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FACULTY SENATE

FS Meeting Agenda (5/4/21)

- President Hussey's presentation
- Provost Reinisch's presentation
- Approval of minutes, 4/26/2021
- Report of Officers
 - Emergency Management Committee (Ms. Radcliff)
 - Senate report (Dr. Chen)
- Standing Committee reports
 - Committee on Committees
 - Election Committees
 - Resolution & By-laws Committee
- Reports from special committees
- New Business
 - Committee appointment length (Ms. Radcliff)
 - Adding a statement of importance to SRI (Dr. Huff)
 - Annual administrator evaluation instrument
- Announcements



President Hussey's Presentation



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Provost's Presentation



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Minutes Approval



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Meeting Date: April 22, 2021

- Small COVID outbreak in athletics
- Mobile Vaccine Unit
 - 102 people vaccinated
- Summer camps on campus
 - System said we can host 100%
 - Any overnight camp participants will be required to take an antigen test upon arrival to campus

Emergency
Management
Team Report
Christine Radcliff

- Summary of the meeting with Drs. Hussey and Reinisch (4/8/2021)
 - Report of the new Faculty Senate Executive Committee
 - The motion previously passed by the senate
 - Discussion of the straw poll survey results
 - Both Drs. Hussey and Reinisch are now aware of the opinions of the faculty senators who participated in the “straw poll.”
 - It is recommended that the ad hoc committee meet again to come up with a revised version of the proposal.
 - Both the President and Provost feel strongly that changes for tenure and promotion process need to be made, and they are hopeful that the Faculty Senate will pass the revised proposal in the next academic year.
 - Teaching modalities for fall 2021
 - The role faculty can play in improving the university’s fiscal conditions
 - Increasing retention rate
 - Generating “good products” to students

- Summary of the meetings of Council on Climate, Diversity & Inclusion (CDI)
 - The council met on April 19, 2021, through Zoom. Dr. Nirmal Goswami led the discussions.
 - Director position description for Office of Climate, Diversity and Inclusion (proposed):
 - The subcommittee has generated a draft.
 - George Floyd scholarship and George Floyd symposium:
 - The committee is still in the process of getting approval from the George Floyd Foundation.
 - Hispanic legacy and artistic work honoring the Hispanic heritage and Chicano movement:
 - The subcommittee chair, Dr. Manuel C. Flores, proposed three pieces of artistic work:
 - Historia de Tejas – A mural to be installed on campus honoring the history of South Texas with a focus on the multicultural heritage of the region. (Estimated cost: \$10,000)
 - Metal Statue – Two metal silhouettes in front of the bookstore (Estimated cost: \$5,000-\$6,000)



S. G. Amara 1920



By Jesus de la Rosa

Committee on Committees Chair for 2021-2022

Senator Alexander Sanchez-Behar (School of Music)

- The committee will begin working this month to fill seats in the committees that report to the faculty senate.



Election Committee Chair for 2021-2022

Senator Christine Radcliff (Library)

Committee appointment length for committees that report to faculty senate.

- Current appointment to these committees is for 1 year
- This can create a lack of continuity
- Appointment length for other University committees is usually 2 years
- Lessens the workload for Committee on Committees each year

SRI – adding statement of importance

Annual Administrator Evaluation instrument

Instead of evaluating individual Administrator performance, an idea would be to evaluate the effectiveness, efficiency and task implementation of business and academic units or offices.

For example: Human Resources, Jernigan Library, Provost's Office, Dean's Office, Sponsored Research Office, etc.

- This type of evaluation should be able to provide more constructive evaluation by faculty focused more on the entire business or academic unit or functional effectiveness rather than individuals who come and go.
- Faculty participation could increase since most of us have to deal or work with all or many of these business/academic units, but rarely with the top administrator.
- We could encourage faculty to focus on the comment portion of the survey and start with the positive contributions about the units to be evaluated, before the specific constructive complaints get noted.
- This could be a win-win, where the business/academic units actually respond to comments, and perhaps use the surveys to help justify more resources or more personnel to accomplish their missions.

Cambridge University Press “Read & Publish” agreement author webinar

The University has entered into a "Read & Publish" Agreement with Cambridge University Press. Any TAMUK faculty member who publishes with Cambridge will have the option to make the article open access without any cost - the cost is included in the library's current agreement with Cambridge.

A webinar for authors will be held on May 10, which is designed to discuss the importance of publishing Open Access, and the opportunity to do so under Read & Publish. If May 10 will not work for your schedule, Cambridge will schedule additional webinars throughout the year.



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Adjournment