

2013-14 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
April 25, 2014, 3:15 p.m.
OCNR 363

1. Call to order 3:15pm by Speaker Spencer
2. Approval of agenda
 - a. Motion to approve: Miller; seconded by Moreno. Motion passed.
3. Introductions of members and guests, including members of the 2014-15 Faculty Senate
4. Minutes: March 21, 2014 meeting
 - a. Motion to approve: Griffith; Kar seconded.
 - b. Bowden objected to change in bylaws that would allow CIPRA to have an Ex-Officio seat on the senate, as he believes his motion did not receive opportunity for a second.
 - i. Larkin replied that time was allowed for a second, but that none came forward.
 - ii. Moreno referenced Robert's rules which indicated that for a motion to proceed it requires a second. The the lack thereof rendered the motion lost.
 - iii. Bowden replied that Speaker did not ask for a second, which was improper. Therefore, the motion to table still stands.
 - iv. A friendly amendment was offered by Speaker Spencer to add this item to the agenda in Old Business. Bowden accepted this as a friendly amendment.
 - c. Motion to approve amended minutes, to correct Item 6aii to indicate that Speaker did not call for a second, passed.
5. Old business
 - a. Bowden: Post Tenure Review document
 - i. Larkin moved to approve
 - ii. Anderson seconded
 - iii. Senator asked for clarification regarding of the the "no less than two" statement in section in 5.2.1
 - a) Larkin replied that this wording was intended to provide flexibility in process to university, and/or colleges.
 - iv. Keys stated that CONHS would like the option to invite faculty with administrative appointments to serve on PTR committees.
 - a) Larkin replied that the idea of inviting an administrator to the PTR committee was predominantly viewed by faculty at forums and through written responses as having the potential to have an undue influence on the committee
 - v. Another Senator asked if a faculty member could request a voluntary post tenure review
 - a) Larkin Replied in the affirmative. See section 5.7

- vi. Concern was expressed that elective PTR could have a dramatic effect on the pool of funds available for merit and equity.
 - a) Chambers replied that this concern may not be that great of a problem when one weighs in all the factors associated with costs and number of faculty going for PTR.
- vii. Araiza asked about the procedure for the policy once it leaves senate?
 - a) Provost replied that it would be reviewed by Dean's Council and President's Cabinet, who would likely request changes prior to final approval.
 - b) Speaker indicated it would be the role of the new faculty senate to review these requested changes.
- viii. Speaker called the question regarding approval of the documents
 - a) Votes in favor 17
 - b) 2 abstentions
 - c) Motion passed
- b. CIPRA's request to have an ex officio non-voting member to attend the faculty senate meetings for a one year term
 - c. Larkin moved to accept
 - d. Tejada-Delgado seconded the motion. Discussion:
 - i. Provost stated that the curricular councils report through the Faculty Senate and those decisions have to be approved by Faculty Senate. CIPRA is not part of that process and not a curricular body. Works outside of the curricular reporting scheme.
 - ii. Bowden stated that this would require that the By-laws be changed for an ex-officio member from CIPRA. If there are no voting rights, then it should not have official standing. Any member of the campus community can attend.
 - iii. Provost indicated that as an ex-officio member has the ability to speak up during any current Faculty Senate meeting
 - iv. Moreno noted that motion to be considered was whether to table original motion, not whether to approve change to Bylaws allowing CIPRA to serve as Ex-officio member
 - v. Bowden seconded the motion. Discussion:
 - a) Larkin suggested that the new senate could discuss this further
 - b) Moreno suggested that a deeper discussion and consideration be made whenever by-laws are to be changed.
 - c) Question called by Speaker regarding Tabling motion
 - a. All members were in favor of tabling: 10. Item will be added to new business of May 2 FS meeting.

6. New Buisness

- a. Griffith: New undergraduate degree program in Atmospheric Sciences
 - i. Griffith introduced Dr. Feiqin Xie (Dept. of Physical & Environmental Sciences) who asked for faculty senate to consider the proposal. Board of Regents will determine approval. Proposing ten new courses and 3-4 new faculty and approval for an additional professional track faculty member has been approved for the new program. New catalog is in the process. COSE approved this proposal in 2013. Undergraduate council committee approved it early this month. Program appears to be gaining much student interest.
 - ii. Larkin asked if the faculty that has been hired, along with any new faculty being hired to support the program will suffice to meet it's needs. Fei indicated the lines would be sufficient.
 - iii. Spencer asked for a vote to approve: Unanimously approved
- 7. Speaker's report:
 - a. Strategic Planning & Continuous Improvement Committee update
 - i. Committee is on track to distribute at the May 15th meeting
 - b. Faculty Senate accomplishments for 2013-14
 - i. Speaker Spencer sent to faculty senate via e-mail. She requested that senators send any changes, concerns to the document to her for consideration
- 8. Committee reports
 - c. Academic Affairs
 - i. No further report
 - d. Awards, Bylaws & Elections
 - i. Baldwin suggested that the faculty awards be separated out to have it's own ceremony and that a synopsis of each be read at the potential ceremony.
 - e. Budget Analysis
 - i. One item on ratings on performance evaluation is still pending
 - f. Committee on Committees
 - i. First meeting this semester and will be reviewing committee reports over the summer for any necessary changes
 - ii. Faculty interest survey went out this week. Thanks to Catherine Bridges
 - g. Faculty Affairs
 - i. Bowden thanked Larkin on taking the lead on PTR
 - ii. Bowden thanked Anderson and Provost for taking the lead on the librarian promotion
- 9. Provost's comments
 - a. Board of regents meet next week. Major items on the agenda:
 - i. Tenure decisions

- ii. University budget for next fiscal year, which include a 4year flat rate tuition for incoming freshman group of students
 - 1. Keys asked if all state schools are implementing a 4 year flat rate. State suggested, but TAMU System required, that all TAMU Campuses comply.
 - 2. Tuition rollover based on the number of credits and number of years the student has at time of transfer
 - 3. Our campus will now have ten fees rolled into one “university services fee”
 - 4. Campus will now be charged a flat rate of \$10.00 a credit hour for Instructional Enhancement Fees.

10. For the Good of the order

- a. Thank Yous!
 - i. To Speaker Spencer for her services and passion
 - ii. Academic Affairs
 - iii. ABE – on rolling out new awards
 - iv. Budget Analysis – Most robust and transparent reports in the history of his tenure with this campus
 - v. COC – Great work on streamline those committees and memberships
 - vi. Faculty Affairs – Two major pieces of policy came through that committee

11. Presentation of certificates of appreciation to Senators who are leaving Senate

- a. Baldwin, Englehardt, Keys, Zimmer, Klaus

12. Speaker Spencer was presented with a gift of appreciation

13. Adjourn

- a. Moreno moved to adjourn at 4:15 pm