

**Texas A&M University-Kingsville**  
**Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, May 6, 2014**

Present: Polly Allred, Bart Ballard, Daniel Burt, Edward J. Butterworth, Ruth Chatelain-Jardon, Farzad Deyhim, M. Catherine Downs, Deena L. Garza, James Glusing, Stan Hodges, Kendra Huff, Lorraine Killion, Kuo-Jen Liao, Lisa McNair, Victoria Packard, Emily Ralph, Nestor Sherman, Jacki Thomas, George Vargas, Amit Verma, and Monica Wong-Ratcliff

Absent: Ian Aebel, Ambrose Anoruo, Apuruba Bhattacharya, John Chisholm, Oscar Diaz, Kelly Fisher, Tim Fulbright, Nirmal Goswami, Elizabeth Janzen, Todd Lucas, Gerri Maxwell, Brenda Melendy, Selahattin Ozcelik, Patricia Polastri, Randy Powell, Joseph Sai, Rongdong Wang, Fulden Wissinger

- I. Call to Order—3:33
  - a) Quorum Call—Quorum present
- II. Approval of Minutes, April Meeting. Motion: Senator Thomas. Second: Senator Packard. Approved by voice vote.
- III. Presentations
  - a) Dr. Rex Gandy, Provost:
    - i. Thanks for a great year. 900+ students would graduate on Friday.
    - ii. The Counting Year started in Summer 2014.
    - iii. Last week at Board of Regents (BOR) all tenure nominees were approved.
    - iv. MS in Statistical Analysis was approved by the BOR. The proposal was now headed to THECB for approval.
    - v. Update on College of Arts & Sciences: The former dean was leaving for Sam Houston State University. Since we had the open position, it was time to look at the university organization. TAMUK had 4 medium/small colleges and one huge one. Arts & Sciences was about half the credit hours and faculty. There were 3 options. 1. Leave it alone. 2. Divide into two colleges: science and liberal arts 3. Move departments from this huge college into other colleges: Life Sciences move to Agriculture, for instance. Faculty Senate would be involved in the discussion, as would the Academic Deans' council and the Council of Chairs. The decision would be made by early December 2014. Then, the dean search could be started in January 2015 to have the dean in place by summer 2015. Interim Dean would be picked next week.
  - b) Dr. Darin Hoskisson, Associate Professor of Music, and Academic Intern, Provost's Office:
    - i. Presentation on Astra Scheduling Program – Our current method of scheduling was inefficient and archaic. The Provost's Office created the course schedule by hand every semester. Therefore, Dr. Gandy asked him to look for a better way to do scheduling.

- ii. TAMUK purchased Astra but never used it. Astra was a computer program that helped scheduling. It would help resolve conflicts and concerns regarding space utilization. A committee had finished its work on this and presented to the Councils of Chairs and Academic Deans for input and comments. Please send questions or comments to Senate President George Vargas, or talk to Dr. Darin Hoskisson directly.
- c) Amanda Knight, Assistant Director for Academics and Compliance:
  - i. Presentation on Good Academic Standing Policy, Athletes and Other Students - This policy affected all students. Currently, any students would be able to participate in extra-curricular activities with a minimum 2.0 GPA. However, there was no policy that would determine who should and should not participate.
  - ii. New policy from Jackie Thomas and Amanda Knight - for all students in good standing or on scholastic probation, they can participate. NCAA says that whatever the standard is, it has to be determined by academic authorities at the institution. The new policy has been presented to Provost Gandy, President Tallant, and the Academic Deans' Council. In fall, decisions would be reached to form a permanent policy for the future.
- IV. Report of Officers
  - a) Senate President George Vargas: Met with President Tallant and Provost Gandy about three weeks ago. The focus of the meeting was on the new city law regarding texting. There was a question about how it would impact the campus.
- V. Old Business
  - a) Senate President George Vargas: Revision of Instructor/Adjunct Evaluation Form – this business was discussed before. It was now closer to being finalized. Provost Gandy wanted the Evaluation Forms be in use by Fall 2014. Senate President Vargas recommended forming a committee to finalize the evaluation forms. Senator Verma volunteered to chair the committee.
- VI. New Business
  - a) Election of Senate Officers: Motion to discuss the nomination of senators to the positions. That motion passed. President: Senator Verma. Senator Sherman (declined). Secretary: Senator Packard (declined). Senator Ratcliff. Parliamentarian: Senator Thomas (declined). Senator Sherman (accepted). Agriculture: Senator Ballard. Arts & Sciences: Senator Packard. Business: Senator Huff. Education: Senator Killion. Engineering: Senator Glusing.
  - b) Other – Parking and cost of permits.
- VII. Announcements: Senators Verma, Ratcliff, Sherman, Ballard, Packard, Huff, Killion, Glusing were elected, in that order.
- VIII. Adjournment 4:54
  - a) Next meeting: Tuesday, September 2, 2014