

Faculty Senate Minutes

March 22, 2019

Senators Present: Babb, Bartlett, Burnett, Castillo, Clewett, Clifton, Curl, Davis, Franken, Garcia, Ingrassia, Karaganis, King, Kwan, Leitch, Lewis, Macdonald, Meljac, Revett, Rollin, Seth, Seward, Wang and Woodyard.

Senators Absent: Li and Williams

Substitutes: Chris Macaulay for Dale Li

Call to Order: Davis called the meeting to order at 12:17 pm in the Eternal Flame Room of the JBK.

Approval of Minutes: King made a motion to approve the Faculty Senate minutes of February 15, 2019; Meljac seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Babb made a motion to approve the Faculty Senate minutes of March 1, 2019; Leitch seconded. Motion passed with two abstentions.

Current and Pending (Old) Business

Instructor Promotion

The Instructor Promotion Committee plans to have a proposal at the next meeting.

Merit Increase

Nothing new to report at this time

Student Enrollment Numbers

Enrollment numbers are up this spring. King handed out a table showing the official enrollment numbers for Fall 2012 to Spring 2019. Table recreated below with first two columns for fall enrollment and second two for spring. All enrollment numbers are as of the end of the 20th class day (i.e., no more refunds).

Semester	Enrollment	Semester	Enrollment
Fall 2012	7,909	Spring 2013	7,463
Fall 2013	8,377	Spring 2014	7,985
Fall 2014	8,972	Spring 2015	8,423
Fall 2015	9,489	Spring 2016	9,114
Fall 2016	9,901	Spring 2017	9,230
Fall 2017	10,060	Spring 2018	9,188
Fall 2018	10,029	Spring 2019	9,282

Student Academic Liaison Committee

The committee made a motion to accept the proposed mission statement and charges as submitted to the Faculty Senate via a handout. King seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. To better align with the Student Government committee, the committee name changed to Joint Student-Faculty Committee on Academic Affairs. Babb reported the committee plans on completing the following this semester –

1. Draft an advisory resolution statement from joint committee.
2. Meet with Dr. Shaffer to discuss OER, resolution statement and approve joint committee.
3. Write motion to change Senate Bylaws to make this a standing committee. The students are worried this joint committee will die out if faculty don't champion it. Students will also add committee to student bylaws but faculty tend to be more stable, longevity-wise, than students.

MyEvive Health Assessment

The privacy agreement covering Evive was discussed in the March 2019 Issue of Benefit Briefs published by the TAMUS. "Evive, as a partner of BCBSTX, has a HIPAA agreement with BCBSTX that covers A&M System employees and their information." Davis said no further action was required on our part since this was now a non-issue.

Streamlined Core Curriculum

Until the Core Curriculum Committee decides to tackle this issue, it is a non-starter for us.

OER (Open Educational Resources)

The English department is having trouble finding OER's that are ADA compliant. The faculty charged with finding books for ENGL 1301, 1302 and 2311 informed Meljac of this issue and that they are feeling pressure from their department head to implement OER this fall.

Clewett said this OER push started with the Biology Department at Texas A&M going textbook free.

New Business

Magister Optimus

Bring nominations for Magister Optimus award to the April 26 meeting. We must make our election by May 1. Senators will talk about their nominee at the next meeting. Nominees must be current full-time faculty members who have taught at WT for at least six consecutive years.

Regents Professor

Regents Professor nominations are due to Faculty Senate by April 5, 2019. The deadline is set so senators can consider nominees at the final meeting April 26.

Comprehensive Peer Evaluation (CPE) Process and Faculty Handbook

A faculty member conducting CPE reviews this year sent a letter of advice/comments to Faculty Senate President Davis. The comments were about the disparity between CPE packages, confusion in the Faculty Handbook CPE statement and the lack of a feedback mechanism.

The Faculty Handbook statement on the CPE package is "The faculty member undergoing the CPE will assemble copies of the past six years of his or her **Annual Activity Reports**, a current vitae, and a copy of the faculty member's department standards into one CPE folder."

Senators discussed the matter in general but no specific actions were taken.

Committee memberships

Davis emailed a list of expiring committee memberships with today's agenda. Senators need to recruit nominees and be ready to vote at the April 26th meeting.

Seward reminded everyone that faculty could hold a position in a committee for a maximum of two consecutive three-year periods.

Annual Faculty Evaluation of Administrators

Jarvis Hampton should send an email to faculty today or Monday with a link to the evaluation. Encourage your faculty to participate.

Upcoming Schedule

April 5 – Dr. Wendler

April 26

The Faculty Senate meeting adjourned 1:11 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Burnett, Secretary

Minutes approved at April 5, 2019 Faculty Senate Meeting