

Dr. Sandra Graham — President

Dr. Marilyn Duran — Past President, ex-officio
Dr. Mark Shipman – President-Elect

Dr. Vicky Johnson – Secretary/Treasurer
Dr. Laurie McAdams - Parliamentarian

Faculty Senate Minutes

Monday, October 15, 2012

PRESENT:

Annette Albrecht, Jesse Crawford, Marilyn Duran, Gloria Fragoso-Diaz, Sandy Graham, Matthew Hallgarth, Vicky Johnson, Laurie McAdams, Falih Ahmad (for Jimmy McCoy), Harold Rathburn, Wendell Sadler, Mark Shipman, Manon Shockey, Alex Tanter, Sara Taylor, Cathy Wilterding

ABSENT:

Robert Anderson, Kendra Bowen, David Crocket, Rex Gamble, Reggie Hall, Tommy Quarles, Jason Sawyer, Mark Weber

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Graham at 3:05 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Dr. Sadler moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Dr. Shipman seconded. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Current balance is \$7176.37.

SPECIAL GUESTS:

- ▶ Dr. Sundarrajan – Report from the Budget Advisory Council
 1. Tuition raised (TSU was 29th of 38 institutions, after all institutions raised fees, TSU is now 30th)
 2. Course fees will be combined within the college and controlled by the dean
 3. Faculty/staff scholarship doubled
 4. Block tuition will motivate students to finish degrees sooner (not applicable for students taking 1-9 hours, summer school, or graduate students)

Senate members were encouraged to contact Dr. Sundar by email or to convey questions and concerns to Mr. Tanter, who is the senate representative on the BAC.

- ▶ Dr. Garza – Report from University Planning Council
The UPC brought in a consultant for a planning meeting who trained members of the council in facilitating similar meetings. The UPC will be soliciting faculty feedback through these events in the near future. Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats will be identified to determine how we will position ourselves in the future. Data will be gathered in the next 6-8 weeks.

Dr. Shipman voiced a concern, shared within his department, regarding the corporatization of the institution. Dr. Garza said that external agencies require us to have a strategic plan and even if faculty input is negative, it is valuable.

Senators were encouraged to visit the website (www.tarleton.edu/strategicplan) for information and future activities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ▶ Vice-Chancellor Hallmark visited campus last week and very briefly discussed outsourcing. Outsourcing is in the future of all system institutions, but it is unclear at this point the degree to which Tarleton will be affected. Questions can be referred to VPs Minckler and Jergins. Dr. Hallmark also discussed graduation rates. Tarleton's 4-year rate is not that good; the 5-7 year graduation rate is better.

- ▶ Xerox: A task force has been formed to investigate and make recommendations. There has been one faculty/staff form with Xerox. There will be two other meetings on Thursday. Senators are encouraged to attend. The first meeting revealed that any printer can be opted out by the department heads.
- ▶ Honors Courses: Dr. Clifford spoke to Academic Council and said that departments can have advanced honors courses in the 300 and 400 levels.
- ▶ Promotion/tenure dates have been set. Nov. 1 to notify department heads; Nov. 11 department heads forward evaluation to college review. Tenure dates will be in the spring.
- ▶ Faculty development grant deadline is Oct. 16 (tomorrow).
- ▶ Core realignment: In Fall 2014, the wellness requirement will be eliminated. One of those hours will be added back to lab science (for a total of 8). The other hour will be a required freshman seminar. A committee is looking into the structure of that freshman seminar.

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES:

Reports/Committee assignments

- ▶ Academic Council (Graham)
Topics included the Honors program and the flat tuition fee (as outlined above). Also discussed was undergraduate admission standards. Dr. Haynes and Snider cited statistics that the enrollment this year would not have been significantly affected by raising academic standards. This could also positively affect our graduation rate.
- ▶ Budget Advisory Council (Tanter)
(refer to Dr. Sundar's comments above); Committee meets every 2 weeks. Mr. Tanter will email Dr. Johnson a report from the next meeting
- ▶ Curriculum Committee (Johnson, Hallgarth)
no report
- ▶ SEMEC (none)
no report
- ▶ CII Advisory Council (none)
Ms. Wilterding volunteered to represent the FS on this committee
- ▶ Employee Benefits Committee (Graham)
no report
- ▶ University Planning Council (Graham)
(refer to Dr. Garza's comments above)
- ▶ University Calendar Committee (Johnson)
no report
- ▶ Diversity, Access and Equity Committee (Graham)
no senator on the committee; Dr. Graham will check on it
- ▶ CLASS (Graham)
The committee has met once, but Dr. Graham was out of the country
- ▶ Faculty Handbook Committee (Mark)
Committee will meet on Monday; needs a COBA representative

OLD BUSINESS

- ▶ **Faculty Senate Web Page**
Report from Dr. Johnson: She met with Karole Schroeder in Web Services, who has revised the Faculty Senate web page to be similar to the Staff Council web page. Pictures taken of the senators today will be added when available.
- ▶ **Meeting with Dr. Murray**
 1. Summer pay: summer of 2012 will be funded like summer 2011. However, with raises, the same dollars will fund fewer courses. Dr. Murray has initiated a task force to investigate options for summer 2014.
 2. Salary equity and compression: a task force in combination with HR will look into internal data and external data from sister institutions.

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3. Faculty load: another task force will examine this issue.

NEW BUSINESS

Meeting schedule

Next meeting is Nov. 19

December meeting is scheduled for Dec. 17, which is the Monday after graduation. Another option is to move that meeting to Dec. 10. Dr. Shipman moved to reschedule the Dec. meeting to the 10th. Dr. Diaz seconded. The motion carried.

OTHER:

Reminder: As provided in FS Constitution, senators were urged to send a representative if you must be absent.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Wilterding moved to adjourn. Ms. Shockey seconded. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.