

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**  
Monday, December 16, 2013

**PRESENT:**

Mircea Agapie, Annette Albrecht, Robert Anderson, Jesse Crawford, Sandy Graham, Reggie Hall, Vicky Johnson, Paula McKeehan, Rebekah Miller-Levy, Allan Nelson, Francine Pratt, Rajani Srinivasan, Randy Roisere, Mark Shipman, Alex Tanter, Mark Weber, Richard Willey, Cathy Wilterding,

**ABSENT:**

Kendra Bowen, Ron Corella, Art Dearing, Matthew Hallgarth, Michael Neerman, Wendell Sadler, Mary Winton

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Shipman at 3:03pm

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Corrections: Cathy Wilterding seconded the approval of last month's minutes; "Adobe Access" should be "MobileAccess"; representative of Access Equity and Diversity Committee should be Pratt, not Graham. Dr. Graham moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting with those corrections. Mr. Tanter seconded. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Current balance is \$7019.84. Dr. Shipman suggested that plaques be given to the last three Faculty Senate presidents as had been awarded prior to that time. Use of available funds will be an agenda item in January.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- ▶ Dr. Murray expressed her appreciation at the Executive Board meeting for faculty flexibility and creativity in dealing with the ice storm at the end of the semester. Administration is asking for anecdotes on resourcefulness during that time. Please send those stories to your department head.

**UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES:**

Reports/Committee assignments

- ▶ Academic Assessment (Nelson)  
No report
- ▶ Academic Council (Shipman)  
The main issue discussed was summer school. There was an extensive conversation related to where the decision originated. A vote was called by Dr. Howard and passed, but not unanimously.
- ▶ Academic Council Management Team (Shipman)  
Computer refresh strategy: This is a new process in which computers will be replaced with Dell devices. The user will choose a desktop, laptop, or tablet (only one device per person) from a prescribed menu. Those who require a non-Dell device because of specific software or academic application will be referred to as a "carve out." It is unclear how those purchases will be handled or funded. These special circumstances will be subject to oversight by a committee. Dr. Murray has requested that faculty be represented on that committee. The process will begin with a pilot group of 40 users in January 2014 and additional 250 in March. This strategy did not come from a committee, but from Mr. Minckler's office as a cost-saving measure related to a contract with Dell. This may be another shared governance issue as it directly affects faculty.
- ▶ Academic Standards (Crawford)  
No report
- ▶ Access Equity and Diversity Committee (Pratt)

The committee has been reconstituted. Ms. Pratt had a conflict and could not attend the first meeting, but met with Jennifer Edwards. The committee has been split into four groups, related to students, staff, faculty, and technology. Ms. Pratt is working with the student committee which is now focusing on strategic planning.

▶ Budget Advisory Council (Tanter)

Three main issues:

1. To increase the graduate tuition differential by \$20/sch to \$50/sch. Estimated to generate \$400,000 with no serious impact on enrollment.
2. The BOR has pledged that the system institutions will offer guaranteed tuition programs for all freshmen across the system by FY2015. Committee recommendation is for TSU will begin implementation in fall 2014. Students already here will not be affected, although they may lock in at that rate if they choose. The rate will include a 2.2% inflation rate.
3. Consolidation of some of the mandatory fees paid by all students. Recommendation passed 7 to 6. There will be a dissenting statement. This will save approximately \$500,000 annually. Lab fees were excluded as well as others. Any fees related to legislative action could not be collapsed.

▶ Campus Ethics, Compliance, and Enterprise Risk Management (Winton)

No report

▶ CII Advisory Council (Wilterding)

No report

▶ CLASS (Graham)

No report

▶ Curriculum Committee (Hallgarth)

No report

▶ Developmental Education Advisory Council (McKeehan)

No report

▶ Employee Benefits Committee (Shipman)

No report

▶ Faculty Handbook Committee (Shipman)

No report

▶ SEMEC (Shipman)

Committee discussed strategies related to demographic assessment

▶ University Calendar Committee (Johnson)

Committee decided via email with approval from Academic Affairs to begin Spring 2015 semester on January 12

▶ University Discipline Appeals (Bowen)

No report

▶ University Planning Council (Graham)

President's retreat will be in January, the Planning Council retreat has been moved to February. The consultant who helped in the beginning of the process will return at that time. Implementation of the strategic plan has not been as vigorous at the department level as the committee had hoped.

## OLD BUSINESS

### Satisfaction Survey

The survey had to go through an approval process and so will be postponed until the spring semester rather than sent out during the break. It was suggested to add a "not able to answer" choice in the Likert scale.

### Tobacco Use

Dr. Shipman presented to the senate a letter he sent to Kent Styron requesting that the Department of Risk Management and Safety establish designated smoking areas, with appropriate signage, in accordance with system and university rules.

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## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Graduate Pay**

Dr. Linda Jones requested that Dr. Shipman make the senate aware that the Graduate Council has been requesting a raise in GTA salaries, which were set some 15 years ago. The low salaries put Tarleton at a competitive disadvantage.

### **Shared Governance**

Texas A&M produced a Shared Governance Task Force Report in July 2010. Commerce is in the process of modeling one after this and will forward theirs to Dr. Shipman when it is complete. Early next semester we could consider a similar document. The spring survey will guide the direction. A task force from the faculty senate may be the next step.

### **NSSE Data**

National Survey of Student Engagement results for Tarleton are available. The only positives were in “campus environment.” The current strategy is to continue to increase enrollment standards to improve our overall NSSE scores.

## **OTHER:**

### **Next meeting**

Dr. Shipman will poll the senate and communicate at a later date.

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

Dr. Anderson moved to adjourn. Dr. Nelson seconded. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 4:27 p.m.