

## Faculty Senate Minutes

February 17, 2023

**Attended:** Ambrose, Bill; Bang, Brandon; Brooks, Mary Liz; Brown, Trisha; Correa, Priscella; Crosman, Erik; Denton, Keneth; Ghosh, Nabarun; Hisek, Callie; Hoffmann, Eric; Humpherys, Sean; Issa, Roy; Leitch, Ken; Manfredi, Guiligliemo; McCauley, Kelly; Meljac, Eric; Pinkham, Ashley; Price, Blake; Ramos Salazar, Leslie; Reardon, Matt; Smith, Bob; Spencer, Brian; Tarpley, Troy; Unnikrishnan, Vinu; Yarbrough, Jasons

**Absent:** Whaley, Brigitte

**Guest(s):**

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The meeting was called to order at 12:15 by President Ashley Pinkham. The minutes were considered from the previous two meetings.

Motion to approve minutes from 1/20: Denton, Second, Reardon. Vote passed.

Motion to approve minutes from 2/3: Denton, Second: Leitch. Vote passed.

### CURRENT BUSINESS

#### *Handbook Committee*

*The Provost's Office asked us to make proposed changes making clear that the faculty member undergoing the CPE will assemble copies from the past six years of his or her Annual Activity reports should be changed to supplements (excluding administrator evaluations).*

*Motion to approve the changed language and send to handbook committee: Bridgett Whaley, Second: Reardon. Vote approved.*

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

*Erik Crosman said there were no news changes.*

#### *Ad Hoc Travel Committee*

*Denton said that new findings will be submitted to President Pinkham for further discussion by the Senate for review.*

The issue was revisited about the cancellation of journals at the library, and whether we should arrange a new Q&A. Sean mentions that the COB has no need to have further discussion as this does not widely impact that COB. Meljac proposed having a Q&A for Senate members only.

Seconded by David. Vote passed with 24 votes for a Q&A with Shawna on Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> via a virtual meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Committee vacancies**

- Accommodations Appeals Committee: This must be filled by special education or a discipline with expertise in disability issues. Dr. Lee Dorenty was nominated. Vote was passed on nomination.
- Faculty Emeritus Committee: This committee must be filled by a tenured member of FAH. Dr. Ryan Ingrassia was nominated. Vote was passed on nomination.
- Student Fee Advisory Committee: This committee can be filled by any faculty member. Dr. Jae Yoo was nominated. Vote was passed on nomination. Dr. Maha Shrestha (4 votes) was nominated, as well as Dr. Bhattacharia (3 votes), Dr. Ghosh (0 votes), and Dr. Franken (12 votes). Dr. Franken won the nomination.
- Undergraduate Admissions Appeal Committee: This committee can be filled by any faculty member. Dr. Mike McFarland (2 votes), Dr. Bhattacharia (20 votes), and Dr. Franken (1 vote) were nominated. Dr. Bhattacharia won the nomination.

### **Magister Optimus**

Nominations must be sent by 11:59PM on 3/30/2023. The Senate will then vote on the 3/31 meeting.

### **Survey: Faculty Perspectives on OER**

This will be open from 2/17 to 3/03 in order to get faculty perspectives on the use of OER.

### **Beat any Offer Program**

Dr. Wendler sent out an e-mail discussing how WTAMU will attempt to match any outside funding offer to an potential undergrade considering WTAMU. There is a website designed where students can submit the offers they have in order to see if WTAMU can beat that offer. The issue was raised as to where the money was coming from for this idea. The issue was also raised as to how this is compatibly with existing financial aid programs. Blake Price asked whether this applies to students getting offers from community colleges as well. It was remarked that Dr. Wendler's message of telling potential students to go elsewhere for the past 2 years is not a good business strategy, and that this may be a recruiting tool to make up for past mistakes. It was asked whether why these offers aren't being made from the start if we really have this money to begin with, and that this program seems like an act of desperation.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

It has been announced that each department must meet 3% growth rates in enrollment, and must justify why that number cannot be reached.

Dr. Wendler has been invited to speak to the Senate on 3/31, and he expressed his desire to speak about enrollment. Erik Meljak proposes that we set up a list of pressing questions that we have for Dr. Wendler beforehand.

We will also re-open discussions about discrepancies that have been brought up concerning health insurance among faculty.

Bob Smith reminded us of the faculty research poster session.

Motion to adjourn: Erik Meljak  
Meeting adjourned at: 1:24 pm

Respectfully,

Eric Hoffmann