanimously.

2. Louis reported that the full-time faculty vote for proposed changes to the Faculty Senate constitution re: membership eligibility was held via Survey Monkey. The measure passed 118 for and 16 against.

3. Louis brought the changes in the Faculty Senate bylaws from the Awards, Bylaws, and Elections Committee in the form of a motion for approval. The document that delineated the proposed changes was re-presented. Discussion ensued regarding the status of a senator who is completing another senator's term. The motion to approve the changes as presented carried unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### 1. Speaker's Report:

Spencer reported that faculty development leave has been reinstated. Provost Markwood stated that three faculty members have applied.

Plan to attend the Texas Council of Faculty Senates spring meeting, March 1-2, 2013.

The Faculty Senate office moving into Bell Library in late March or early April.

2. Academic Program changes from the Academic Affairs Committee. Garrett moved, Friday seconded, approval of the Texas Consortium's Bachelor of Science degree in Physics. Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi will participate with these universities: Prairie View A&M University, Tarleton State University, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, and Midwestern State University, Texas Southern University, and Midwestern State University. Motion carried unanimously.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### 1. Academic Affairs (AA): Garrett

Garrett reported that the committee reviewed the catalog changes for five colleges. The committee is recommending approval of submitted changes as written. Baldwin moved, Chambers seconded, the acceptance of the recommendation. Motion carried

Garrett reported that the committee investigated problem of having students who have dropped the course still having the access to the course evaluation. Discussion ensued. Billeaux offered to work with the Academic Affairs Committee and Cely to close the window for student course evaluations.

Students desiring to appeal a grade should know the procedures for grade appeals because they are published in several places as well as online. The committee has invited Tiffany Hearne to meet with them to address what students need to do. Markwood spoke to the issue of changing some of the process to be more addressed at the College level.

### 2. Awards, Bylaws & Elections (ABE): Louis

Information - advisor excellence awards:  
Elections for the senate just after spring break.

### 3. Budget Analysis: Chambers

Senate Budget Analysis Committee is continuing to support Faculty Affairs Committee in the effort in instituting **Dependent scholarships**. The question of how much would be waived came up. Here is a rough calculation:

- The university cites the cost of in-state, full-time undergraduate enrollment for tuition and fees to be  $(\$7,084/2=)$  \$3,542/semester for 12 credit hours.
- For 12 credit hours, tuition is \$2,247.10. The rest is fees. [TAMUCC Fall 2012-Spring 2013 Schedule](#), retrieved 2-4-2013
- Of the \$2,247.10, State tuition is \$600, which is just shy of **17% of the total tuition and fees bill**. This is what may be waived. [TAMUCC Fall 2012-Spring 2013 Schedule](#), retrieved 2-4-2013.
- **Total value for a 120 hour degree, this is  $(120*50=)$  \$6,000.**

Spencer shared that data will be collected using the Senate subscription to Survey Monkey tool to poll the faculty and staff regarding how much this benefit might be used.

Chambers brought and disseminated the results of summer revenue by college. Preliminary comparisons to the previous year are available from Valrie Chambers upon request.

Some preliminary analysis on the financial success of Janmester has been made. We have formed an ad hoc committee that includes representation from Faculty Affairs for the purpose of considering the mini-mesters from student, faculty, and university perspectives and reporting back to FS.

### 4. Committee on Committees (COC): Tejada-Delgado

No additional report.

### 5. Faculty Affairs: S. Anderson reported that FA is concerned about these two items:

a) New professional track faculty Senators potentially not feeling free to speak or vote freely in meetings. Should discuss potential ways to help those senators speak freely, such as more private ballots, etc.

b) Faculty have raised concerns that, while they support the inclusion of professional track faculty in Senate, they do not support growing our faculty long term by primarily adding non-tenure track lines. FA would like to explore this issue more.

## **PROVOST COMMENTS**

Markwood gave his written report ([see attached](#)). He expanded on information about the current legislative session in regards to funding of higher education. Discussion of equity and merit pay raise formulas ensued.

**ADDITIONAL BUSINESS** - None

ADJOURNED at 4:00 p.m.

The next meeting will be March 22, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

*Suzanne K. Beltz*

Suzanne Beltz  
Senate Secretary