

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES: March 13, 2009

All members present or represented except John Cooley, Perry Crafton, Nagalapura Viswanath.

1. Call to Order and Welcome 12:15
2. Minutes of February 27, 2009
  - a. Thanks to Liz Matos for acting as secretary
  - b. Motion to approve — Keith, second Linda
  - c. Approved
3. Comments from Dr. Hallmark
  - a. Announcements – April 14 Fulbright Presentation, need to RSVP for lunch; April 22 Faculty Development with Wolcott, develop critical thinking skills in the classroom, lunch plus afternoon session; is happy about progress in Faculty Development areas so far
4. Old Business
  - a. Applications for Faculty Development Leave due today – Bob has three, no one else has any, he will make copies and distribute to committee for decision
  - b. Tenure and Promotion Policy recommendations for the University T&P Committee. Meeting is March 26, Bob will get list from Perry and formalize it and circulate for comments before submitting to T&P committee; Senate wants to limit how collegiality is used, even to the point of removing that aspect entirely
    - i. Mark Riney moved to remove Collegiality as a criterion from all evaluation processes, Darlene Pulliam seconded, discussion
      1. Suggestion (discussion only, not a motion) to change to Professionalism, say whether the person is an asset or detriment to the university
      2. Motion passed
    - ii. Bob passed around a handout with suggestions for changing names of categories for ratings, change Outstanding to Distinguished, Excellent to Outstanding, Satisfactory/Excellent to Excellent, Marginally Satisfactory to Satisfactory; discussion
      1. Motion to accept these revisions and carry to T&P Committee by Jim, second by Theresa, discussion
      2. Motion passed
  - c. Approval of FINAL draft of Fixed-term Faculty policy, only grammar and typos changed since last time; motion to approve as amended by Jim, second by Darlene, discussion; approved; Hallmark warns that will need to go to System for review
  - d. Discussion of revisions to the post-tenure review policy, Deans' Council made some major changes to make it consistent with other evaluations documents (IR, IC, PS, C); to clarify that already existing evaluations will be considered when the policy is put into effect – Jim Calvi is opposed because is changing the rules after events have occurred; Bob says Senate

needs to see it again and look at revisions, comment and discuss how it will be implemented; discussion ensued; Jim proposed a conference committee for Senate and Dean's Council for all these amendments and volunteered to be on it, Mark Riney also volunteered, Executive Council will make up rest of that committee

- e. Senate budget –Bob got information from VPAA office
  - f. Regents Professor Award – today is the deadline, so far there are two
5. New Business:
- a. Optimus Magister Award – No progress yet, no process advertised; give name and narrative for anyone we want to nominate, this will be a secret process, secret vote
  - b. Academic Probation and Suspension Policy – Senate is asked for input, not approval; needs to add an appeal process, time limit after dismissal for reapplication; Liz Matos asks that Russell Lowry-Hart be invited to next meeting to discuss so can be implemented this semester
  - c. Faculty Senate Constitution and By-Laws changes suggested by Faculty Governance Committee, mostly cosmetic, for clarification, or to reflect change in number of colleges, some substantive changes in standing committees
    - i. Motion to approve recommended changes, then will be distributed to entire faculty for discussion and approval, by Keith, second by Darlene, check to see if it matches what Faculty Handbook has done
    - ii. Approved, and thanks to the committee
6. Other Business/Future considerations/Announcements
- a. Appointments to university standing committees coming up, so get a list of people in all departments who can be appointed
  - b. Senate elections in the colleges need to be done in April
  - c. Texas COFS meeting – Bob was not able to go, sent report
  - d. Next meeting both President and Provost will be out of town; Senate will discuss Academic Integrity Policy and appeals procedure
  - e. Library will be open during Spring Break
  - f. Thanks to library for hosting poster session
7. Adjourn at 1:48