Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 2, 2014


Absent: Ian Aebel (1), Ambrose Anoruo (2), Jody A. Briones (1), John Chisholm (2), Oscar Diaz (2), Yoursi Elkassabgi (2), Tim Fulbright (4), James Glusing (1), Kuo-Jen Liao (3), Todd Lucas (1), Lisa McNair (1), Brenda Melendy (2), Patricia Polatri (2), Randy Powell (3), Emily Ralph (2), Nestor Rodriguez (4), Rongdong Wang (2)

I. Call to Order 3:40 pm
   a. Quorum Call – Quorum presence was made at 4:25 pm.


III. Presentations
   a. Dr. Rex Gandy, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
      i. Merit Pay Raise: With effect from January 2015, faculty members could see their pay raise in their February 2015 pay check. We could have another raise in Fall 2015.
      ii. SACS: TAMUK sent our reports three months ago. An external team evaluated the report. There were 14 non-compliant areas out of 97. The average was 18 in Texas. We received a B. One of the non-compliances was not related to our faculty. Therefore, we only had 13 areas; about half of the areas were academic. Dr. Duane Gardiner was leading a team to work on them. Moreover, SLO report was one of the non-compliant items. TAMUK had a month to make the changes. Regarding the QEP, the Undergraduate Writing Center would go with the report in January 2015. SACS Site Team would visit TAMUK in March. The team would look at the 14 non-compliant areas and judge to see whether they met the requirements.
      iii. SRI: TAMUK could shut down the SRI on the last day of class. Provost Gandy said that last time when the SRI Committee Review Committee met, he was out of town. Senate asked whether the SRI could be sent out to the students earlier so that the cut-off date could be before the final exam. Provost said that he had already moved the cut-off date before Dec 10. He said that 65% of students responded near their final exams. SRI Review Committee would discuss about the cut-off date and the instrument. Also, starting in Spring 2015, all of the student comments on the SRI
would be sent to the department chairs and college deans. It would be a standard procedure.

b. Robert Paulson, CIO TAMUK Information Technology
   i. Wireless Internet on campus: College of Business Administration, Library, Rhode Hall, SUB, Fore Hall, and Manning Hall had Wi-Fi system.
   ii. TAMUK spent $300,000 for computer improvement.
   iii. TAMUK Information Technology would post a survey for faculty on JNET looking for the needs and priority of the faculty.
   iv. For any assistance, please contact Help Desk to create a ticket.
   v. The first task of Information Technology was to replace the network. The second task was the classroom refresh where the old PCs would be replaced with the new computers. Later, Information Technology would work on the server refresh.
   vi. Please share your suggestions with your college dean and the University Advisory Committee.
   vii. Phishing emails: TAMUK was placed on a blacklist because some faculty members responded to the phishing emails. If you received any phishing e-mail, please forward the email to Lonnie Nagel (Lonnie.Nagel@tamuk.edu).
   viii. For file backup, please call Help Desk to request an access to our online server to back up your files.

IV. Report of Officers
   a. Senate President George Vargas: Meeting(s) with President Tallant and Provost Gandy
      i. Old Business regarding allowing staff members to teach: Senate President Vargas contacted the HR Director and President Tallant. However, there was no response. There was a suggestion to make a formal request for a response in a memo.

V. Old Business
   a. SRI Approach
      i. Provost Gandy asked the Senate to vote on the statement of the SRI Approach. The Senate discussed it but did not vote on it.

VI. Announcements
   a. Senate needed to compile a list of those senators whose term was going to expire. Elections for new senators would begin in February 2015.

VII. Adjournment - 5 pm
   Next meeting: Tuesday, February 3, 2015