

Faculty Senate Minutes
March 6, 2020

Senators Present: Babb, Jeffry (President); King, Robert (Vice President); Medlock, Anne (Secretary); Ambrose, Bill; Clark, Elizabeth; Castillo, Yvette; Clifton, Noel; Craig, David; Curl, Dan; Farren, Gene; Garcia, Elizabeth; Franken, Noah; Fritzler, Jason; Gill, Kristina; Karaganis, Stephen; Kwan, Mun Yee; Leitch, Ken; Macaulay, Chris; Ramos-Salazar, Leslie; Rausch, Mary; Rollin, Lisa; Seth, Dan; Tyrer, Pat; Wang, Barbara;

Senators Absent: Howell, Nathan; Lewis, Jeremy; Williams, Kevin;

Substitutes: NA

Welcome/Call to Order

Guest: Dr. Walter Wendler, President (Speakers: Dr. Wendler, Dr. Leitch, Dr. Craig, Dr. Macaulay, Dr. Clark)

- Commitment to merit and equity increase
 - 2% total budget commitment
 - Need to grow enrollment for greater budget commitment
 - 1.5% merit
 - .5% salary adjustments by the deans
- Need to propel enrollment forward
- Has encouraged students to go to community colleges but to use our advisers
- COVID-19 University response
 - All System presidents want to cancel all foreign travel
 - Current Poland spring break trip is still on
 - All future foreign travel is canceled until further notice
 - Is a possibility of canceling classes
 - Will have an online teaching courses to prep faculty if classes canceled, will happen soon
 - Could lead to more faculty teaching online classes
 - All faculty that teach online will also have to teach on campus
 - Not sure what will happen with testing and proctoring of tests if classes are canceled
 - Students are finding many ways to cheat
 - Online students are not available during normal work day
 - Having more online classes will necessitate a change of workday practices
 -
- WT currently reflects the diversity in the region
 - Average student age at WT is 28

Minutes: February 28, 2020

Current and Pending (Old) Business

Abbreviated Committee Updates:

Joint Faculty Student Committee on Academic Affairs (standing committee)
(Speaker: Dr. Babb, Dr. King)

- Meeting with the students

Faculty Handbook (standing committee) (Speaker: Dr. Babb)

- Need to happen

Instructor Promotion (Speaker: Dr. Babb, Dr. Franken)

- Prepare some guidelines
- Need to deliver by the end of the month
- Would by just used of equity raise

Accessibility and Library Databases – (Speaker: Dr. Babb)

- Will meet with Dr. Terry next week

Communications and Perception (Speaker: Dr. Babb, Ms. Medlock, Dr. Macaulay, Ms. Rausch, Dr. Clark, Dr. Craig, Dr. Karaganis, Dr. Seth)

Senate Resolution 2020-1

March 6th, 2020

A SENATE RESOLUTION TO BE ENTITLED:

EXPECTATIONS FOR COMMUNICATIONS ON ALL KEY POINTS OF
PUBLIC ENTRY BY FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATORS AT WEST
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

WHEREAS: West Texas A&M University is an institution which values diversity dignity, and inclusion; and

WHEREAS: West Texas A&M University's core values include diversity, and respect for the dignity of all individuals, as outlined in the Faculty Handbook; and

WHEREAS: West Texas A&M University Policy 07.03.01.W1 and Texas A&M University System Regulation 7.03.01 require that all faculty and administrators neither favor a political agenda or doctrine, nor exclude any people or value systems; and

WHEREAS: West Texas A&M University communication regulations apply to all key points of public entry, including but not limited to blogs, op-ed emails, publications, or websites that bear university masthead;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE THAT:

It is the expectation of the Faculty Senate that all faculty and administrators respect the aforementioned values of the university, and abide by the rules and regulations of the West Texas A&M University and Texas A&M University system.

- Dr. Craig moved to approve
- 2nd Dr Clark
- Vote to approve was unanimous
- Dr. Craig: Move that senators distribute the resolution to their colleges and departments, and that President Babb communicates to Staff Council and Student Government.
- Second Dr. Clifton
- Vote 19 approve, 1 abstentions

Follow-up on Inquiries from Feb 28:

Seth) Administrator Survey Feedback (Speakers: Dr. Babb, Ms. Rausch, Dr.

- What is the distribution list?
- Senate is comfortable with the survey
- Need confirmation is that it's anonymous

Farren, Dr. Craig, Ms. Rausch, Dr. Seth) President Elect Model (Speakers: Dr. Babb, Dr. Clifton, Ms. Medlock, Dr.

- Would allow more active retention of institutional knowledge
- Would help clarify expectations of Senate President
- Faculty Senate President should have an office and a senate email
- Dr. Babb suggest bringing to a motion

- Dr. Tyrer motions to authorize the executive council to present a plan for the next meeting.
- Dr. Clifton seconds

Tyrer) AAUP Membership (Speakers: Dr. Babb, Dr. Clark, Ms. Medlock, Dr.

- Would be a member of an advocacy group
- Some Texas schools are involved, and more schools out of state
- Next time we meet will have a clear plan for what it would cost and the benefits to the university

Campus Climate Survey (Speakers: Dr. Babb, Dr. Craig)

- Good idea but will defer to next year

Strategic Plan Input (Speakers: Dr. Babb, Ms. Rausch, Dr. Clark,

- Dr. Gill move to accept WT125: From the Panhandle to the World Strategic Plan
- Dr. Craig seconded
- Vote to approve was unanimous

New Business

Faculty Travel Gap Analysis Committee (Speaker: Dr. babb

- Babb, Tyrer, Clark, Farren members

Dr. Terry will return as our guest on April 10th, 2020

Research Computing Resource Committee (Speakers: Dr. Babb, Dr. Craig, Dr. Farren, Dr. Karaganis

- Current members: Craig, Karaganis, Wang, Gill
- Doing discussion with IT before discussing with administrators
- Dr. Karaganis Moves to form a committee
- Dr. Farren seconds
- Vote to approve was unanimous, one abstention

SB212 Concerns with respect to IRB and Human Subjects (Speakers: Dr. Kwan, Dr. Babb, Ms. Rollin, Dr. Craig)

- Research is not exempt from SB212
- Was trying to get information from Richard Webb
- Federal law should trump state law
- Dr. Babb suggests meeting with the Provost
 - Dr. Babb and Dr. Kwan will report at next meeting
- System Council should also be involved

Follow-up on Teaching load (Speakers: Dr. Babb)

- Will have clear exceptions

Regent's Professor Call for Nominations (<https://www.tamus.edu/academic/regents-awards/>)
(Speakers: Dr. Babb, Dr. Clark, Dr. Tyrer, Dr. Craig)

- Should have received a call last week
- Will confirm how many Regent Professors can be recommended
- Senate can recommend many candidates

Elections and Committees (Speakers: Dr. Babb)

- Start apprising colleagues of openings on senate and committees
- When are your College Meetings?
 - Report next time we meet

Open Floor (Speakers: Dr. Babb, Dr. Macaulay)

- What is the expectation of attending graduations?

Dr. Craig motions to adjourn.

Seconded by Ms. Rausch

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Medlock, Secretary

Minutes submitted 3/27