

**Texas A&M University-Kingsville**

**Faculty Senate Minutes**

**February 4, 2014**

Present: Aden Ahmed, Bart Ballard, , Edward Butterworth, Rajab Challoo, John Cicala, Farzad Deyhim, Karen Furgerson, Jeff Glick, James Glusing, Nirmal Goswami, Norma Guzman, Alvaro Martinez, Lisa McNair, , Victoria Packard, Ali Pilehvari, , Randy Powell, Hans Schumann, Greta Schuster, Jacki Thomas, George Vargas, Amit Verma, Rongdong Wang, Colin Wark, Zak Watson, Kenneth Williams, Randall Williams

Absent: Apurba Bhattacharya (1), David Cutton (1), Oscar Diaz (2), Don Fisher (2), Tim Fulbright (2), Lorraine Killion (1), Geri Maxwell (2), Selahattin Ozcelik (1), Patricia Polastri (1), Manuel Soto (4), Dazhi Sun (2)

- I. Call to order 3:32
  - a. Quorum call  
Quorum Present
- II. Approval of minutes, November Meeting. Motion: Senator Glick. Second: Senator Guzman. Approved by voice vote.
- III. Presentation
  - a. PROVOST Rex Gandy
    - i. As of day 15 of this semester, enrollment is up 14% and SCH are up 9%. Growth is largely in Engineering graduate programs and dual enrollment.
    - ii. Board of Regents approved the MA in Cultural Studies and the PhD in Sustainable Energy Systems. Those go to the THECB next.
    - iii. Professor Nestor Sherman was named Regents professor at the Board of Regents meeting in Galveston. Congratulations.
  - b. ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT Duane Gardiner
    - i. Continuation Procedures and Tenure section proposed for the Faculty Handbook: This vote has been delayed until the March meeting to make sure faculty have a chance to understand the changes. Senator Thomas asked if it might be timely to visit some other questions about uniformity in the tenure and promotion process. Senate President Challoo responded that would be a good idea; discussion ensued. A Faculty Senate subcommittee would be needed to make the discussed changes.
    - ii. QEP: Four of five colleges and the student body agreed that writing should be the focus of the SACS-required QEP this time around. Senator Thomas moved to approve the QEP proposal document and Senator Vargas seconded. The motion passed by voice vote.
  - c. DIRECTOR, ENTERPRISE INFORMATION SYSTEMS Lee Moore
    - i. Domain: Not all computers on campus are currently required to log on to the TAMUK domain. To be in compliance, they need to be configured for that logon. Techs are enforcing this measure across campus.

- ii. XP: Microsoft will no longer support this operating system as of April 8, 2014. All computers running XP on campus will need to be either upgraded or replaced before that date. Techs are working on this as well.
- IV. Report of Officers
  - a. Senate President Rajab Chaloo
    - i. Meetings with President Tallant and Provost Gandy: No meetings in January.
    - ii. Senate Standing Committees and University Committees: Effort is underway to combine and merge Faculty Senate and University Committees. Senators Thomas and Williams are working on this merge.
  - b. Senate Vice President George Vargas
    - i. Adjunct Faculty/Lecturer Classroom Evaluation Form: The Faculty Senate Executive Committee asked Senator Vargas to work on this document. It seems the document originated from Student Success, Human Resources, and Compliance. Human Resources is amenable to working with the Faculty Senate to make a better evaluation form that is more widely applicable and more consistent. Faculty Senate President Chaloo stated an ad-hoc committee would be formed to revise this document.
- V. Old Business
  - a. Newly Elected Senators—From the Department of Accounting and Finance, Kendra Huff. Welcome, Senator Huff.
  - b. Ad-hoc Committee on Post Tenure Review: The members, as nominated by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, are: Jacki Thomas (chair), Randall Williams, Jack Shorter, Don Fisher, Melody Yarbrough, Bruce Schueneman, and Rajab Chaloo. Their timeline is to finalize by the April Faculty Senate meeting.
- VI. New Business
- VII. Senate Election Committee: Senator Guzman, chair of the Election Committee reminds the Faculty of the upcoming elections
- VIII. Announcements
  - a. Senator Verma on indoor temperatures: There is a system regulation stipulating that temperatures in campus buildings should not be below 70 degrees in the winter and not above 75 in summer. Lately, they have seemed low.
  - b. Senator Ahmed on parking: Please request our UPD to remove the street barricades
- IX. Adjournment: Senator Goswami moved to adjourn at 4:41. Senator Verma seconded the motion, which met with vocal approbation before the minute lapsed.