

Faculty Senate Meeting

Minutes

October 2, 2020

1:00pm–2:30pm

Attendees: Dr. Emily Cutrer, Dr. Craig Nakashian, Dr. David Allard, Dr. Drew Morton, Dr. Abbie Strunc, Dr. WaiYuen Chan, Dr. Joan Brumm, Dr. Angie Sikorski, Dr. Brian Matthews, Dr. Doug Julien, Dr. Mohamed Morsy, Dr. Michael Perri, Dr. Rebeca Cooper, Dr. Heather McKnight, Dr. Sara Lawrence, Dr. Brian Billings

Call to order (1:01 pm)

President’s ReportDr. Emily Cutrer

- Legislative Appropriations Request, the administration is getting ready. We were not asked to take any additional cuts on top of the 5%. Funds we are asking for – the funds that were cut from the last legislative session, expansion funds, and Better East Texas 2 initiative.
- Donors have given us funding to hire an extra recruiter potentially for the Dallas area or Houston.
- Dr. Julien – asks when the Spring schedule will be finalized and if there be a Spring Break? Dr. Cutrer will discuss with the Scheduling group at their meeting next week.
- Dr. Sikorski asks how the hiring of the Provost will affect tenure and promotion. Dr. Cutrer says she will serve in both areas because they are submitting in December/January. She will consider new materials throughout the process.

President of Faculty Senate ReportDr. Craig Nakashian

- Scheduling – they are seeking a program that will help with this.
- Hiring is still on hold, as well as raises.
- Base budget review, Dr. Cutrer is having the Vice President’s present the needs for each area.

Committee Reports and Business Items

- a) Curriculum Committee – no report

- Proposed membership: Chair – Dr. Doug Julien; Dr. Sheila Moore, Dr. Abbie Strunc, Dr. Frank Mullins, Dr. Brian Matthews, Mr. Chris Sinquefield, Dr. Yusun Jung. Approved by unanimous vote.
- b) Core Curriculum Assessment Committee - no report
- c) Education Technology – closing the search for online teaching application by end of October. An inventory went out to discuss the support of faculty in the way of technology. Dr. Nakashian shared the results with the senate via email.
- d) Academic Standards – Dr. Nakashian and Dr. Sikorski will talk to Dr. Cutrer about this committee.
- e) Academic Rules and Procedures
- Revision to University Rule 31.05.01.H1, Faculty Consulting and/or External Professional Development (see attachment).
 - Dr. Brumm brings up a concern about having to identify who you are doing external work for. Dr. Nakashian will obtain a copy of the form and send it via email to the Senate.
- f) FRED – discussed funding for this year, funded in full as well as the 5 that were approved in May of 2020. Still accepting proposals.
- g) Faculty Status – Minnie Stevens Piper award is open for nominations.
- h) Budget Committee – no report

New Business

- The push to force classes to be face to face. – Dr. David Allard
There is concern about forcing faculty to be in face to face classes, when they may have underlying health concerns. Main point – faculty should get to decide whether their classes are online or face to face and each program has their individual plans and concerns for what works best for them. Dr. McKnight – no one should be able to determine which of our faculty members has health issues or not. Dr. Nakashina and Dr. Sikorski will discuss with Dr. Cutrer.
- Dr. Morsy suggest increasing IT support in HyFlex classrooms. Echoed by Dr. McKnight. Dr. Nakashian and Dr. Sikorski will bring it up in the next meeting with Dr. Cutrer.

Meeting adjourned (2:10 pm). Last month's minutes approved via email.

Next Meeting: November 6, 2020