

Meeting: Faculty Senate
 Date: November, 2009
 Time: 2:00 p.m.
 Location: BA 290
 Adjournment: 4:10 p.m.

Minutes

Members present: Wilson, Harp, Wascovich, Miskevich, Starnes, Ballotti, Creider, Hendricks, Espinoza, Alexander, Dang, Mahan, Seminet, Dorsett, Druhan, Herndon, Smith (President), Hammack & Openshaw (Secretary) Frost, GA

Issue/Topic	Summary of Discussion	Decision/Action
Motion to Approve Minutes	October 2009 minutes were approved with corrections.	Accepted by acclamation.
Guest Speaker: Provost Larry Lemanski Dr. Brent Mangus, Dean COEHS	Provost and VPAA Larry Lemanski discussed the following: 1) There are seven federal initiative proposals for the calendar year 2010. Handouts were provided. 2) Two new Associate Vice President positions have been created. a) Global awareness-Dr. Larry Clinton b) Diversity—current national recruitment activities are taking place 3) New programs: a) BS Construction Engineering b) Computational Science Consortium to gain a multi-track Ph.D. program-Biology, Physics, Computer Science. Partnership with L-3. c) Nursing program with a clinical component in Rockwall Dean Mangus discussed merit increases. 1) Input from Department Heads and College Deans will be an important component in the future for merit increases a) Department Heads will evaluate faculty in terms of teaching, research, and service and the quality of these activities. b) Last year 3% was given to each college, and then 3% was allocated to the department heads to decide merit increases for those who added value to their department. There was supposed to be transparency in the process.	

<p>Communication: Senate President Dr. John Smith</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) Dean Mangus chaired a committee focused on finding a uniform faculty evaluation form. d) The criteria for evaluation is not changing, but the type of feedback given to faculty will be on a 1-5 scale. e) Departmental rubrics will be used to score the evaluations. f) Student evaluations will be used to rank teaching. g) Faculty cannot get credit two times for an article (it will either count when it is accepted or when it is published) h) Evaluations are due to department heads in December. The new forms will be used in January for the evaluation of 2009 work. <p>2) Summer Salaries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Faculty will receive 7 1/2% of their salary per class. b) The TAMU system is opening web-based classes to anyone. <p>3) Course release pay out for doctoral advisors was paid last summer for those faculty with backed up credit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The university offers one course release for every 3 dissertations and every 5 masters thesis completed. b) There is a need to find a way to pay this in the future. When there is banked credit it creates a property right. Faculty can no longer have banked release time. <p>Senate President John Smith and President-elect LaVelle Hendricks attended the Texas Council of Faculty Senates in Austin in October.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) There was discussion about HB 2504 (requiring all course syllabi and student evaluations, plus faculty information on-line. 2) Prop 4 developing more Tier I universities in Texas-will hurt regional schools like TAMU-Commerce. 	
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	<p>3) There may be a reduction in state retirement contributions employer are required to pay employees. Baseline is 8 1/2%. We receive 6%.</p> <p>4) State budget up to 10 % budget cuts. There is currently 9 billion dollars in rainy day funds.</p> <p>5) Coordinating Board has an impetus to standardize higher education in Texas so courses will transfer seamlessly which will mean common course syllabi and textbooks throughout the state.</p> <p>6) College Station gave a vote of no confidence for Chancellor McKinney.</p>	
<p>Committee Reports</p>	<p>1) No committee reports.</p> <p>2) There was a handout provided on current curriculum changes being considered. Senators are asked to review the changes on-line.</p> <p>3) Committee vacancies are almost filled. Handout was provided of new committee membership.</p>	
<p>New Business</p>	<p>President Smith was asked by Senators to find out about the following:</p> <p>1) The student athletic fee vote.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) How was this decided? b) Why was it misrepresented to students? c) Metroplex students were not informed <p>2) Is summer school self-supporting or for profit making?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) What happened to the \$300,000.00 profit from last summer, and when and how will it be dispersed? b) What happens to the allocated summer school money that is formula funding from the state? Where is it being spent? <p>3) How many new administrative positions have been created?</p> <p>4) How are we going to implement QEP based on our funding options? How will the president address this in the next legislative session?</p>	