

Faculty Senate Minutes (Draft)

David Craig

2021-02-26

Approval of previous minutes

Rollin moves to accept, King seconded.

Operating procedures

Babb: crises bring changes and uncertainties about what faculty handbook says. Examples are faculty leave, nominations for Magister Optimus, Piper professorships, etc. In prior behavior, Provost would prompt, we are now not getting same prompting. We need standard operating procedures (SOP) for many things. Regents put call on their own site for regents, instead of going through faculty senates. Ask Medlock to share EVPP's perspective:

Medlock: Terry suggested normal election one more time, then see if Senate is still good with it during a full normal year. The idea is not to propose to faculty this year, do it internally by older procedures, then propose to faculty.

Babb: would be electing president normally this year, elections were strange and not all senators have been replenished, etc.

Clark: suggest not to formalize president-elect system but note it as dry run. What needs to be put in handbook?

Craig: need to separate senate governance issues from operating procedures that are mainly for the executive committee.

Babb: offering to draft internal SOP on experience, doesn't need a committee, let next year's senate

Leitch notes that there was a committee that worked on proposed President-Elect system to go into Faculty Handbook. It might be helpful to note that this has been worked on so that the work could be re-used as needed, say next year.

Comprehensive peer review (CPE) folders

This is running, needed to keep folders and get system for this.

IT recognition resolution (motion)

Faculty Senate Resolution on COVID-19 IT Response and Performance

Whereas the channels of connectivity and communication that are vital to the functioning of the university have been stressed by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

Whereas the Information Technology function of the university is a vital service component to ensure the continuity of the technologies that facilitate communication and information; and

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has wrought upon us unprecedented challenges to campus operations, the campus community, and the core function of the university;

Be it resolved that, on behalf of the faculty at West Texas A&M University, the Faculty Senate expresses gratitude and appreciation for the above-and-beyond response from the West Texas A&M University Information Technology department as they have kept core academic functions healthy and function by way of their personal dedication and the application of inventive solutions to challenging problems.

Medlock moves to accept the motion, Leitch seconds. Resolution passed.

Bookstore issues

Need feedback via email, or open floor to senators:

Please send by March 3 vignettes or issues to carry to Rikel and/or Dr. Andersen. Send them to Babb. Should send an email out to senate this afternoon.

COVID committee

Holland: going to look at data a bit more due to snow week. Plan is to meet and go through data and present at next meeting.

Babb: issue of skipping March 12 Send them to Babb. Should send an email out to senate this afternoon.

Holland: think so, other members there? (General agreement from committee members here.)

Fall 2021 – Wendler memo.

Babb: wanted to narrow senate down to doing those two things.

Spoke with Wendler recently and he noted that questions were prompts, open ended. Would like to have group to see this through, have about 30 days.

Please solicit inputs from colleagues. Input being requested is an opportunity to contribute. Please look again at memo from Wendler.

1. Would like a representative committee from colleges.
2. Can we use relationships with other constituents? Compare notes with staff council and student government? Invite to March 26 meeting?

Input?

King: add this to stuff with bookstore?

Babb: has already been asked of student government. Trying to interface with groups before they report to Wendler.

Crosman: how to deal with asking?

Babb: need to represent your area, Wendler is asking us as a representative body. Do need to solicit from colleagues.

A committee was set up for addressing Wendler's memo and Fall 2021 issues:

Committee:

FAH Manfredi
LIB Rausch
COB Ramos Salazar
ANS Crosman
NHS Brown
ESS Kwan
COE Leitch

Charge is really in Wendler's memo, please get something by 12th, then two weeks later get report, collate in next week for Babb to transmit to President. Please maybe don't copy whole memo, just the questions, so that faculty don't email Tracy Post directly.

Open floor

Rausch: what about administrator evaluations?

Babb: Need to interface with Jarvis Hampton, have to get him started. Will send you the current questions. It is in March/April timeframe.

Motion to adjourn, seconded.