

Meeting: Faculty Senate
 Date: October 3, 2017
 Time: 2:02 p.m.
 Location: BA 290
 Adjournment: 4:00 p.m.

Minutes

Members present: Tim Wilson, Curtis Jones, Gerard Huber, Johanna Delgado-Acevedo, Stephen Starnes, Bilal Abu Bakr, Brittany Hott (Benton Pierce-Alternate), Juan Araujo, Greg Lubiani, Julia Ballenger, Sarah Mitchell, Charlotte Larkin, John Smith, Jason Davis, Sean Anderson, Susan Stewart, Yasemin Atinc, Brandon Randolph-Seng, Daniel Kelly, Debra Mahoney, Kurtis Williams, Chad King, Benjamin May, Jiaming Sun, Rebecca Worley, Tina Lancaster (Annette Taggart -Alternate)

Issue/Topic	Summary of Discussion	Decision/Action
	September 2017 Senate minutes were approved with minor modifications	Moted by Ballenger, seconded by Williams
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The A&M Council of Faculty Senate Presidents in the System used to meet twice a year but now meets once a month via teleconferencing. The Vice Chancellor, James Hallmark, usually is present. The discussion centers on the role that faculty senators play in the areas of budgeting and facilities. Senators who have concerns may submit their questions to President King. In turn, President King will address these questions at the council meeting. • Several questions were raised by Senator Brandon Randolph-Seng such as: What is the role of the Faculty Senate? President King responded: Faculty Senate must be advised on all issues and policies dealing with faculty and students; the senate is a body that receives, disseminates policies, and provides interpretation. The second question was: Do we have any authority? President King answered that the faculty senators confer the degrees, approve curriculum changes, and provide feedback on faculty matters. • Senator Daniel Kelly reported that the facility survey was distributed. President King encouraged all to complete the survey. President King will request a copy of the 	

	<p>results of the facility survey and invite the Director of Facilities to a Faculty Senate meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President King showed the Faculty Senate website. Senator Annette Taggart updated the website. The minutes, membership, and meeting dates are posted on the website. Senators can forward information to President King to be published on the webpage. President King asked for volunteers to work with Annette. • President King mentioned that the Ombuds Officer Position is currently vacant. He stated that this position was important and encouraged people to apply. The candidate must not be an administrator and tenure is preferred. • The University has a new Associate Vice-President for Advancement. The primary role of this person is to manage the Office of Advancement. President King will schedule a meeting with the Associate Vice-President for Advancement if senators have questions for her. • President King informed the senators that the Bookstore administrator will visit with the senators at the next November meeting. The bookstore is offering price-matching for new textbooks. Students should be informed. • President Keck and Vice-President Noah Nelson met with students and faculty to discuss DACA. During the meeting, President Keck showed sympathy for the students under DACA. However, President Keck informed the students and faculty that the University and Chancellor will follow the law. President Keck sent an e-mail communication to the University faculty and staff, which included the University's position on DACA. 	
<p>Committee Reports</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic Life Committee: Senator Larkin informed the senators that the committee met to discuss resolutions 17-18-1 and 17-18-2. Members of the Academic Life committee approved both resolutions. • Senator Daniel Kelly asked if Tenure and Promotion Portfolios were to be submitted online or hardcopy. There is confusion concerning whether new faculty has to submit online or all applicants for promotion and tenure have to submit online. Senator Charlotte Larkin will contact Dr. Madeline Justice, Associate Provost for 	

	<p>Faculty and Administrative Affairs, to obtain clarification.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic Practice Committee: Senator Ballenger consulted the Academic Practice committee via email regarding Resolution 18-17-3, which addresses opposing the raising of department-set course ‘caps’ and/or limits. The Academic Practice committee members voted unanimously to approve Resolution 18-17-3, with the insertion of “with the consultation of faculty” to point 3 on the 18-17-3 Resolution. • Admission and Retention Committee: The committee did not meet. Senator Daniel Kelly informed the senators that Sarah Northam uploaded information about plagiarism on the library website (under Research). Sarah is developing a tutorial and assessment on plagiarism. • Budget Committee: Senator Stephen Starnes informed the senators that the budget committee is constituted and it has representation across campus. • Curriculum Committee: Representing Senator Benton Pierce, Brittany Hott informed the senators that there was no new information. Curriculum changes are due on October 4, 2017. • Faculty Awards Committee: Senator Ben May informed the senators that he has developed the calendar, guidelines, and rubrics for the faculty senate awards. Once approved by the committee, Senator May will submit the calendar, guidelines, and rubrics to the Faculty Senate for review. • President King stated that faculty senators must obtain nominee names and email addresses. Faculty members may self-nominate for an award. The ballot will be given to the Department Chair. The nomination deadline for awards will be the December meeting date. We will ask for an electronic submission of all documents by February. This timeline will give faculty winter break to submit all supporting documents. • Organization of the Senate Committee: Senator Sean Anderson and President King informed the senators that there was no news related to the organization of the Senate. 	
Unfinished Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was no unfinished business. President King asked for permission to proceed to new business and asked Senator Starnes to preside over the new business discussion. 	
New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senator Starnes opened the floor for discussion of 	Motioned by Senator Starnes.

	<p>Resolution 17-18-1. Representing Senator Benton Pierce, Brittany Hott asked to add that the one-time, merit lump sum will affect retention of new faculty and omit the phrase “no matter how small”. Senator Starnes made the motion to approve Resolution 17-18-1 with minor modifications. Senator Ballenger seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Senator Starnes opened the floor for discussion of Resolution 17-18-2. Following a discussion, Resolution 17-18-2 was approved unanimously.• President King opened the floor for discussion of Resolution 17-18-3. Senator Delgado Acevedo suggested adding “with the consultation of faculty” to point 3 on the resolution. Senator Starnes moved to pass the resolution with minor modifications. The motion was approved unanimously.	<p>Senator Ballenger seconded the motion.</p>
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