

Dr. Mark Shipman — President

Dr. Sandy Graham — Past President , ex-officio
Dr. Anne Albrecht – President-Elect

Dr. Vicky Johnson – Secretary/Treasurer
Mr. Reggie Hall - Parliamentarian

Faculty Senate Minutes

Date: Monday, November 11, 2013

PRESENT:

Annette Albrecht, Robert Anderson, Kendra Bowen, Jesse Crawford, Art Dearing, Sandy Graham, Reggie Hall, Matthew Hallgarth, Vicky Johnson, Paula McKeehan, Michael Neerman, Allan Nelson, Wendell Sadler, Mark Shipman, Alex Tanter, Cathy Wilterding, Mary Winton

ABSENT:

Mircea Agapie, Ron Corella, Laurie McAdams, Francine Pratt, Randy Roisere, Mark Weber, Richard Willey,

CALL TO ORDER:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mary Winton should be added to the list of senators on the minutes. Francine Pratt should be listed as the representative on the Access Equity and Diversity Committee. Ms. Wilterding moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Dr. Hallgarth seconded. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Balance given was in error. Correct amount will be reported next meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

▶ **Veteran's Day**

Dr. Shipman voiced appreciation to Dr. Hallgarth and Dr. Sadler for their service in honor of Veteran's Day

▶ **Satisfaction Survey**

Dr. Graham said administration had asked about the survey and upon further inquiry it is her understanding that the survey has been tested for reliability and validity. Dr. Graham has met with Mike Haynes who set up a Qualtrix account under her control. The survey will be emailed to all faculty who have at least a 75% teaching load. Senators are encouraged to market for participation, but to inform faculty not to forward the survey to others as that will negate that entry. The results will come to the senate and senators will take the results to the department heads to be dispersed to the departments. Staff Council is looking to do a similar survey.

▶ **No-tech Day**

Dr. Graham said that on Friday, December 20, all technology will be taken off-line. A task force was formed to consider possible service projects for the day. Dr. Graham said that faculty feedback has been that they are not planning to be on campus on that day and should not be expected to.

▶ **TCFS meeting**

Dr. Shipman reported issues of importance discussed at the Texas Council of Faculty Senate meeting:

- post tenure review and the future of tenure; Dr. Hallmark was optimistic about the longevity of tenure
- intellectual property rights and privacy in offices; questions of intrusion – the spring meeting will deal with this in more detail

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES:

Reports/Committee assignments

▶ **Academic Council (Shipman)**

The implementation of the strategic plan should be in the works at the level of the department heads.

▶ **Budget Advisory Council (Tanter)**

1. Guaranteed fixed tuition has been legislated. TAMU is hiring a consultant to generate the inflation rate in order to set the tuition rates

2. Paying for base tuition of 12 hours with the option of taking more hours at no additional cost has been taken off the table

3. Mr. Minckler has proposed collapsing fees to save \$500,000 per year

▶ Curriculum Committee (Hallgarth)

We will be converting to the TCCN (Texas Common Course Numbers) to expedite course transfer in effect for Fall 2014

▶ SEMEC (Shipman)

No report

▶ CII Advisory Council (Wilterding)

1. Printing will be upgraded to allow for mobile access

2. Windows will not be upgraded to Windows 8 at this time

3. Classroom labs are utilizing usage tracking

4. In spring, changes in login are working toward single login

5. Current faculty fellows are Gentry, Garza, Jafri, McKeehan, and Maben

6. 47 courses have been redesigned so far

▶ Employee Benefits Committee (Shipman)

Have not met; will be discussing the effect of the Affordable Care Act on benefits, particularly how adjuncts will be counted

▶ University Calendar Committee (Johnson)

1. New summer schedule will be implemented in Summer 2014

2. Discussion is in progress regarding the start date of Spring 2015 (Jan. 12 or Jan. 20)

▶ Access Equity and Diversity Committee (Wilterding)

No report

▶ CLASS (Graham)

No report

▶ Faculty Handbook Committee (Shipman)

Chapters 1, 5, and 6 have been sent to faculty for feedback. Revision of Chapter 4 is still in progress.

OLD BUSINESS

Updated committee report

Dr. Shipman reported that some institutions have far fewer committees than we (as reported at the TCFS). For example, UNT has 40. Dr. Shipman met with Dr. McGregor about current committees probably underrepresented by faculty senate and asked if they could be added. These include Academic Assessment, University Evaluation and Effectiveness; Academic Council Management Team; Academic Standards; Campus Ethics, Compliance, and Enterprise Risk Management; Developmental Education Advisory Council; University Discipline Appeals.

Sharepoint is proposed to be used to disperse data regarding the actions of various committees. It is unclear who will have access to these share files through what process at this time.

Tobacco use

The system policy will come from A&M to Angie Brown, Kent Styron, and Rusty Jergins. After discussion, motion was made by Dr. Graham, seconded by Mr. Dearing, and passed by the senate authorizing Dr. Shipman to write a formal position from the Faculty Senate to be presented to Mr. Styron. The document will request that areas be officially designated for tobacco use that comply with Texas law, ashtrays be placed in compliance with the 20 ft. rule, and that signs be posted in entryways clearly stating the policy.

NEW BUSINESS

Ranger College

Dr. Murray has requested feedback from faculty regarding their experience with transfers from Ranger College. They are requesting a dialogue with TSU regarding partnership status. Feedback from senators included:

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1. Ranger is not on probation, yet Midlothian, a partner college, is
2. They do not have adequate infrastructure in lab equipment in biology/chemistry
3. Not every discipline has equal transfer quality; some may have possibilities
4. Other community colleges may resent a partnership

OTHER:

December meeting will be on December 9, 2013

ADJOURNMENT:

Dr. Graham moved to adjourn. Dr. Anderson seconded. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 3.55 p.m.