

Faculty Senate Meeting

February 20, 2015

Islander Hall 323

Present: Anderson, Jennifer, Araiza, Bowden, Brown, Cammarata, Dolan, Griffith, Kutil, Larkin, Miller, Mollick, Moreno, Ozymy, Spencer, Tejada-Delgado, Thompson, Zeidan

Ex-Officio: Provost Markwood, Associate VP Billeaux, Lionel Cassin (Information Technology), Coplan

Guests: Jennifer Hoang, Eugene Billiot, Marty Ward, Frank Lucido

Absent: Chuleeporn. Crane, Kar, Spaniol,

EX-Officio: Beard, Meyer

1. Call to order: 2:03pm
2. Spencer moved to approve agenda, Tejada-Delgado seconded. Passed with 1 abstention.
3. January minutes were reviewed and corrections were made. Miller moved to approve them as amended. Griffith seconded. Motion passed with three abstentions.
4. New Business
 - a. Ms. Jennifer Hoang: The Big Event: Ms. Hoang described “The Big Event”, one big day of service that occurs on March 28, 2015. Last year 300 students participated. This year they are hoping to see 400. There are several ways faculty can help: Participate in a team, support a high impact practice, be an advocate for the event, recommend a job site, or be a sponsor (range from \$50 - \$500). Helping counts as service for tenure, and also helps support the Momentum 2020 goals. For more information, contact Samantha.demelim@tamucc.edu, Jennifer.Hoang@tamucc.edu, SVC@tamucc.edu. Registration deadline is February 27, 2015.
 - b. Dr. Eugene Billiot, Chair, Faculty Core Curriculum Committee- Core Curriculum Proposal.

Dr. Billiot was available to answer questions about the proposed changes to the Core Curriculum. Spencer noted that Academic Affairs Committee is recommending approval of this proposal. Changes were described by Dr. Billiot and Senator Spencer. Miller moved to approve, Bowden seconded. Discussion followed.

Senators were concerned about the English course being replaced with Communications course. The general consensus was that writing is a very important skill for students to develop. After several minutes of discussion, the item was called to question. Motion passed with one against and no abstentions.

c. Post-Tenure Review procedure 12.06.99.C1

Spencer moved approval, Griffith seconded. Discussion followed.

Models from aspirational institutions and other universities in and outside of Texas were consulted for comparison. The revised PTR procedure does not conform to the other institutions. It appears to be the strictest PTR policy in Texas. One issue is that it only takes one unsatisfactory annual evaluation to trigger a PTR. The proposed procedure is also not really a comprehensive evaluation. There are separate ratings for each category of responsibility. Virtually all comparison institutions use comprehensive evaluations. The procedure also utilizes multiple layers of administrative review. The purpose of these additional layers is unclear.

Multiple recommendations/amendments were made to the document, however no motion was received from floor for approval. A motion was made by Spencer to approve the procedure without amendments, seconded by Miller. The motion failed without a single vote in favor, with one abstention.

d. Proposed revisions to Faculty Senate constitution

Last month Senator Mollick brought forward proposed changes to the Faculty Senate constitution that pertain to voting eligibility. The constitution had been previously amended to make other kinds of faculty (e.g. “professional”, “research”, “clinical”) eligible to serve on senate, but language expressly specifying eligibility of said faculty to *vote* in senate elections was not updated. The proposed amendments will change that. The second amendment has to do with selection of *Ex Officio* members, in order to be consistent with current practices and allow flexibility to the senate in their choice of ex officio membership.

Spencer moved to recommend these changes to faculty for a vote of approval. Miller seconded. Passed unanimously. The amendments will now be on the agenda of the spring faculty forums for discussion, followed by an all-faculty referendum in early March.

5. Old Business:

a. Revisions to University rule 12.03.99.C1 *Assignment of Faculty Workload Credit*

Senator Miller moved to table approval of this procedure until the March senate meeting so that College of Nursing and Health Sciences faculty can review it further. Spencer seconded. Discussion followed.

Senators wondered if nursing faculty expected there to be any changes to the document. The number of hours considered full time is different than the prior

document, and the nursing faculty would like more time to discuss. The document was changed from pertaining to only tenure track faculty to cover all faculty (including adjunct, etc.) It was noted that having a section by section breakdown would help clarify the document.

The motion to table consideration until March meeting passed with one abstention

6. Speaker's Report

a. Status of search for FS/Staff Council admin. Asst. replacement

There were 33 eligible candidates. Interviews have been completed, and the committee is very close to making a final decision. The permanent position should be filled by the March senate meeting.

b. Introduction of Dr. Brandi Kutil, new COSE senator

Dr. Kutil is taking over for Dr. Giraldo.

c. Jan. 29 Executive Committee meeting with President's cabinet.

The President gave a legislative update to the Executive committee.

d. CPIRA & Staff Council updates

CPIRA: Kathy Funk Baxter presented on *Facilities and Administration (F&A)* costs, monies paid to the university as a percentage of external grants. It was mentioned that, although the library was included in establishing the rate for *F&A*, it does not receive any funding from this account. Also, CPIRA is in the process of establishing a 360 review of the research administration environment at TAMUCC. The *National Council of University and Research Administrators (NCURA)* will be performing the review in fall 2015. This review is being paid for by different colleges.

Staff Council: Plans are being made for the Faculty Staff Luncheon (March 17). The theme will be celebrating diversity. Employee Excellence Awards nominations have also opened. They are also reviewing SC bylaws.

e. Spring Faculty Forums: Monday March 9 & 10- Times TBA

The following topics will be discussed at the Spring Faculty Forums:

- Performance Reviews of Faculty Members 33.99.03.C1.03
- Merit Pay for Faculty 31.01.08.C1.01
- Academic Freedom 12.01.99.C1.02
- Proposed revisions to Faculty Senate Constitution

f. Texas Council of Faculty Senates February 27 meeting with Dr. James Hallmark (Vice Chancellor of TAMU System): Speaker Larkin and Deputy Speaker Griffith will be attending. A special session for TAMUS members has been extended to 3 hours.

g. Faculty Senate elections in March (after Spring Break): Please encourage colleagues to vote & run.

7. Committee Reports

- a. **Academic Affairs Committee (AAC):** Spencer provided a handout detailing all the changes that are being recommended by AAC to Faculty Senate. Griffith moved to approve all, Kutil seconded. Discussion followed.

Guests Marty Ward and Frank Lucido were available to answer questions about the BSIS non-certificate program. Senators raised concerns about students receiving a degree if they were unable to pass the certification exams. A senator compared the situation of a teacher without certification to a nurse without certification. There are several instances of private schools hiring teachers without certifications. Also, this degree is designed for students who have completed most of their coursework and are late in their degrees, but for some reason did not take or pass the certification exams. This is a very small percentage of students. A concern was raised: Why is there a need for a BSIS when we have a general studies program? These courses are different and designed for Teacher Education.

Additional catalog amendments included:

BIMS 4296 wording change

BSIS Non-certificate program- with concerns about advising.

Friendly amendment #7 MISY course numbering

Friendly amendment #8 Not COE but COSE

The motion was passed with three abstentions.

Senator Spencer stated for the record that everything College of Liberal Arts sent was correct.

***Senator Griffith moved to extend the meeting to 4:30. Spencer seconded. Motion passed.

Spencer moved to request suspension of regular Faculty Senate voting rules to allow electronic voting on changes to the 2015-16 catalog. Miller seconded. This is necessary so that the courses can be voted on in time to get into the 2015-16 catalog. Potential items include: Bilingual counseling certificate, GRDS courses, GRDS program, MSCI courses, a few scattered other courses that were sent back for minor changes. It was suggested that instead of having it as one report, perhaps voting could be more itemized, by courses. The motion will only allow electronic voting on academic affairs curriculum proposals for February and March. Motion was unanimously passed.

- b. **Awards, Bylaws & Elections (ABE):** Will have a list of 2-3 finalists for each *Faculty & Librarian Excellence Award* by early next week. Finalists will be asked to submit application portfolios. A notification is also expected within the next few weeks regarding an Employee Recognition Program.
- c. **Budget Analysis Committee (BAC):** Have completed a peer study on faculty compensation that reviewed approximately 50 schools in and outside of Texas. Will have a copy ready for distribution at the March meeting. Also, following up with summer cost vs. revenue projections for 2014, will have something for

March meeting. There is also an interest in requesting administration to do a follow up on the 2012 CUPA salary study.

- d. **Committee on Committees (COC)**- no report

- e. **Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC):**
 - Academic Freedom document. Significant concerns particularly as TAMUCC seeks to become an emerging research institution. Preferred process may simply to be adoption of system rule on Academic Freedom.
 - Proposed procedure for *Recognition of non-affiliated faculty organizations*. Griffith moved to approve, Anderson second. Passed unanimously. Will be forwarded to Ryan Beard.
 - Requested use of Faculty Senate *All Faculty* list-serv to distribute faculty compensation survey for a 3rd year. Spencer moved to approve, Cammarata seconded. Motion passed.

11. Provost's comments

- a. All should have received an email from Lauren Cifuentes about federal requirements for accessibility of courses. We need to accommodate students who make these requests. This is a significant compliance and liability issue.
- b. Board of Regents. Chief Academic Officers meeting. It is very important for SACS that we have rules and procedures for the things we are doing, as we are being reviewed on these.
- c. Good news: Last week we had several consultants on campus to review proposal for Doctor of Nursing Practice degree. They recommended approval.
- d. Center for Faculty Excellence (CFE) has just concluded several focus groups. We have leveled the tiered classroom CCH 118. ODELT and CFE have been asked for ideas of a model of 21st century classroom.
- e. Board of Regents. Dr. Don Deis was honored as Regents professor. The wall of honor in CCH should be completed this summer.
- f. Price Waterhouse Cooper report still coming. We have received recommendations and responded to them.
- g. Meetings with Deans. Will be organizing quality circles across campus, so that procedures and processes can become more efficient. We will be asking for Faculty Senate representation on many of those.
- h. There was a presentation at January's Faculty Senate meeting by Disability Services office wanting to propose separate excellence award. The guest noted the options of either doing an in house award, changing nothing or creating a University Excellence award. There is a blended concept coming forward: One idea is recognize all awards given across campus.
- i. Board of Regents meeting: 4 Faculty Emeritus applications were approved.

12. For the good of the order - No requests

13. Bowden moved to adjourn. Meeting adjourned 4:19 PM