

# Faculty Senate Meeting—May 3, 2016

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**Senators Present:** Ambrose Anoruo, Maria Ayala-Schueneman, Jody Briones, April Conkey, Barbara Cooke, Christine Fiestas, Ann Fronckowiak, Armando Garza, Kristopher Garza, Christopher Hearon, Stan Hodges, Patricia Huskin, Khairul Islam, Elizabeth Janzen, Kai Jin, Don Jones, Dongnyoung Kim, Melody Knight, Lifford McLauchlan, Richard Miller, Joseph Sai, Chang Sung, Pamela Wright, Chongwei Xiao, Subbarao Yelisetti, Muhittin Yilmaz, Nuri Yilmazer

**Senators Absent:** Bart Ballard (1), Kathleen Rees (1), Santa Barraza (1), Armando Ibanez (1), Alberto Rodriguez (1), Joachim Reinhuber (1), Jack Shorter (1), Randall Williams (1), David Ramirez (1), Bruce Marsh (1), Barbara Oates (1), Hong Zhu (1)

**Attending:** Dr. Heidi Anderson, Abigail De La Mora, Dr. Natalya Delcoure, Dr. Dolores Guerrero, Dr. William Kuvlesky, Dr. Alberto Ruiz

❖ **Call to Order and Quorum Call - 3:34 p.m.:**

➤ *Dr. Challoo asked interim parliamentarian, Dr. Christopher Hearon, if a quorum was present. Dr. Hearon replied in the affirmative.*

❖ **Approval of Minutes from November Senate Meeting:**

➤ *Dr. Challoo asked for approval of the previous meeting's minutes.*

- The motion to approve the minutes was made by Dr. Richard Miller. The motion was seconded.
- The motion passed unanimously.

❖ **Presentation from Provost:**

➤ *Dr. Heidi Anderson gave an update to the Faculty Senate.*

- Dr. Anderson thanked the Faculty Senate for allowing her to give updates on several items. Dr. Anderson reminded the Senate that she has been with the university nine months and that one of her goals is to visit every department, college and unit. She has met with all five colleges and has visited 10 out of 24 departments. Dr. Anderson stated that she enjoys meeting with the departments. She has asked for departments to showcase areas of departmental “pride” as well as sharing needs. She said that she would share these resource needs with deans of the respective colleges. Dr. Anderson stated that these meetings have allowed her to not only generate a list of departmental and college accomplishments, but also to become familiar with individual faculty member’s teaching and research interests. She stated that she has met with Enrollment Management and Student Success, and pointed out that these units deal with the enrollment and retention of students. Dr. Anderson said she will continue departmental/unit visits in the Fall semester as most faculty will be gone during the summer months, and that she looks forward to visiting with every department. Dr. Anderson invited all senators to participate in the May commencement ceremony and hoped to see everyone there. Dr. Anderson gave updates on various searches in progress during Spring semester. Dr. Allen Rasmussen was selected for the position of Associate Vice President for Research

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and Dean of Graduate Studies. Dr. Anderson announced that a reception was scheduled next week for the outgoing AVP Research/Graduate Studies, Dr. Mohammed Abdelrahman, and she invited the Senate to attend. Dr. Shad Nelson was chosen to replace Dr. Rasmussen as Interim Dean of the College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Human Sciences. The College of Arts and Science had five candidates interview on campus out of 41 applicants. Dr. Dolores Guerrero was selected as Dean (pending Board of Regent approval). Dr. Anderson thanked Dr. Alberto Ruiz (chair of the search committee) and the committee members for their hard work. The College of Engineering is currently conducting a search for a new Dean and currently has 40 applicants. Dr. Stephan Nix will be leaving the position August 31<sup>st</sup> so the committee will be working quickly over the summer. Dr. Anderson asked the committee to establish a short list by May 19<sup>th</sup>. She stated that candidates will be arriving on campus during the summer and invited senators to attend candidate interviews. The Provost Office is conducting a new internal search for the Dean of Honors College. Dr. Anderson stated she has listened to faculty concerns regarding Ad Astra and formed a taskforce on this topic. Dr. Darin Hoskisson served as chair of this taskforce and focused on two areas. One area was teaching Ad Astra to the campus community and the second was to eliminate bottlenecks. Dr. Hoskisson will be meeting with Dr. Anderson to deliver the taskforce's final report, which will be shared with the campus community. She thanked the taskforce for its work. During her short time at TAMUK, Dr. Anderson has attended three Board of Regent meetings, two Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board meetings, and two Texas Chief Academic Officers (TCAO) meetings. She stated that prior to her arrival in Kingsville she had briefly examined issues related to faculty salaries and stated that she has asked for a thorough review of faculty salaries. Staff salaries have been evaluated, but not faculty salaries. Although the university has given two merit raises, salaries are still not where they should be.

- *Dr. Challoo asked Dr. Anderson if she could give future updates on Board of Regent meetings as well as the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board meetings.*
  - Dr. Anderson stated that she would be happy to do so on a regular basis.
- *Dr. Richard Miller asked about an article published by the Corpus Christi Caller-Times, which stated that Texas A&M University-Kingsville is allowing visible handguns in private offices as well as open carry during student, faculty or staff disciplinary hearings.*
  - Dr. Anderson stated that she was not aware of the article and requested a copy of the article. Dr. Christopher Hearon stated that the A&M System website has a listing of all System unit institutional restrictions. It was requested that the link to the A&M System webpage regarding campus carry be sent to all Senators.
- Dr. Anderson asked if there were any more questions to which there was no reply. She stated that when she arrived she was unaware that the Provost and Deans were *ex officio* members of the Faculty Senate. She stated that the former Senate President asked her to leave after her presentation, but after reading the

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Constitution of the Senate is now aware that she, as well as the deans, are able to attend these meetings for the duration of the meeting.

## ❖ Report from Committees and Officers:

➤ *Dr. Challoo asked for the various committees and officers to give updates to the Faculty Senate.*

### ▪ Faculty Senate President Update - Dr. Challoo

- Dr. Challoo stated that during the month not a lot had occurred. He reminded senators that the Senate could not conduct elections during the previous meeting because of vacancies in the Senate (two units were not represented). As of May 3, the Faculty Senate membership was 100% complete (all Senate seats filled), which Dr. Challoo stated was rare in the recent history of the Senate. The Senate currently has 42 senators and Dr. Challoo requested that present senators introduce themselves to the group. Dr. Challoo stated that he will meet with the President and Provost regularly on a biweekly schedule. He stated that he attended an Academic Deans Council (ADC) meeting and will meet with this group regularly. Dr. Challoo inquired of the Provost regarding the faculty list (not updated since 2012) and requested that it be updated; the Provost answered that an updated list was now available. Dr. Challoo also requested that the ADC meeting minutes be updated and posted as in the past. *Dr. Anderson stated that minutes are not taken and that she can post the agenda for these meetings. Dr. Challoo requested minutes be taken to ensure transparency and that some items discussed in these minutes deviate from the agenda. Dr. Alberto Ruiz stated that in the College of Education and Human Performance, he relays the information discussed at the ADC meetings to his department chairs who then relay the information to their respective departments. He stated that this is how his particular college does this and is unsure of the procedure followed by other colleges. Dr. Maria Ayala-Schueneman stated that the Library Director also relays information from these meetings to Library staff. Dr. Richard Miller stated it would be useful to see the agenda as a reference in asking questions of a particular issue.*
- Dr. Challoo asked all senators to introduce themselves and state the department they represent. Dr. Challoo stated that senators need to attend meetings and represent their department or college. He asked that faculty not schedule anything on the first Tuesday of the month at 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. The Executive Committee meets at the same day/time the week before the Senate meets to develop an agenda and discuss Senate related issues. A question was asked: what should a faculty member do in the event that the faculty member has a class at the same time. Dr.

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Chaloo stated the faculty member should change their schedule as senators are expected to attend Senate meetings.

## ❖ Old Business:

➤ *Dr. Chaloo opened the floor for old business.*

- Quorum Call: Dr. Chaloo asked for a quorum call. Dr. Hearon replied that a quorum was present.
- Election of Senate Officers: Dr. Chaloo explained that usually only elections for the Executive Committee were necessary, but that this year there were three committees also requiring elections. A nomination for parliamentarian was submitted and accepted; and Dr. Polly Allred (outgoing Secretary) will serve as Parliamentarian. Ballots were passed out for Executive Committee elections. Nominations submitted to the Executive Committee were noted on the ballot and senators had the option of writing in names on the ballot. The floor was open for additional nominations. *Dr. Christopher Hearon and Dr. Melody Knight were selected to count the ballots. Ballots were collected.*
- Ballots for the Election Committee were distributed. Nominations submitted to the Executive Committee were listed on the ballots. The floor was open for additional nominations. There were no additional nominations but senators did have the option of writing in names on the ballot. Ballots were collected.
- Ballots for the Committee on Committees were distributed. Dr. Chaloo stated that the committee consists of seven members, one member for each college. University College was listed as one of the colleges, but does not exist anymore. It was stated that the committee would have only six members. Dr. Chaloo stated he would provide all committees their charges. The floor was open for nominations.
  - College of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Human Science:  
*The following individuals were nominated – Dr. Randall Williams & Dr. April Conkey*
  - College of Arts and Sciences:  
*The following individuals were nominated – Dr. Barbara Cooke & Dr. Ryan Paul*
  - College of Business Administration:  
*The following individual was nominated – Dr. Dongnyoung Kim*
  - College of Education and Human Performance:  
*The following individuals were nominated – Dr. Christopher Hearon & Dr. Kristopher Garza*
  - College of Engineering:  
*The following individual was nominated – Dr. Muhittin Yilmaz*
  - Library:  
*The following individual was nominated – Dr. Maria Ayala-Schueneman*
- Ballots for the Resolution and By-Laws Committee were distributed. As in the case of the Committee on Committees membership, the committee will have only six members. The floor was opened for nominations

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- College of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Human Science:  
*The following individuals were nominated – Dr. Kathleen Rees & Dr. April Conkey*
- College of Arts and Sciences:  
*The following individual was nominated – Dr. Alberto Rodriguez*
- College of Business Administration:  
*The following individuals were nominated – Dr. Dongnyoung Kim & Dr. Barbara Oates*
- College of Education and Human Performance:  
*The following individual was nominated – Dr. Patricia Huskin*
- College of Engineering:  
*The following individuals were nominated – Dr. Nuri Yilmazer & Dr. Lifford McLauchlan*
- Library:  
*The following individual was nominated – Dr. Maria Ayala-Schueneman*
- Ballots were counted for all elections. The results are as follows for the 2016-2017 academic year:
  - *President Elect = Dr. Richard Miller*
  - *Secretary = Dr. Maria Ayala-Schueneman*
  - *College of Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Human Science Rep= Dr. Ambrose Anoruo*
  - *College of Arts and Sciences Rep= Dr. Elizabeth Janzen*
  - *College of Business Administration Rep= Dr. Barbara Oates*
  - *College of Education and Human Performance Rep = Dr. Melody Knight*
  - *College of Engineering Rep= Dr. Joseph Sai*
  - Election Committee:
    - *College of Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Human Sciences Rep: Dr. Bart Ballard*
    - *College of Arts and Sciences Rep: Dr. Pamela Wright*
    - *College of Business Administration Rep: Dr. Jack Shorter*
    - *College of Education and Human Performance Rep: Dr. Don Jones*
    - *College of Engineering Rep: Dr. Lifford McLauchlan*
  - Committee on Committees:
    - *College of Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Human Sciences Rep: Dr. April Conkey*
    - *College of Arts and Sciences Rep: Dr. Ryan Paul*
    - *College of Business Administration Rep: Dr. Dongnyoung Kim*
    - *College of Education and Human Performance Rep: Dr. Kristopher Garza*
    - *College of Engineering Rep: Dr. Muhittin Yilmaz*
    - *Library Rep: Dr. Maria Ayala-Schueneman*

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- Resolutions and By-Laws Committee:

- College of Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Human Sciences Rep: Dr. Kathleen Rees
  - College of Arts and Sciences Rep: Dr. Alberto Rodriguez
  - College of Business Administration Rep: Dr. Dongnyoung Kim
  - College of Education and Human Performance Rep: Dr. Patricia Huskin
  - College of Engineering Rep: Dr. Nuri Yilmazer
  - Library Rep: Dr. Maria Ayala-Schueneman
- Dr. Challoo asked if there were any questions to which there was no reply.
  - Annual Faculty Evaluation Committee – Dr. Richard Miller: A motion was made by Dr. Christopher Hearon to table this item. The motion was seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- ❖ **New Business:**

- *Dr. Challoo opened the floor for new business items.*
  - At the request of her department chair, Dr. Patricia Huskin presented an issue regarding the Faculty Handbook. As it was requested that this issue wait till the Senate meets again in the Fall, the Senate did not consider the issue.

- ❖ **Announcements:**

- *Dr. Challoo opened the floor for any announcements.*
  - No announcements were made.

- ❖ **Adjournment:**

- *Dr. Challoo announced the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 6, 2016.*
  - With no further items, the meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.