

Meeting: Faculty Senate
 Date: September 1, 2020
 Time: 2:11 p.m.
 Location: Video Conference via Zoom
 Adjournment: 4:00pm

Minutes

Members present: Hongmei, Jia, Bob Williams, Stephen Starnes, Omar Elariss, LaVelle Hendricks, Laura Isbell, Julia Ballenger, Vipa Bernhardt, Jason Davis, Sandy Hayes, Yasemin Atinc, Thomas Boucher, Brock Johnson, Debrah Mahoney, Matt Wood, Robert Rodriguez, Benton Pierce, Gracie Brownell, Andrea Williams, Zachary Palmer, Johanna Delgado Acevedo, E. Mark Moreno, Tina Lancaster, Dimitra Smith, Christian Hempelmann

Members absent: Brandon Randolph-Sengh

Issue/Topic	Summary of Discussion	Decision/Action
<p>Invited Speaker: Dr. Mark Rudin, President of TAMU-C</p>	<p>There were some technical difficulties at the start of the meeting at it was called to order at 2:11pm</p> <p>The August minutes were approved with no revisions.</p> <p>Dr. Rudin welcomed the faculty back and expressed his wishes to hear from the faculty about how things are and what is being done this semester. Senator Wood expressed that things were ok, but there are some challengers with simulcasting. Senator Pierce said they had been having issues with recorded lectures that students cannot access, and has reached out to Jeremy. It appears to be a Zoom issue and is something they are continuing to work on. Senator A. Williams explained how the theatre department has shifted to online productions this semester. Senator B. Williams said that being online makes it harder to identify students who are struggling. Senator Palmer stated that while things are going well, a problem he has come across is that slower shipping has led to more students who do not have their textbooks in a timely manner.</p> <p>Dr. Rudin said a current challenge is that students do not want to be tested for COVID-19. They see being in quarantine as a punishment and are reluctant to participate in the process. Senator B. Williams stated that in our society there is currently a disconnect between civil and personal responsibility that has spilled over into the student body. This is why many of us are completely online this semester. Dr. Rudin asked if there was an opportunity for faculty to help with this, to speak from a seasoned mentorship role. Senator Hendricks said that hopefully the fact that students are seeing that the university is taking this seriously will help. Senator A. Williams asked what the ration of total number of tests to positive tests is. Dr. Rudin said that as of August 31st it is</p>	<p>Motion to approve by Senator Wood, Seconded by Senator B. Williams</p>

<p>Derek Preas, Director of Campus Operations and Safety</p>	<p>248 total with 67 positive. He said that, while this is a high ratio, it is somewhat misleading, as at this point testing has been targeted. Dr. Rudin expressed his gratitude to the faculty for all they do, stating he is proud to be a part of this institution because of the faculty.</p> <p>Senator Rodriguez shared that he felt the rolling graduation ceremony this summer was great. Dr. Rudin said they had a lot of positive response and will probably do the same thing in December. He also said that maybe we need to look at how we do graduation in the future and maybe this is something to adopt.</p> <p>Mr. Preas is leading the response and monitoring COVID-19. Campus safety is working with state agencies on COVID response. He said he was there for if we had any questions, no one did. Senator Hendricks expressed admiration for the health center and how diligently they are working. Asked that people take a minute to send a note to Maxine Mendoza and her staff, as they are out every day doing testing for a deadly virus. Her email is Maxine.Mmendo@tamuc.edu.</p>	
<p>Jeremy Gamez, Interim Chief Information Officer</p>	<p>Jeremy Gamez joined to talk about CITE (Center for IT Excellence). He said that some IT issues are outsourced to Columbia Advisory Group (CAG) and that is what it means if that pops up in an email or on a ticket. He went through the breakdown of how their department works. The Cares Act portal was developed in house to prioritize projects in addition to everyday IT concerns. They are trying to transition to a more paperless process using laser fiche. Desktop deals with classroom needs and Admin access. SIS is Banner and Degreeworks. Jeremy introduced Mr. Sam Matthews who is the new delivery director. Lydia Harkey has transitioned to an employee of the system and not just TAMUC. He then spoke about Zoom specifically. The university is working with Zoom to have a specific license through SSO guaranteed for 3 years with 100 participants with meetings lasting as long as needed. He then went through several of the options available on Zoom as you schedule your meetings, such as the use of the waiting room, mute on entry, and the potential hazards of setting it to authenticated users only,</p> <p>He also said that there is set aside cloud space to automatically record your zoom meeting. However, there is only so much space and it is not intended to be permanent storage, just until you can offline it to a computer. He went onto talk about Fetiiscan as a check in system that allows students to digitally check in where there are. It's not meant to be used for class attendance, it's used for contact tracing. It's located on the landing page for myLeo and has an app they download. He also said they want to make sure</p>	

<p>Mike Smith, Office of Academic Technology</p>	<p>people are e-mailing the help desk for all IT needs. Even if you are emailing a staff member directly still cc the help desk, helpdesk@tamuc.edu this will create a ticket and helps keep them accountable and helps for tracking common problems. They are looking to improve banner, and their business process and service.</p> <p>Mike Smith came to speak from the Office of Academic Technology. There were several question about YouSeeU. Answers follow, YouSeeU recording stay until deleted and can be acceded in future classes, yes they can be downloaded but it's cumbersome. It only allows for 7 webcams but there can be more users. The presentation model on it was pretty buggy but is better now. It does use a lot of bandwidth and that can contribute to student difficulty, as lack of access to good bandwidth is a common problem for our students. You can contact OAT with any YouSeeU questions online@tamuc.edu is an email monitored by the whole team and should get you the help you need. He then went over recent d2l updates. There's the ability to record a lecture up to 30 minutes or upload a video of up 1 gigabyte, and it will do automatic captioning. These can be added to assignments or announcements. You can you Quick Eval on the homepage to show you what is ungraded in all your courses for the term. You can add release conditions that allows you to put conditions on content. For example, you can set it so module 4 only become available after they've completed 1-3.</p> <p>The Office of Academic Technology is offering training session and you can contact them to sign up. He shared a little about some new technology coming. Proctorio, an online proctor. It's available in a limited fashion this fall. Three colleges have it and they're still working out the allotment detail and the training for those involved. Blackboard Ally will give tips on accessibility. It can make a scan readable by machine and offer a student widget to turn it into an m3 so it can be listened to. It is no enabled for every course, it is still just a pilot and training is only for those involved.</p>	
<p>Communications</p>	<p>Nothing to report.</p>	
<p>Committee Reports</p>	<p>Academic Life: Senator Hendricks shared the Chuck Arize Junior Faculty Award. The award ceremony is planned for October 6th 2020. Dr. Roberto Ruiz is scheduled to be the guest speaker and it will be done via webinar. They are also planning to implement the Dr. Harry Wade award to honor senior faculty. It will be for those who are a full professor.</p> <p>Academic Practice: No Report</p> <p>Admission and Retention of Students: Nothing to report.</p> <p>Budget: Will take any questions and those can always be emailed.</p>	

	<p>Johanna.Delgado-Acevedo@tamuc.edu</p> <p>Curriculum: Nothing to report.</p> <p>Faculty Awards: Nothing to report.</p> <p>Organization of the Senate: Senator Moreno will take over for former Senator J. Smith as head of the committee.</p> <p>Scheduling and Facilities: Nothing to report.</p>	
	<p>There is a review of the Faculty Awards System due, Senator Brownell and the Faculty Senate Awards committee members are going to complete the review.</p> <p>There was a proposal sent out from the subcommittee for a new department head policy that allows for voing on department head candidates in the interest of greater faculty governance.</p> <p>Senator Starnes presented the proposal to Provost Humphreys and got a ‘no go’ response. The department head subcommittee decided not to pursue the matter.</p> <p>Dr. Hendricks asked that the stipend for Department Head be looked at, since it has been the same for the last 15 years. Senator Atinc sated that the academic department heads also get an additional 15 percent of their annual salary during summer as well.</p>	
New Business	Adjourned at 4:00 pm	Moved to adjourn by Senator Moreno, seconded by Senator Davis