

2014-2015 Faculty Senate Minutes-Official

May 2, 2014, 2:00 PM

OCNR 363

Present: Senators: Anderson, Araiza, Bowden, Brown, Changchit, Conard, Crane, Giraldo, Kar, Larkin, Miller, Mollick, Moreno, Spaniol, Thompson, Ozymy

Absent: Senators: Cammarata, Tejada-Delgado

Present: Ex-Officio: Beard, Markwood

Guests: Arnold, McMillan, Hartlaub

1. Meeting called to order at 2:00 by Speaker Larkin
2. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Speaker Larkin moved to add Provost Comments to the agenda in Section 6b.
 - b. Motion to approve: Spencer; Seconded by Anderson. Motion passed.
3. Introduction of any senators who were unable to attend the April 25 meeting, Ex-Officio members, and guests.
4. Approval of minutes from April 25 meetings
 - a. Meeting 1: Motion to approve by Miller seconded by Crane, passed unanimously.
 - b. Meeting 2: Motion to approve by Larkin, Miller seconded. Information missing from minutes was supplied by Senators and minutes were approved as amended.
5. Old Business (carried over from 2013-2014 Senate, April 25, 2014 meeting)
 - a. Consideration of proposal for BS in Graphic Design.
 - i. Griffith moved to approve the movement from Committee to Senate (no second needed).
 - ii. Discussion:
 1. McMillan presented a summary of the program, reasons for it, goals and justifications.
 - iii. Questions:
 1. What is the difference between Communication and Graphic Design?
 2. On what basis do you think our program will double between years 2-5?
 3. A Senator noted the discrepancy between a nationwide job market and local recruiting, concerned that our local students wouldn't seek jobs at a distance. Dr. Markwood noted: Over 50% of our students are not local. They come from major metropolitan areas across Texas. A Senator expressed concern about the job market. The proposal says jobs will increase 11.8% between 2010 – 2020, but what is the base number? Another Senator noted that they looked this up on Texas Work Force and numbers in 2010 were 170 jobs in the region (13 counties), and it is

projected to grow to 190 in 10 years. A Senator asked: Are there programs in Houston, Austin, Dallas, San Antonio? ITT Tech? The unemployment rate for graphic designers is higher than other degrees and worse for recent graduates. The accrediting body believes BA is not equal to BFA. What are you giving our students to give them a competitive advantage?

4. A Senator noted the lack of hard data in the proposal (i.e. What are the competitive markets and programs around Texas? Is there a demand for a major or just electives? Are these drawing new students or old majors? What is the value of a 4 year degree rather than an Associate degree? AIGA, the professional organization for design can give hard numbers.
 - a. A Senator voiced concern that our Hispanic Serving Institution status was not mentioned in this proposal and wondered how the program would serve this population.
 5. A discussion began on course size limit, faculty workload, and waiting list for courses.
 6. Senators made suggestions:
 - a. Look at the Hispanic market and revisit some of the courses that would make it a very unique program to differentiate from other programs in the state or country.
 - b. Revisit faculty course load
 - c. Bowden moved to table until a later date. A Senator asked to not the motion in order to continue the discussion and add more questions to the record.
 7. A Senator had a question regarding accreditation. Dr. Markwood responded that there is a departmental accreditation but a national one would be very expensive at this point and would require a conversation with the President.
 - a. Cost of funding: Some of the funding is reallocated- \$1.18 million in new revenues with costs more than that, at \$1.2 million. Marginal cost exceeds marginal revenue.
 8. Bowden moved to table the discussion until a later date with a modified proposal. Second, Mollick. Motion passed unanimously.
 9. McMillan requested notes about what can be changed in the proposal to make it stronger and more likely to pass.
- b. Consideration of change in Senate bylaws/constitution to extend Ex-Officio membership to representative from Council for Primary Investigators and Research Administrators (CPIRA).
 1. Conversation continued from previous meeting regarding the granting of Ex-Officio status to a member of CPIRA on Faculty Senate. Concern was raised about the membership of CPIRA and how its members were selected. Faculty Senate is the only unit on campus that represents *all* faculty.

2. Dr. Markwood assured everyone that this group was created with good intentions, and went through all of the proper channels. He added that this proposal is an attempt to formalize a path of communication between the two groups.
3. CPIRA got started because of the research direction of the University. Senate wasn't and still isn't talking about those issues, and doesn't have the mechanism to discuss those issues. Perhaps an additional change would be to create a new subcommittee in Senate to consider some of the CPIRA issues that have to do with research, scholarly and creative activity.
4. Spencer moved we change the bylaws to include a member of CPIRA as Ex-Officio contingent upon their reciprocal action to include a member of Faculty Senate on their committee. Spaniol seconded. Discussion.
5. Motion passed unanimously.
- c. Ad-Hoc Committee to handle Faculty Senate business over the summer.
 - i. Speaker Larkin noted that there are several orders of business that may necessitate at least one Summer meeting. Specifically, he mentioned the Post Tenure Review document. Anderson moved that the Executive Committee be granted permission to form an ad-hoc committee to handle summer business, and Bowden seconded.
 1. Discussion included the membership of the committee, concerns about making quorum, the invitation of Ex-Officios (both Beard and Markwood expressed interest), and the schedule of the meetings. Senator Spencer also suggested that Faculty Senate has Blackboard space and could be used to facilitate discussions.
 2. Motion passed unanimously
 - d. Bylaws changes to allow electronic voting, voting in absentia, and proxy voting for special (non-regular) Faculty Senate meetings.
 - i. ABE was not able to meet.
 - ii. There is no additional action on this item at this time.
6. New Business
 - a. Faculty Senate Retreat Date: Thursday, August 21, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm.
 - b. Dr. Markwood's remarks:
 - i. Board of Regents met.
 1. All those submitted by the University for promotion and tenure were approved. Letters will be going on out Monday.
 2. Budget proposal was reviewed and approved. New flat rate guaranteed tuition rate will be effective this Fall. Our model allows for a 2.2% increase for each successive first-year class.
 3. Approved 3 fee increases: Student health to allow additional staff to be hired; Athletic fee for Title 9 issues and travel; Advising fee to hire additional advisors.
 4. COB tuition differential also approved.
 5. Board of Regents Committee on Academic and Student Affairs (CASA) meeting: Regent Mendoza announced that she would like to move towards performance

based funding whether the state does or does not. Funding would depend on our outcomes-based metrics. A Senator asked: Can we define performance ourselves? Dr. Markwood responded: Regents are very much into comparison. They may not allow it. This is a fundamental challenge.

6. Public Information Request from A&M for the results of their administration study. Did not initially release the results but are going to implement them. That process will begin for the regionals in May. Administration is anyone in a non-full-time faculty role.
7. Hiring freeze effective next week. Presidents and CEOs will have discretion but will have to justify exceptions.
7. For the good of the order:
 - a. Speaker Larkin thanked Senators for the “emergency” meeting being longer than usual.
 - b. Dr. Markwood thanked Senators for insightful professional questions regarding the Graphic Design degree. He said they did their jobs and did them well.
8. Adjourn
 - a. Moreno moved to adjourn at 3:56 pm.