

Faculty Senate Minutes

October 8, 2021

Attended: Ambrose, Bell, Brooks, Butler, Clark, Crosman, Denton, Fairweather-Leitch, Farren, Gill, Humphreys, Issa, Manfredi, Medlock, Pinkham, Ramos Salazar, Spencer, Tarpley, Tyrer, Whaley, Yarbrough

Absent: Brown, Hoffman, McCauley

Guest(s): Ryan Mattson (Sub for Hoffmann); Ashley Morgan (Sub for McCauley)

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 by President Anne Medlock. Minutes of the September 24, 2021, meeting were corrected (Clark, Ramos Salazar, Spencer).

- Motion to approve as corrected: Clark
- Second: Farren
- Motion passed

CURRENT BUSINESS

President-Elect System

Butler reported a total of 68 votes were collected from the survey prior to the deadline of October 4, 2021. Two additional votes were submitted past the deadline and were not counted. The results showed 59 “yes” votes or 87% of the total and 9 “no” votes or 13% of the total.

Handbook Committee

Brooks reported that the handbook committee will draft a change to the handbook to reflect the outcome of the president-elect vote to be presented to the Faculty Senate for approval. After approval by the Senate, the changes will be sent to the University Handbook Committee.

Joint Student/Faculty Committee on Academic Affairs

Clark reported that this committee has not met yet and are waiting for the results of the student survey and working to prepare a response concerning OER.

Travel Equity Committee:

Farren reported that most departments have reported their travel fund allocations with the exception of the following departments whose reports are still needed: education and music.

Farren noted that there are large discrepancies between departments, even those within colleges, ranging from \$4000 for an entire department to \$5000 per faculty member. Additional information is needed from Comparison Peers, Geographical Peers, and Aspirant Peers. Lists of

these schools will be provided by Tyrer to Farren and Medlock. Once the report is completed and reviewed by the Senate, it will be sent to Dr. Terry as requested.

Faculty Ombudsman

A short discussion of the candidates ensued with a vote taken to forward the following recommendations in order: Dave Rausch, Gary Byrd.

Missed Committee Assignments:

The Faculty Grievance Committee had two vacancies and one non-tenured faculty exchanged for a tenured faculty member:

Pinkham reported that ESS had selected Maxine DeButte to represent ESS. Gill self-nominated for ENGR. Tyrer noted that she had replaced Ryan Brooks who was not tenured.

Addendum: Subsequent to the Faculty Senate meeting, Gill reported that the following were selected by ENGR in Spring 2021 and will replace those currently listed: Matt Jackson, Randy Combs, Nathan Howell.

Problems with Hiring Student Workers for Grading

Medlock spoke with Glendis Villasmil in Human Resources (HR) who suggested part of the issue was with students not checking email or filing paperwork in a timely manner. HR also noted that those who had not previously had a background check completed were delayed due to processing and if the students were international, it would have taken considerably longer for processing. It was also suggested that faculty members who experienced delays should contact HR so that any potential issues that arose can be addressed. Senators were encouraged to inform Medlock by Wednesday, 10/13/21, of the names of faculty who experienced delays so their situations can be reviewed by HR.

NEW BUSINESS

Confirm access to WTClass Senate Page

Medlock asked Senators to confirm their access to the Faculty Senate folders on WTClass. She also reminded Senators that applications for Piper Professorships and for Development Leave should be submitted to these folders. No lack of access was noted.

Athletic Council

Medlock reported that Dave Rausch has asked for the terms of the Athletic Council be staggered to avoid having a completely new council each year. The following adjustments to terms were made.

ANS: Nate Wolf (2021-2023).....Change to 2-year term

BUSI: Ashley Morgan (2021-2024)No change to term
ENGR: Kristina Gill (2021-2023)Change to 2-year term
ESS: Margaret Dejong-Shier (2021-2024)No change to term
FAH: Crystal Bertrand (2021-2021).....Chg to 1 year term with 3-year roll over
NHS: Blake Price (2021-2022).....Chg to 1 year term with 3-year roll over

Faculty Senators Missing

Medlock announced that some department heads were unaware of Senate elections. As a result, the Senate may be missing members. Senators were asked to email Butler with the name of their department's Senator and any at-large Senators to ensure that all departments are represented. Ramos Salazar volunteered to survey COB and Butler will review ENGR.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Humphreys announced the Stan Sigman Leadership and Innovation Series Inaugural Event will take place October 12-13, 2021 with guest speaker Ralph de la Vega at the following times and locations:

10 a.m.	Public moderated discussion and Q&A Legacy Hall, Jack B. Kelley Student Center
1:30 p.m.	Panel discussion for WT students, faculty and staff

Fairweather-Leitch announced she will be giving a presentation on November 19, 2021 over Open Educational Resources (OER) and invited Senators to attend and hear how other faculty member are using OER resources.

- Motion to adjourn: Yarbrough
- Second: Farren
- Meeting adjourned at 12:54 pm

Respectfully,

Pat Tyrer