

Dr. Don Beach — President
Dr. Ann Albercht — Past President , ex-officio
Dr. Keith Emmert – President-Elect

Dr. Rebekah MillerLevy – Sec/Treasurer
Dr. Anthony Pursell- Parliamentarian

Faculty Senate Minutes
May 2, 2016
Library Multipurpose Room
3:00-5:00 PM

Present: Dr. Nina Rogers, Ms. Manon Shockey. Dr. Randy Roisere, Dr. Dustin Edwards, Dr. Rajani Srinivasan, Dr. Robin Pate, Dr. Don, Beach, Dr. Ivelisse Urban, Dr. Anthony Pursell, Dr. Thomas Tallach, Ms. Melissa Cookson, Dr. Jacob Heller, Dr. Keith Emmert, Dr. Amber Harris-Bozer, Dr. Michael Landis, Ms. Francine Pratt, Dr. Ann Albercht, Dr. Rebekah Miller-Levy and Dr. Brooke Dubansky.

Absent: Dr. Karley Goen, Mr. Art Dearing, Dr. Brittany Rodriquez, Dr. Mircea Agapie, Mr. Richard Willey, Ms. Paula McKeehan, Dr. Brooke Dubansky, and MSG Jimmy Garcia.

- I. Approval of April minutes – Dr. Urban moved to approve the minutes. Mrs. Pratt seconded. Motion passed.
- II. Treasurer’s Report – Accounts are overdrawn. Will be asking Dr. Murray for a budget increase to cover the cost of sending officers to the Texas Association of Faculty Senates conference.
- III. Guests: Dr. Murray was unable to attend due to scheduling conflict. Will invite her again in September or October.
- IV. University Committees with Faculty Senate representation
Reports/Committee assignments
 - A. Academic Advising Council (Shockey)
No Meeting
 - B. Academic Assessment, University Evaluation and Effectiveness (Edwards)
No Meeting
 - C. Academic Council (Beach)
No Meeting
 - D. Academic Council Executive Team (Beach)
We are ahead of last year in enrollment numbers.
 - E. Academic Standards (Beach)
No Meeting
 - F. ALE/REAL Oversight Committee (Miller-Levy)
No Meeting
 - G. ALE/REAL Council (Beach)
Council is looking at four separate proposals and working on merging them into one official policy. They are working on a clear definition and minimum criteria for each of the five ALE categories. Dr. Don Beach and Dr. Jake Heller will be meeting with Deans. The plan now is to allow Departments to add to the criteria but not to subtract. Right now, ALEs are optional and if a student successfully completes an ALE, they get cords at graduation. Although Council is NOT recommending an ALE for graduation, if the University goes that direction, the Council will recommend it be phased in over time and the College Advisor be the person to track and handle the paperwork required.

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- H. Budget Advisory Council (Rogers)
No meeting
- I. Campus Carry Council (Emmert)
No meeting
- J. Campus Ethics, Compliance, and Enterprise Risk Management (Winton)
No Meeting
- K. CII Advisory Council (Heller)
No Meeting
- L. Commencement and Convocation (Pursell)
No meeting
- M. Developmental Education Advisory Council (McKeehan)
No Report
- N. Digital Media Advisory Committee (Shockey)
No Meeting
- O. Educator Preparation Council (Tallach)
No Meeting
- P. Emergency Management Council (Emmert)
The search for a director is completed but no name has been released. There is a variety of emergency training available. Council is working on clarifying Emergency Management in each building.
- Q. Employee Benefits (Edwards)
No Meeting
- R. Environmental Advisory Committee (Shockey)
No Meeting
- S. Faculty Development Committee (Miller-Levy)
The rise in applications for Faculty Development Grants has exceeded the budget to the point that the current system of funding grants is not providing meaningful financial help. Several options for restructuring are being evaluated in addition to a request to increase the budget.
- T. Faculty Handbook (Albrecht)
No Meeting
- U. Hybrid/Online Course (Harris-Bozer)
No meeting
- V. International Education Advisory Committee (Heller)
Discussion of student scholarships and awards. Committee voted to approve student dollar amounts for summer travel.
- W. Library Committee (Emmert)
No Meeting
- X. Parking Committee (Albrecht)
No meeting
- Y. SEMEC (Beach)
No Meeting
- Z. University Calendar Committee (Pursell)
No Meeting
- AA. University Curriculum Committee (Miller-Levy)
No Meeting
- BB. University Discipline Appeals (Miller-Levy)
No Meeting
- CC. University Diversity, Access, Equity, & Disability Service Committee (Pratt)
No Meeting
- DD. University Planning Council (Albrecht)

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No Meeting

EE. University Research Committee (Heller)

Committee reviewed all 25 proposals and decided how to appropriate the funds. The funds budgeted are not sufficient to fund all proposals in a meaningful way so process of funding is under review.

FF. UPMC (Albrecht)

Met the new project manager. The Committee continues to struggle with multiple projects and not enough funds to go around.

V. Old Business

A. Day of Service – Administration feels the first Day of Service was a rousing success. Faculty Senate would like feedback from departments. Senators will collect feedback from departments and forward to Dr. Keith Emmert.

B. Student Evaluation of Teaching Taskforce (updated after September meeting to reflect all representatives)

(1) COBA – Dr. H. Kevin Fulk

(2) HS2 – Dr. Beck Munsey

(3) COLFA – Dr. Anthony Pursell

(4) COE – Dr. Don Beach

(5) COST – Dr. Keith Emmert

(6) COAES – Manon Shockey

VI. New Business

A. Faculty Senator Elections

i. President Elect – Anthony Pursell. Ms. Pratt moved. Dr. Harris-Bozer seconded. Nomination passed.

ii. Secretary/Treasurer – Ms. Manon Shockey. Dr. Roisere moved. Dr. Pursell seconded. Nomination passed.

B. ALE Resolution

“The Faculty at Tarleton State University value the educational opportunity provided by an ALE (Applied Learning Experience) and support offering students the opportunity to participate in an ALE if they so desire. We do not support the addition of an ALE as a graduation requirement.”

Ms. Shockey moved to approve the resolution. Dr. Srinivasan seconded. Motion passed.

C. Civility Resolution

“Recent overtures concerning the incorporation of civility (one of the university’s seven core values) into the assessment criteria for faculty evaluation (and by extension, tenure and promotion) have prompted the Faculty Senate, as a duly

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authorized representative body for the Tarleton faculty, to act affirmatively in acceptance of this resolution.

Whereas, a university's focus and dedication should remain resolutely aligned with "universal" objective data and the scientific method and do as much as within its power to reduce conclusions (including conclusions regarding faculty evaluations) predicated on revealed, subjective, and affective knowledge, and; Whereas sufficient mechanisms already exist within the framework of the existing faculty evaluation categories of "professionalism" and "collegiality" to address faculty behavior and speech (i. e. the use of racial epithets, homophobic slurs, and degrading terms for women, inter alia) that transgresses a "bright line" of professional academic conduct, and;

Whereas while it is reasonable to expect faculty to uphold the university's core values, in the current academic climate, the inclusion of an additional and specified "eye of the beholder" evaluative line item in the form of "civility" could be seen, at a fundamental level, as an intrusion into a faculty member's personal and/or academic freedom—a disincentive for faculty to divert (in the form of experimental or controversial speech or action, inside the classroom or out, for example) from some arbitrarily monitored standard of acceptability. Additionally, in the matter of professional growth, evaluations of civility could exacerbate faculty suspicions that potential caprice, personal animus or political expediency in the evaluation process could impede their professional ascendancies.

Be it resolved, therefore, that faculty evaluations currently include a sufficient expectation for faculty to uphold civility as an attribute of academic professionalism. An additional category specifically designed to monitor faculty civility—in addition to being staggeringly subjective, burdensome and superfluous— would not serve the overall objective of the evaluation of faculty performance. The Faculty Senate does not support the continued development or eventual implementation of such an evaluation."

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Ms. Pratt moved. Dr. Randy Roisere seconded. Resolution passed.

D. Other

i. Division 1 Athletics – Reisman did provide specific numbers to Dr. Michael Landis which show more realistic figures for the cost of going D1. Dr. Landis proposed a resolution requesting additional information on funding. Landis moved. There was no second. Dr. Jake Heller moved to table the motion until TSU receives an invitation to join a D1 conference. Dr. Winton seconded. Motion passed.

VII. Announcements

A. Faculty Senate Meeting Dates for Fall 2016 (Second Monday of the Month)

Monday, September 12

Monday, October 10

Monday, November 14

Monday, December 12

VIII. Dr. Beach adjourned the meeting at 4:51 pm.