

Faculty Senate Meeting

Minutes

December 4, 2020

1:00pm–2:30pm

Invitees: Dr. Emily Cutrer, Dr. Craig Nakashian, Dr. David Allard, Dr. Drew Morton, Dr. Abbie Strunc, Dr. WaiYuen Chan, Dr. Joan Brumm, Dr. Brian Matthews, Dr. Doug Julien, Dr. Mohamed Morsy, Dr. Michael Perri, Dr. Rebeca Cooper, Dr. Melinda Arnold

- I. Call to order (1:02 pm)
- II. President’s Report Dr. Emily Cutrer
 - a.) Provost & VPAA Search update – Dr. Melinda Arnold selected. Appreciation for the search committee.
 - b.) Virtual testimony in November from all university presidents to discuss funding priorities for the next session. Dr. Cutrer presented the most important priority of restoring our expansion funding, the 5% cut last year and this year being restored. Also asking for a new building and Better East Texas funds.
 - c.) Tentatively next Tuesday, we have a visit from the presumed new speaker of the house. Senior projects, engineering work, and any other areas that we should highlight, let her know.
- III. Approval of Minutes (November 6, 2020) Dr. Craig Nakashian
Dr. Chen motions, Dr. Strunc seconds. Approved.
- IV. President of Faculty Senate Report Dr. Craig Nakashian
 - a.) FRED funds - Dr. Nakashian and Dr. Morsy will continue to look into the policies to establish more guidelines in hopes to acquire more funding. Dr. Nakashian plans to incorporate it into the bylaws.
 - b.) Freeze in hiring is for faculty and staff, with the exception of essential personnel such as police.
 - c.) Colleges to develop procedures about professional development funds and establish it for the university. Dr. Nakashian asks faculty senate to gather ideas from the colleges.
- V. Consent Agenda Items

1. Future LMS adoption – Education Technology (see attachment)

Dr. Allard gave an update - We do not have the funds for 2021-2022 to incorporate the change. Recommendation of Canvas when funds are available. Dr. Chan asks how much money we will save in one academic year by switching. Approximately \$20,000. Dr. Cooper mentions professor fatigue is another reason to not make the switch at this time. Approved.

2. Cheating Portal Proposal – Academic Standards (see attachment)

Dr. Morton – a way to compromise and offer a more rigorous system to report cheating in the classroom. Approved.

VI. Committee Reports and Business Items

a) Curriculum Committee

b) Core Curriculum Assessment Committee – rolling out system in spring.

c) Education Technology – Linda Scott is helping to create user instructions in each classroom.

d) Academic Standards

e) Academic Rules and Procedures – constitution revisions coming in February.

f) FRED – accepting proposals. Professional develop application awarded up to \$1,000.

g) Faculty Status

h) Budget Committee – working through budget review and plan to have a report out after the break.

VII. New Business

Dr. Allard - COVID academic committee, survey about one button studio.

Dr. Allard – W/F rate is the worst he has ever had and he asks if it's the same for everyone. The rest of the senate confirms the same experience.

Next Meeting: February 5, 2021