

## Faculty Senate Minutes

November 19, 2021

**Attended:** Ambrose, Bell, Brown, Butler, Clark, Correa, Crosman, Denton, Fairweather-Leitch, Farren, Gill, Hoffman, Holland, Humphreys, Issa, Medlock, McCauley, Ramos Salazar, Tarpley

**Absent:** Tyrer, Manfredi, Whaley, Yarbrough

**Guest(s):** Nancy Garcia (for Brooks), Gary Byrd (for Pinkham), Lisa Rollins (for Spencer)

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The meeting was called to order at 12:17 pm by President Anne Medlock.

### **Meghan Williams - Buff \$mart Program.**

- Sponsored by Education Credit Union
- Money Management program on campus
- Operated by means of student service fees
- Support of Dr. Wendler's initiative to ensure students graduate college with little or no debt

### **Major objectives:**

- Help students obtain college degree with little or no debt
- Tailored to underclassmen
- Provide one-on-one coaching sessions with peer financial coaching (trained)
- Information to obtain scholarships, employment, budgeting, investing, taxes, etc.
- Can perform classroom presentations and programs for residential halls
- General programs: fall money management boot camp (student loans, credit, budgeting, savings, goal setting, graduation, celebration), spring advanced money management boot camp (home buying, investing, building credit, paying-off debt, F.I.R.E method)
- Challenges are low student participation, high sign-up and low attendance (Fall 2021: 60 students sign-up, 30 students commit to attend)

Questions concerning the needs of faculty to communicate programs to students as well as the availability to online students was asked and affirmed. Both sessions are available on Zoom as well as on-on-one coaching sessions. It was noted that notifications cannot be pushed into WTClass which would make sharing easier. Additionally, visuals are available on the Buff \$mart social media platforms. Several Senators provided testimonials of Buff \$mart presentations and their own experiences of having students using Buff \$mart services. A suggestion was made to have students referred to Buff \$mart services before they withdraw from courses. (Clark, Humphreys, Salazar)

Williams wants students that struggle with financial issues to go to Buff \$mart; she provided a reminder that CARES funding is available for students with a deadline of November 22, 2021; emergency funding is available for students as well.

Minutes of the November 5, 2021, meeting minutes were approved as corrected.

- Motion to approve as corrected: Humphreys
- Second: Denton
- Motion passed

## **CURRENT BUSINESS**

### **Joint Student/Faculty Committee on Academic Affairs**

No report. Medlock offered to attend the joint student/faculty committee on academic affairs. Fairweather-Leitch to upload OER presentation to WTClass.

### **Travel Equity Committee**

No report.

### **Problems with hiring student workers for grading**

Medlock reported on Human Resources response for the hiring difficulty. There is some confusion as to who the final arbiter of the process is as well as an assumption that students are not regularly checking their email for employment instructions. It was noted that the hiring process appears to be more parallel than linear. Medlock and Butler will meet before the end of semester with Terry to discuss. (Butler, Humphreys, Medlock)

### **Handbook Committee**

Medlock received clarification from Terry and Schaffer that Senate needs to provide verbiage or make a suggestion. It is understood that the purpose of the two votes is to make things simple, but currently it is not yet clear. Based on current verbiage, Handbook Committee will make some new verbiage to make the unclear clear. Medlock requests Senators to contact department heads or college deans concerning possible changes to 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Review verbiage. Responses should be sent to Bell. Humphreys reported the information from COB. All deans requested edits to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Review Changes.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Reminder Faculty Development Applications due Dec 1**

Medlock reminded Senators to have all applications for Faculty Development to be submitted by December 1. Senators must review applications before Jan 14 meeting. Humphreys provided a link to the application in the chat.

## **Other New Business**

Dr. Terry will join Senate on Jan 14

Dr. Wendler will join Senate on Jan. 28

It was re-affirmed that Senate will continue to meet online based on Level Red designation by the Amarillo Public Health Department.

- Motion to Adjourn: Bell
- Second: Fairweather-Leitch
- Motion: Passed

The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Erick Butler for Pat Tyrer