

Meeting: Faculty Senate
 Date: May 5, 2015
 Time: 2:00 p.m.
 Location: BA 290
 Adjournment: 3:45 p.m.

Minutes

Members present: Heslop, Lopez, Huber, Slovak, Ballenger, Dang, Davis, Anderson, Taneja, Ballotti, Ou, Smithers, Williams, King, Pierce, Starnes (President), Hammack (Secretary), Openshaw (Secretary).

Issue/Topic	Summary of Discussion	Decision/Action
	Approval of April minutes held for next senate meeting.	
<p>Guest Speakers:</p> <p>Dr. Adolfo Benavides, Provost for Academic Affairs</p>	<p>Provost Benavides discussed the following points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Forty-two percent of credit hours are generated through online courses. To assure academic honesty in online classes the university has looked at two programs: “Remote Proctor Now” is being piloted for next year, but is expensive. Courses on both graduate and undergraduate levels are being piloted as well as courses from each college. 2. Center for Faculty Excellence and Innovation is adopting “Quality Matters” as a way of assuring that 8 different criteria are met. Students with disabilities will be accommodated once the disability is documented. 3. A pilot program is being created to digitize tenure and promotion packets into E-portfolios. 4. Tenure and Promotion policy 12.01.99.R0.01 is in need of revision which will be broken into four procedures for more clarity. New policies will be consistent with the university’s mission and must show that the individual has a positive impact on the university’s mission. 5. Work load policy is being revised to consider number of courses taught as well as the number of student hours generated. 6. Texas Higher Education 2016-2030 Strategic Plan has four major goals: 	

<p>Dr. Mary Beth Sampson, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies</p> <p>Dr. Derald Harp, Interim Director, School of Agriculture</p>	<p>a) By 2030 60% of Texans will have a post-secondary degree b) By 2030 555,000 Texans with an Associate Bachelor's or Master's degree c) By 2030 undergraduate student load debt will not exceed 60% of the first-year wage for graduates in Texas. d) By 2030 all graduates from higher education will be from a degree with identified marketable skills.</p> <p>7. University Strategic Plan 2016-2020 1) Ensure that no more than 20% of semester hours are taught by adjuncts by 2021 2) Work load support for research 3) Increase by 50% the number of doctoral programs offered (from 6 to 9) 4) Enhanced online materials as supplement to classes</p> <p>8. Texas Affordable Baccalaureate Program- All allegations of plagiarism are unfounded. The program received close scrutiny before it started. Faculty need to take ownership of the program.</p> <p>Dr. Sampson gave the Senators the revised Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Policy 13.99.99.R-.10. The policy has been approved by the Office of General Council and by PAC and is now official A&M-Commerce policy.</p> <p>Dr. Harp handed out the 2016-2020 University Strategic Plan. He discussed all 7 strategic areas which consist of goal statements with assigned strategies for meeting each goal. Each strategy of the plan is assigned to a university administrative leader with a completion date. He thanked everyone for responding to the survey and participation input at meetings which lead to the creation of this new plan.</p>	
<p>Communications: President Starnes</p>	<p>Since we no longer had a quorum at this point, the May meeting was adjourned. Communication from President Starnes was held for the next meeting.</p>	

Committee Reports:	Academic Life: Senator Ballenger handed out her committee's Academic Civility Statement, Classroom Behavior Incident Report Chart, and Form developed in conjunction with the Dean of Students.	
New Business:	The senate approved all May and August graduates that meet the requirements for their respective degrees.	Approved via e-mail.