

Meeting: Faculty Senate
 Date: September 6, 2011
 Time: 2:00 p.m.
 Location: BA 290
 Adjournment: 3:15 p.m.

Minutes

Members present: Harp, Wascovich, Starnes, Ballotti, Creider, Davis, Alexander, Dang, Kuracina, Anderson, Odom, Faulkenberry, Druhan, Bertulani, King, Pierce, Sun, Hendricks (President), Hammack & Openshaw (Secretary).

Issue/Topic	Summary of Discussion	Decision/Action
Guest Speaker: President Dan Jones & Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Larry Lemanski	President Jones presented the following information: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The fall assembly presentation is on the web site. 2. Status of the SACS review: the university did not demonstrate the core requirement CR 2.8 which deals with faculty role and responsibility outside of the classroom. The university submitted a response addressing the SACS concerns last week, and we will hear the results in December. 3. Enrollment for fall showed healthy growth of 5-6%. Last fall we had 12-13%. We had many students register early which spiked enrollment in July. The student retention rate was 70% which is up from 62% last fall. 4. John Sharp was confirmed by the Board of Regents today as the new Chancellor of the Texas A&M system. The system presidents met with Chancellor Sharp this summer and it appears that with his experience in public service he will be a very positive caretaker. He may be on campus on October 28, 2011. 5. There is a search going on for an associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness & Planning. The position requires a Ph.D. It is Randy McBroom's old line that was reactivated so it will not require an additional administrative line. 	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none">6. There is a procedures review currently that is looking at the criteria for release time for faculty. The goal is to create fair and equitable procedures across campus.7. Academic Affairs is hoping to establish a clear understanding of the role of the department head, compensation, responsibilities, rewards and terms of appointment. The goal is to have this in place by the end of the fall semester.8. Merit Pay Plan. The vice presidents and deans have decided to distribute the pool in meaningful ways. The smallest amount a faculty member will receive is \$1250.00 which is based on the most recent faculty evaluation. TAMU-Commerce is the only school in the system with a continuous stream of merit increase. It is possible because of our continued growth.9. Thanks to members of the Senate and other faculty for helping find students to use the departmental scholarships this fall.10. The Coordinating Board sent a letter granting temporary status to: the BBA in Management, BS and MS in Broad field system Physics. The following programs were targeted for elimination: MA & MS in Math, MA in Sociology, MA in Spanish and BS in Athletic Training. There is one more step in the appeal process and Dr. Sandy Weeks is in the process of sending a notice about our appeal.11. Senator Jason Davis from Educational Leadership asked the President and Provost to review the course equivalency requirement for 718 classes. Provost Lemanski said there should be an equivalency plan.12. Senator Mary Druhan in Music said there is currently not enough faculty to accommodate non-music majors in core classes.	
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	<p>13. Senator Chad King from Political Science asked about Dowling Report data and President Jones responded that he uses the report to establish internal equity.</p>	
Communications	<p>President LaVelle Hendricks reported the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is an Ad Hoc Committee that is reviewing faculty teaching load in order to provide consistency. 2. The position of department head is being reviewed in order to create consistency and provide privileges. 3. Dinner will be held for faculty at the President's home on September 28 and October 4 at 6:00 p.m. The night for each college is still being determined. 4. President Jones is hosting a reception for senior faculty in the faculty lounge at 6:00 p.m. on November 8. Junior faculty meeting date will be set. 	
New Business	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minnie Piper Foundations requested names for possible recipients. President Hendricks submitted the following names: Barbara Hammack, Carlos Bertulani, Randy Odom, Derald Harp, and Willie Edwards. 2. President Hendricks introduced a resolution to show appreciation to Vice President Bob Brown and The Division of Business and Administration. 	<p>Moved by John Ballotti. Seconded. Motion passed.</p> <p>Moved by Linda Openshaw. Seconded. Motion passed.</p>