

Faculty Senate

January 23, 2015 2:00 PM

Island Hall 323

Present: Anderson, Araiza, Bowden, Brown, Changchit, , Crane, Dolan, Griffith, Kar, Larkin, Miller, Mollick, Spaniol, Spencer, Tejada-Delgado, Thompson, Cammarata, Flournoy

Absent:, Giraldo, , Moreno, Ozymy, Zeidan

Ex-Officio: Beard, Billeaux, , Markwood,

Guests: Ralph McFarland, Lionel Cassin and Ben Soto.

1. Call to order
  - a. 2:02 pm meeting was called to order by Speaker Larkin
2. Approval of Agenda
  - a. Spencer moved to approve, seconded by Griffith. Approval passed unanimously.
3. Approval of November 21 minutes
  - a. Spencer moved to approve, Miller seconded.
  - b. Discussion: It was asked who seconded motion 7.e.i. It was determined to be Senator Griffith. Item added to minutes.
  - c. Minutes approved with above addition. 1 abstention: Kathi Crane, who was not present at November 21 meeting.
4. New Business
  - a. Mr. Ralph McFarland, Assistant Director of Disability Services.
    - i. Proposal for Excellence in Disability Access and Inclusion Award
    - ii. Mr. McFarland explained some of the reasoning behind the proposal for the Excellence in Disability Access and Inclusion Award. This award aligns with the Momentum 2020 Strategic plan. He noted there are three possible courses of action. First, we could do nothing and not offer the award. Second, the award could be embedded into existing faculty and staff awards given at the end of the Spring semester. Third, this could be a stand-alone award through the Office of Disability Services. Discussion followed. Questions were asked about the necessity of establishing a stand alone award, vs. one that might fall under a broader “Inclusive Excellence” category. Mr. McFarland stated that this was a possibility, but that a distinct disability award would do more to raise awareness, recognize the efforts of faculty, and address the needs of the disabled on campus. The provost mentioned that any new university award would need approval from the President’s Cabinet, and would be held to a higher standard of achievement than a more general “advocacy” award. Senators

also raised the issue of recognizing efforts through awards that are actually legally required of all employees on campus.

- b. Lionel Cassin and Ben Soto, Information Technology.
    - i. Mr. Cassin spoke on IT policies related to malware and accessibility.
    - ii. Ben Soto brought information from the IT Committee about the University's selection of a new Classroom Response system .
5. Old Business:
- a. University rules 12.03.99.C1 Tenured and Tenure-Track Faculty Workload, and 12.03.99C1.01 Assignment of Faculty Workload Credit
  - b. Senator Bowden presented a new version of the Faculty Workload document, which has been edited based on system policy. Senators noted it was difficult to read with the edits marked, and requested a "clean" copy to be sent out to all senators. The document continues to be tabled, and will be revisited at the next meeting.
6. Speaker's report
- a. Status of Search for FS/Staff council administrative assistant replacement
    - i. Introduction of Ms. April Bassett
  - b. Resignation of Senator Giraldo (COSE)
    - i. Will be working on finding a replacement for him by next meeting.
  - c. Report on November 24 Faculty meeting with Chancellor Sharp.
    - i. Senator's Spencer, Griffith, Larkin, Miller, Brown, Ozymy and 2 members from CPIRA met with Chancellor Sharp for approximately 1 hour to discuss faculty-specific issues pertaining to campus communication, growth and mission expansion, and development of a long-term plan for excellence incentives.
  - d. Faculty Senate Executive Committee will lunch with President's Cabinet on January 29.
  - e. Staff Council Update
    - i. A healthy campus initiative is underway, including rec center programs and increasing the availability of more healthy foods at dining locations on campus.
  - f. CPIRA update
    - i. Working on definition of those eligible to be *Primary Investigators* on grants (e.g. TT and non-TT faculty, research scientists, etc.)
    - ii. NCURA (National Council of University Research Administrators) will be coming to campus in summer or fall to review & report on research administration.
  - g. Spring Faculty Forums: Tentative Dates and Topics
    - i. Will be scheduled for early March. Topics will likely include policies related to Merit Pay, Faculty Evaluation, Academic Freedom and

proposed constitutional changes related to eligibility to vote in senate elections and ex officio membership.

7. Committee Reports:

a. Academic Affairs Committee

i. MS in Chemistry proposal

1. Mark Olson presented a proposal for a MS degree in Chemistry. One of the reasons stated for its need was the lack of qualified Teaching Assistants on campus. Many current students have also expressed interest in obtaining a graduate degree from our institution. MS graduates may also have a competitive advantage in the job market. Discussion involved questions and concerns about funding, especially in regards to support for instrumentation maintenance, replacement, and repair. Questions were also raised concerning effort assignment of faculty to the program, which was felt to be low.
2. Spencer moved for approval of the program, seconded by Tejano-Delgado requesting that concerns be addressed. Motion Passed unanimously.

ii. The committee also approved minor changes to Undergraduate Catalog copy:

1. Kinesiology BS wishes to change the major GPA requirement from 2.5 to 2.75
2. Honors program has new language, wants to rename UCCP sections for Honor's students to HONR prefix.
3. College of Nursing and Health Sciences has revised their mission statement.
4. Miller moved to approve all three endorsements. Crane seconded. All three endorsements passed unanimously.

Senator Miller moved to extend the meeting until 4:30. Spencer seconded. Approved unanimously. Meeting extended until 4:30.

b. Awards, Bylaws and Elections Committee:

- i. Announcement for University Excellence Awards went out in December with an invitation to nominate colleagues or self-nominate.
- ii. A constitutional change was proposed that would edit language in sections II.B.1 and II.B.3, regarding voter eligibility and ex officio membership. Both sections are outdated and need revision to become consistent with new faculty categories and current FS bylaws. As per constitutional requirements, only a proposal was made. Formal discussion and vote to

place proposed changes before the all faculty will occur at the February meeting.

- c. Budget Committee: Nothing to report
  - d. Committee on Committees:
    - i. Senator Crane continues to meet with Dr. Shupala. They are working on revising the CoC faculty survey so that the results may be more easily interpreted and manipulated using common software (e.g. Excel). They hope to have it ready for distribution in March or April.
  - e. Faculty Affairs
    - i. FA are drafting a university procedure for the recognition of faculty associations “not established to perform university business”, e.g. an AAUP chapter.
8. Provost’s comments

The Provost announced that the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has approved the university’s proposal for an Electrical Engineering degree. He also noted that we have received a draft of the Price Waterhouse Cooper Report and are responding to their recommendations. The Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (FSSE)- companion survey to the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)- will be taking place this Spring and all are encouraged to participate. Also, the Office of Academic Affairs will be seeking feedback about how that office is performing from Faculty Senate in the near future. Finally, a proposed change to the University’s Core Curriculum will be forthcoming soon from the Faculty Core Curriculum Committee (FC3). Any approved changes must leave campus by March if they are to be established in Fall 2016.

9. For the good of the order

Senator Araiza announced that Michael Erik Dyson, Professor of Sociology at Georgetown University, will be speaking at Del Mar College from 6-8 pm on Thursday, and that the event is free and open to the public.

10. Adjourn

- a. Spencer moved to adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 4:25 pm.