

Faculty Senate Minutes
February 28, 2020

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

Senators Absent: Castillo, Yvette; Howell, Nathan;

Substitutes: NA

Welcome/Call to Order

Minutes: February 14, 2020

Current and Pending (Old) Business

Committee Updates:

- Joint Faculty Student Committee on Academic Affairs (standing committee)
(Speakers: Dr. King)
 - Going to meet with OER committee
 - Meet with Buff Smart
 - Will be presentable by April 24th

- Faculty Handbook (Speakers: Dr. King, Dr. Babb, Dr. Ramos-Salazar, Dr. Craig, Ms. Rausch)
 - Suggestion to be a standing committee
 - Important to have for needed changes to the committee
 - Dr. Craig moves create standing committee
 - Dr. Farren seconds motion
 - Ms. Rausch ask for a description of the committee for the website
 - Unanimous vote of approval

- Instructor Promotion (Speakers: Dr. Farren, Dr. Babb, Dr. Franken, Dr. King)
 - Instructors would be happy with text created with the “job security” portion removed
 - Dr. Terry says will be an equity component to merit pool for the next year
 - College would be holding 5% equity as determined by the dean, for instructors and clinical faculty

- Committee approves of Dr. Terry's suggestion
- Make a motion to send information forward to the EVPP concerning instructor promotion in that the deans will be able to distribute a 5% merit adjustment to non-tenure track faculty from the equity component of merit given that there is merit in that particular cycle.
- unanimous vote of approval

- Accessibility and Library Databases (Ms.Rausch, Dr. Babb)
 - Committee provided a handout
 - Is a good cross section of positive and negative comments
 - Meet with Dr. Terry to move forward on documentation for processes, looking for more clarity
 - Accessibility review process is still unclear
 - Committee will develop a resolution for future expectations

- Communications and Perception (Ms. Medlock, Dr. Babb, Ms. Rausch, Dr. Tyrer, Dr. Clark, Dr. Craig, Dr. Macaulay)
 - It is the faculty senate's expectation that any and all communications including but not limited to op-ed emails, blogs, publications, or any other key points of public entry that represent WTAMU on university masthead, will be inclusive and represent the diversity and dignity of the university population as stated in the university faculty handbook and found in West Texas A&M's core values. Further, the aforementioned communications are expected to neither favor a political agenda or doctrine, nor should they exclude people or value systems, as stated in West Texas A&M University Policy 07.03.01.W1 and and Texas A&M University System Regulation 7.03.01
 - Discussion of what a resolution is and the importance of a resolution
 - Dr. Craig motions to Formulate this statement into a resolution for the next meeting.
 - Dr. King Seconded the motion
 - Unanimous vote of approval

Report from the Texas Council of Faculty Senates, Feb 21(Speakers: Dr. Babb, Ms. Rausch, Dr. Lewis, Dr. Karaganis, Dr. King)

- Meeting with other system Senators and Dr. Hallmark
 - Fields of Study is on hold
 - Discussion of research output
 - Discussion on assisting students to complete degrees
- AAUP

- American Association of University Professors
 - If there interest in starting a chapter
 - Opportunity for advocacy
 - Has a report forthcoming on Dual credit
- TACT
 - Texas Association of College Teachers
 - More of an individual choice
- Dr. Harrison Keller, Commissioner of Higher Education
 - Coordinating Board offering data to Faculty Senates
- Round up Reports
 - Most campuses also have accessibility issues
 - College station is undergoing a DOJ audit on accessibility
 - Schools concerned with civil rights and DACA issues
- Business Meeting
 - Dr. Babb was nominated and elected to be the Western Region Vice President of the Texas Council of Faculty Senates, 2 year term
- Consider President Elect Model
 - Could be an option
- Campus Climate Survey
 - Climate surveys for faculty, staff and students
 - Tarleton would share with us
 - Discussion of what is the goal and purpose

Strategic Plan (Speakers: Dr. Babb, Ms. Rausch, Dr. Karaganis, Dr. Seth)

- Dr. Terry feels process is behind
- Faculty will now be on the steering committee
- Faculty will be on the University Planning and Administration Committee
- Senate will not get a digital copy of Dr. Terry's strategic plan report, it is not the best use of our time
- Is there anything on the current draft of the Strategic Plan that must be changed?
- The strategic plan must move forward for SACSCOC
- Send any concerns to Dr. Babb

New Business

Action Items for Coordination with the EVPP:

- Travel Support (Emphasis Project with Provost) (Speakers: Dr. Babb, Dr. Farren, Dr. King, Ms. Rausch, Ms. Rollins)
 - Dr. Terry believes that this is the best way to help the most people
 - Do a gap analysis
 - How under for needs of Intellectual Contribution

- Senate would form a committee
 - Compare to peer institutions
 - Will form a committee
 - \$31,000 for the next academic year
 - Make a motion to form a committee to conduct a gap analysis of peer institutions in conjunction with the EVPP to provide support for WT adjustment to Faculty travel prior to the conclusion of the academic year.
 - Dr. Rollins seconded motion
 - Unanimous vote of approval
- Teaching Load Modification (Dr. Babb, Dr. Macaulay, Ms. Rausch, Dr. Craig, Dr. Garcia, Ms. Medlock, Dr. Clark)
 - Poll of who on Senate teaches 3/3 loads
 - Dr. Terry acknowledges that class size could grow
 - President and Provost prefer 3/3
 - EVPP will not support Teaching Load Modification if Faculty Senate does not support this
 - If the university wants to go R3 had to not be 3/3
 - Some programs have specific classrooms that depend on small class size
 - This will reveal what departments have let overloads become habit, and could lead to planning for the future
 - Make a motion to support the efforts of the EVPP in pursuing a 3/3 load for faculty across campus.
 - Dr. Clark seconded the motion
 - Unanimous vote of approval

Review Administrator Survey

- Jarvis Hampton runs the survey
- Needs input for March 6th meeting

Dr. Wendler will be the Faculty Senate's guest on March 6th, 2020

Dr. Terry will return as the Faculty Senate's guest on April 10th, 2020

Quality of service issue with IT (Speakers: Dr. Karaganis, Dr. Babb, Dr. Craig, Ms. Medlock, Dr. Farren)

- Feels that IT does not support research

- IT is good at helping with teaching related issues
- Dr. Babb will try again to get Mr. Webb to come to Faculty Senate

SB212 discussion at system level (Dr. Mun Yee, Dr. Babb

- Research is not exempt

Dr. Craig motions to adjourn.

Seconded by Dr. Fritzler

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Medlock, Secretary

Minutes submitted 3/6