

Faculty Senate Minutes
Wednesday, June 19, 2013

Members present: Feakes, McClellan, Furney, Sriraman, Hindson, Blunk, Covington, Bell-Metereau, Morris, Payne, Weill, Conroy (via conference call)

Guests: Opheim, Farris, Autrey, Supancic, Peeler, Larrotta, Reardon, Garcia, Sigler (who was congratulated on her recent promotion)

Meeting called to order at 3:00

Information and Follow-Up Items

Counseling Center Director Search Representative

An inquiry has been sent to VPSA Smith to inquire about the committee membership. Senator Czyzewska has been nominated by the senate to serve on the committee.

CAD Report (Feakes)

- Enrollment update
Concern was expressed about lower transfer student enrollment for Fall 2013.
- Report on the legislative special session
Approximately \$6-8 million will be allocated to Texas State; some losses of funding will occur as well. Hazelwood funding is still a major concern. The legislature may provide one-time assistance to defray Hazelwood costs. For Texas State the cost will be approximately \$14 million for this coming year, and it is likely to increase every year thereafter. One proposal would allocate \$800,000 per year and another would implement GPA standards in order to qualify for Hazelwood benefits, but these measures have not passed.
TRB's are not yet done. Those for the Science & Engineering and Round Rock Nursing buildings are still awaiting approval, and have some support.
- Merit update
The Provost announced a 2% faculty merit pool and ½% (\$390,000) for faculty equity adjustments. For the first time in four years, there will be net new faculty positions approved (about 15-18 positions across campus). Staff merit and equity is being put in and some staff positions may open up. Deans were asked to send prioritized new faculty requests to the Associate Provost by July 15.
- Dr. Brown distributed a handout on strategies to increase Fall 2012 FTIC cohort retention. The administration has replaced the college PACE liaisons with staff career advisor positions.
- Adjunct Faculty Workload Release Program
The original "six-hour workload" language was approved rather than the "two classes" designation that was inserted in the prior version. A timeline has to be determined within the next 5 weeks so that a call for proposals can be announced in August. Rankings will be required from both department chairs and college deans.

Mace Bearers for August Commencement Ceremonies

Friday, August 9, 10 a.m. [Senator Furney]

Education, Business Administration, University College

Friday, August 9, 2 p.m. [Senator Bell-Metereau]

Liberal Arts, Fine Arts and Communication

Friday, August 9, 6 p.m [TBD]

Applied Arts, Science and Engineering, Health Professions

New Tenure-Track Faculty Luncheon, noon, Wednesday, August 21, Alkek 105-106

Furney, Conroy, Feakes, Hindson, Payne, Cavitt, Weill, Morris, Bell-Metereau

Science and Engineering Senate Election

Senator McClellan has been appointed Director of Ingram School of Engineering; hence the senate will conduct a summer election in the College of Science and Engineering.

Curriculum Proposals (Supancic and Autrey)

- Add ARTC 2000
- Add Bachelor of Arts major in Art History
- Add graduate certificate in Adult English as a Second/Foreign Language
- Delete Master of Education major in Biology
- Delete the graduate certificate in Healthcare Human Resource Management

The University Curriculum Committee supported all of these requests.

After discussion of each proposal, the senate agreed to suspend its rules and voted to accept the committee's recommendations.

- The senate discussed the electronic review of the interdisciplinary science proposal. The online procedure was suspended because it fell short of expectations.
- Change in core requirements: The revised core curriculum was approved in May and will go to the Coordinating Board in August. We will know in mid-September if it receives Board approval.

Senate Committee Reports

Annual Senate Committee reports have been posted on the following committees' webpages: Academic Computing, Library, University Lecturers, Suspension Appeals, University Research and University Arts.

Committee Appointments

- University Curriculum Committee Education representative: Concern about the two Education representatives being from the same department was discussed. Susan Waite and Jovita Ross-Gordon are willing to serve, but both will be on Faculty Development Leave in the spring.
- Piper Committee Liberal Art representative: Paul Cohen from English will substitute for Bill DeSoto, who will be on Faculty Developmental Leave.
- Athletic Advisory Council: Ted Hindson, Jana Minifie and Kay Nicols, were approved as faculty representatives to the Council.
- Academic Governance Committee: Dan Lochman will be the department chair on the committee. An HP representative is needed to replace Jackie Moczygemba because she has accepted a chair position.
- Presidential Award for Teaching Committee: Adjustments need to be made to reinstate the stagger of terms on this committee. RTA

TK 20 Electronic Portfolio System (Opheim and Farris)

Using e-portfolio is a comprehensive project that will create a sea change in how faculty report their activities. Currently the process of revising, creating and implementing a new faculty version of the portfolio is underway. The advantages for faculty will be that once the data is in the system, it will be possible to produce vitas, awards applications, annual reports, etc. This will be a useful tool for faculty and for administrators; reports can be generated, especially to fulfill accreditation requirements. The following challenges were addressed:

- 1) Configuring components of the system that will fit the university as a whole
- 2) How to accommodate all disciplines
- 3) The system was designed with business in mind and Texas Tech reported problems with implementation.
- 4) Every piece of data has to be entered discretely. The administration is considering way to support data entry, e.g. hiring graduate students. Then faculty will be expected to do updates to their vitas.

The last three months have involved meeting with administrative work groups; they have composed a way to replicate the Texas State vita. Eventually there will be a point person identified in each department or college to get word out about this. It will be trial and error, like the TRACs system, which was difficult getting in place but worth it in the long run. The target is for everyone to employ e-portfolio evaluation by Jan 2015. The pilot will run in January 2014.

Development Leave Supplemental Grants Criteria

Dr. Ophem asked for clarification on the senate's request for written information on how FDL Supplemental Grant requests are evaluated. The senate is seeking information that will assist faculty in shaping their requests, specifically what criteria the committee uses to rank the submissions. Should a rubric be designed to make the evaluation process more transparent?

Old Business

- Summative Review of Chairs policy proposal, RTA
- Handbook Review (Feakes and Hindson)
Senators Feakes and Hindson have completed the review of the remaining sections of the handbook and the updated versions have been posted on the senate TRACS site. The chair of the Handbook Committee has access to the site.
- Senate Advisory Group (Senators Emeritus)
Senator Sriraman's suggestion to engage former senate members through targeted involvement was briefly discussed, including the possibility of charging a subcommittee to bring forward a proposal for how best to implement this arrangement. Senator Hindson indicated interest in the task. Item will be returned to agenda.

New Items

- The next senate meeting will be July 10 at 3:00.
- Minutes from the May 1 senate meeting were tabled until the next meeting.

Adjournment.