

Faculty Senate Meeting

Agenda

March 1, 2019
1:00pm–2:30pm

Attendees: Dr. David Yells, Dr. Nurul Alam, Dr. David Allard, Dr. Walter Casey, Dr. Drew Morton, Dr. Jan Murdock, Dr. Ben Neuman, Dr. Abbie Strunc, Dr. Wai Yuen Chan, Dr. Richard Parsons, Dr. Jim Harbin
Guests: Dr. Corrine Hinton, Dr. Joe Burzynski, Dr. Joy Goldstein, and Dr. Doug Julien
Recorder: Angela Gideons

I. Call to order

II. VPAA Report Dr. David Yells

- Update on export control issues – First, faculty need to screen continuing online students who are not U.S. citizens to ensure they are not on the government watch list. New students undergo this screening process through enrollment services. Faculty can do this by asking students where they are taking the course from. Second, need to verify the content of our online courses is not sensitive or restrictive. Dr. Yells to follow up for further instruction on how to make sure the information shared is accessible to the public and not restricted.
- Open Education Resources – a workgroup has been compiled to research this and create a plan of action.
 - Bookstore is preparing a picture of how our book prices compare to others.
 - Need to create a searchable database for students to price compare.
 - Set a goal to reduce costs: provide resources, educational opportunities, lunch and learns.
- Assessment – Faculty forums in two weeks on Wednesday and Thursday to discuss assessment. Facilitated by the curriculum committee led by Dr. Nakashian.

III. Approval of Minutes Dr. Richard Parsons

- Dr. Parsons - Amendments to the minutes:
 - #3, third point – assign to Faculty Affairs Committee
 - #5, Social Work degree program – voted it down by the committee and the faculty but nothing for the faculty to do with it yet.
 - #8b, The Committee will be getting with Dr. Yells to discuss vision/plan for online education. Not Ed Tech.
 - #8c, Committee will take a leadership role, not oversee the taskforce.

Motion to approve minutes: Dr. Walter Casey.
Second: Dr. Ben Neuman.
Minutes pass on unanimous vote.

IV. President of Faculty Senate Report..... Dr. Richard Parsons
Dr. Allard and Dr. Neuman met with the president about variability of the tenure process. Dr. Parsons suggest they put out examples of portfolios for faculty to reference, nothing was put into motion.

Dr. Parsons – 2019 Annual Faculty Scholarship Contribution and Recognition Addendum to Annual Review (see attachment). Created email for faculty to turn their annual review into it and they will acknowledge it. It is voluntary, but Dr. Parsons is going to talk to the deans to encourage it. Dr. Allard – Dr. Yells and Cutrer has agreed to fund it.

V. Old Business

VI. Consent Agenda Items

- a) Funding for Dana Leighton to CNIE (Education Technology Committee) – no discussion.
- b) H5P Software as a service (Education Technology Committee) – no discussion.
- c) PSCI 2301 and PSCI 2302 – change current “GOVT” prefix to PSCI (Curriculum Committee)
 - a. Dr. Allard wanted to discuss.
 - Motion to approve: Dr. Parsons.
 - Second: Dr. Allard.
 - All in favor.
- d) ENGR 2311 and ENGR 2312 – required course for Electrical Engineering (Curriculum Committee) – Dr. Parsons split it into two discussions.
 - a. ENGR 2311 Technical Communications –
 - i. Committee voted for it, but short attendance at 3 – 1. Proxy votes were not allowed.
 1. Dr. Casey motions to recommit to the committee, Dr. Neuman seconds, and Dr. Casey retracts his motion upon the suggestion of Dr. Parsons and Dr. Julien.
 - ii. Argument for it:
 1. Motivation is to put it in the core curriculum because they need to achieve it within the limit of 120 hours, therefore it cannot put it in the upper level courses.
 2. Also, required for accreditation.
 3. Also, the current core curriculum requirement only has one course offering, Comp II – there is no choice for students.
 - iii. Against it:

1. Will we be able to get state funding for this course? Believed it will not be funded by the state. E.g. UT has to pay extra for their course (Dr. Casey).
 2. The course will not be transferable, because there is no core curriculum course listed under ENG. (Dr. Hinton).
 3. English faculty – are offering to teach a technical writing course for the core, that all disciplines can utilize and therefore class sizes will be adequate to continue (Dr. Hinton; Dr. Julien). Students will take this course instead of Comp II in the core.
 4. ENGR prefix will limit who can teach it; interferes with SACSCOC accreditation (Dr. Strunc).
- iv. Dr. Parsons motions to accept the recommendation from the committee to approve ENGR 2311.
- Second: Dr. Neuman.
 - Against: 8 against
 - Abstaining: 2
 - Motion fails; it is not accepted.

b. ENGR 2312 Ethics

i. Argument for it:

1. Exam prep for engineering exam taught in applied manner
2. Again need to fit within the 120 hour limit.

ii. Against it:

1. Dr. Julien – the humanities course that exists satisfies the requirement for ENGR. Should be taught by humanities who are trained to teach ethics. Also, believes procedure is not being followed in approval as this particular course was approved by the curriculum committee without proxy vote.
2. Dr. Casey – ABET suggests you have other colleges teach ethics so it does not become simply a multiple choice course.
3. Dr. Casey – funding issue identical to the English one.

iii. Dr. Allard moves to accept the recommendation of the committee.

- Second: Dr. Neuman
- Against: 8
- Abstaining: 2

iv. Dr. Parsons motions the senate encourage ENGR to have discussions with ENG faculty (LCMC) to see if there are joint classes that would serve their needs and work with current liberal arts faculty.

- Second: Dr. Neuman
- Approved: 8

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Dr. Parsons asks – Who has a term that is up this year on faculty senate: Dr. Strunc, Dr. Parsons, Dr. Casey, Dr. Alam and Dr. Harbin.

VII. Committee Reports and Business Items

a) Curriculum Committee - Returned the Social Work program back to the college.

b) Education Technology

- Met with Dr. Yells – the system schools are working together to create a plan for distance education. Dr. Allard will send out a notice to everyone.

c) Academic Standards

- Dr. Morton – attempted to set up a meeting with Dr. Yells, Tony Favors, and Kathy Williams and his subcommittee to discuss admissions standards. No meeting could be set up after two attempts. Dr. Yells is setting up his own committee and asked Dr. Morton that he and three additional faculty members serve on the committee. Dr. Parsons encourages Dr. Morton to discuss his concerns with Dr. Yells.

d) Academic Rules and Procedures

- Revised Student Grade Appeal recommendation: put a step in between to meet with department head before dean. Another is that only evidence presented will be accepted, it is not an investigation.
 - Move to accept – Dr. Parsons
 - Several second and all accept.

e) FRED

- Oscar left. Dr. Hye Jung Kang is replacing him.
- 3 to 2 approval for Dr. Chen to receive \$3,000 (Laptop, Heart Rate Monitor, and Student Worker). Committee approved it.
 - Motion to approve: Dr. Casey
 - Second: Dr. Allard
- What should FRED be for? Who should receive funds? Currently two applications are under consideration: 1 visiting professor, 1 adjunct. Suggested that it be a case by case, but should go: tenure track, tenured, long-term adjunct.

f) Faculty Status

- No report

- g) Budget Committee – Still waiting for town hall. Student Government Committee asking to split university fee into its component areas.

VIII. New Business

- a) THECB Appeal of Field & Study Requirements Dr. Richard Parsons
 - a. We have a resolution written by the Executive Committee of Texas Council of Faculty Senates for field of study requirements enforced by THECB, Dr. Parsons is asking to add TAMUT Faculty Senate signature on this resolution.
 - Move to support: Dr. Allard
 - Second: Dr. Neuman.
 - Approved with unanimous vote.
- b) Drop non-participating student after official census Dr. David Allard
 - a. Dr. Allard is concerned about not being able to drop students who do not attend class. Dr. Parsons suggests Dr. Allard send an email to new control person about it.
- c) Graphics Dr. David Allard

Dr. Parsons motions to end.
Motion to adjourn: Dr. Casey.
Second: Dr. Strunc.

Next Meeting: April 5, 2019