

## Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

September 9, 2021

3:30pm-5:00pm

Zoom Meeting

Invitees: Dr. Emily Cutrer, Dr. Melinda Arnold, Dr. Angie Sikorski, Dr. Corrine Hinton, Dr. David Allard, Dr. Sean Bailey, Dr. Vikram Bhadauria, Dr. WaiYuen Chan, Dr. Rebeca Cooper, Mr. Nelson Irizarry, Dr. Doug Julien, Dr. Brian Matthews, Dr. Heather McKnight Dr. Drew Morton, Dr. Craig Nakashian, Dr. Michael Perri, Dr. Faycal Znidi

- I. Call to Order (3:33 pm).....Dr. Angie Sikorski
- II. President's Report.....Dr. Emily Cutrer
  - a. Reported discussions that convened with the Board of Regents
  - b. Stated that the budget has been approved and will presented to the Strategic Planning and Budgeting Board (SPBB) and that the board will be asked to make recommendations on September 24<sup>th</sup> regarding a prioritized list of expenditures
  - c. Shared that Academic/Student Affairs discussed the legitimacy of evaluating test scores
  - d. Informed the Senate of the outcome of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Legislature
    - i. Approval of a Family Practitioner
    - ii. Discussion of funding an additional building, additional funding, and redistricting according to the 2020 census
  - e. Discussed the outcome of mandatory testing and that the topic will be discussed in the upcoming town hall meeting
- III. Provost and VPAA's Report.....Dr. Melinda Arnold
  - a. Addressed Academic Affairs updates about task forces will be emailed
    - i. Dr. Julien asked about administrative drops
    - ii. Dr. Perri addressed the formation of the task force initiative and how this is a sensitive and concerning issue among faculty groups
    - iii. Dr. Cooper asked about support for recruiting for masters and doctoral programs
    - iv. Dr. Julien expressed issues with technology problems that continue to exist in the classroom
      1. Drs. Bhadauria and McKnight offered solutions to fix issues with technology when problems occur
  - b. Emphasized offering courses that students are more apt to take during the Summer and provided historical perspective and clarified misconception about strategic intent of forming task force, particularly pertaining to Summer pay
    - i. Dr. Sikorski expressed concerns about the possible reduction of pay and the reduction in courses offered in the Summer
    - ii. Dr. Julien shared comments about historical perspective of why there is immediate worry about possible reduction or elimination of Summer pay
    - iii. Dr. Nakashian talked about the challenge of recruiting transfer students for programs
- IV. Approval of Minutes from 05/07/2021.....No Action Taken

- V. MSBA Program Deletion.....Dr. Angie Sikorski
  - a. Motion-Dr. Allard, 2<sup>nd</sup>-Dr. Morton, unanimous vote
- VI. Faculty Handbook.....Dr. Angie Sikorski
  - a. Dr. Allard expressed that Dr. Wagy may have some information about a handbook that may currently exist
  - b. Dr. Perri found an existing handbook and Dr. Nakashian shared a link from Tarleton State University
  - c. Senate discussed various options of curating an archive of pertinent information that is accessible for onboarding faculty and which does not restrict faculty to overly formalized guidelines
- VII. Late Add Deadline.....Dr. Angie Sikorski
  - a. Senate discussed issues that arise when classes are dropped too early and the impact on student enrollment
- VIII. Committee Reports
  - a. Ed Tech.....Dr. David Allard
    - i. Dr. Cooper shared that Dr. Arnold emailed and mentioned the transition to Canvas
    - ii. Dr. Sikorski addressed fees for Hyflex courses
  - b. Curriculum.....Dr. Doug Julien
    - i. Nothing to report
  - c. Rules and Procedures.....Dr. Heather McKnight
    - i. Committee met last Friday to discuss and review the current workload policy
  - d. Academic Standards.....Ms. Kelly Cordray
    - i. Absent
  - e. FRED.....Dr. Rebeca Cooper
    - i. Met with Dr. Morsey to discuss transition and will reach out to current committee members to determine interest in serving
  - f. Budget.....Dr. Corrine Hinton
    - i. Nothing to report
    - ii. Dr. Nakashian expressed concerns about budget transparency
    - iii. Dr. Sikorski addressed a past discussion on the depletion of resources
  - g. Faculty Welfare.....Dr. Drew Morton
    - i. Shared the survey results of the faculty welfare survey
    - ii. Dr. Sikorski emphasized that the survey results will be shared with Chancellor Sharp upon his visit; also discussed the change in meeting time
    - iii. Dr. Chan asked about the facilitation of an adjunct faculty survey
- IX. Other Business
  - a. Senate discussed the idea that the notification of meeting be sent to all faculty to support the idea of share governance
- X. Next Meeting – October 14<sup>th</sup> @ 3:30pm-5:00pm via Zoom
- XI. Meeting adjourned at 5:43 pm