

## **Faculty Senate Meeting – April 4, 2017**

**Senators Present:** Polly Allred, Ambrose Anoruo, Maria Ayala-Schueneman, Natasha Bell, Marion Blake, Rudolf Bohm, Jieming Chen, April Conkey, Horacio Duarte, Christine Fiestas, Ann Fronckowiak, Karen Fugerson, Kristopher Garza, Jeffrey Glick, Christopher Hearon, Brent Hedquist, Stan Hodges, Patricia Huskin, Elizabeth Janzen, Don Jones, Joseph Jones, Dongnyoung Kim, Larry Knight, Jody Marin, Lana McDonnell, Lifford McLauchlan, Biran Menaker, Craig A. Meyer, Richard Miller, Patrick Mills, Patricia Polastri, David Ramirez, Kathleen Rees, Joseph Sai, Elda E. Sanchez, Ari Sherris, Jack Shorter, Tushar Sinha, Amit Verma, Pamela Wright, Subbarao Yelisetti, Muhittin Yilmaz, Nuri Yilmazer Hong Zhou

**Senators Absent:** Bart Ballard, Santa Barraza, Armando Garza, Melody Knight, Armando Ibanez, Xiaoliu Chi, Barbara Cooke, Kai Jin, Tanner Machado, Bruce Marsh, Barbara Oates, Tim Oblad, Joachim Reinhuber, Chang Sung, Randall Williams, Chongwei Xiao

**Attending:** Dr. Heidi Anderson, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

**I. Call to Order and Quorum Call - 3:37 p.m.**

President Chaloo asked the parliamentarian, Polly Allred, if enough members were present for a quorum. Senator Allred replied in the affirmative.

**II. Approval of Minutes from March Faculty Senate Meeting**

President Chaloo asked for approval of the previous meeting's minutes. The minutes were approved.

**III. Presentations:**

**a. Presentation from Dr. Heidi Anderson, Provost**

- Dr. Anderson supported the Office Hours resolution passed by the Senate in March.
- Dr. Anderson reminded the Senate of the two hiring freezes (by Dr. Tallant and Gov. Abbott) and explained the exceptions for major units without leaders. Two dean searches and the Director for Financial Aid search are moving forward.
- Dr. Anderson stated that there will be a new Calendar Committee for Fall 2018. Dr. Cicala will be the Chair of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee.
- Dr. Anderson reported that she would be attending the Coordinating Board Committee meeting on April 19 & 20 and that the Graduate School Report was on the agenda.
- Dr. Anderson said she would be focusing on Faculty workload this Summer, specifically lecturers. Lecturer Day will be celebrated with a lunch on April 21.

- Dr. Anderson mentioned accreditation teams' visits this year and the SACS visit in Spring 2018 to the Citrus Center.

#### IV. Report of Officers

- Senate President Chaloo reported on the luncheon with Dr. Tallant in which the title changes for Dr. Rasmussen and Mr. Walker were announced. The hiring freeze and budget issues were also discussed.
- Senate President Chaloo reported that the Executive Committee met to set the agenda for this meeting. He also commented on the excellent work the Election Committee had done. Every Senate seat was filled. No vacancies. Last year there were 11 vacant seats.
- Senate President Chaloo reported that the annual faculty Evaluation Report was sent to Council of Chairs and shared with Faculty. Only one person provided feedback. The report will now go to the new Senate.
- Senate President Chaloo Reported that the Office Hours Resolution had been sent to President Tallant and Provost Anderson.

#### V. Old Business

- Resolution for Administrative Control Over Computers for Full-Time Faculty was moved by Senator Meyer and seconded. After a brief discussion, Provost Anderson asked the Senate to include reasons as to why this resolution is needed. Senators agreed to send Senator Meyer their problems which he would forward to the Provost. **The resolution passed.**

Resolved, that all full-time faculty have administrative control over their respective office computers. Resolved, that all in-class computers be updated every semester and have a master list of software that is available campus wide to be decided upon by the faculty and iTech. Resolved, that a statement be drafted and delivered to iTech stating as such. Resolved, that a deadline not exceeding one academic semester after delivery be understood and enforceable as needed that administrative control be available to full-time faculty on campus classroom and personal office computers.

- Constitutional amendments:
  - Article I, THE GENERAL FACULTY Section 8  
The President of the University, or a representative of the Office of the President, shall be requested to report to the General Faculty regarding his or her implementation of Faculty Senate recommendations. **Passed**
  - Article II. THE FACULTY SENATE MEMBERSHIP AND MEETINGS

~~The Faculty Senate shall serve as an advisory body to the President of the University in matters concerning the University.~~

The Faculty Senate is the faculty's elected representative body for university-wide participation in the governance of Texas A&M University-Kingsville. Under most circumstances, the President of the University should concur with the Faculty Senate's advice and recommendations on matters where the faculty has primary responsibility, subject to the laws of the State of Texas and the general policies of the Board of Regents of the Texas A&M University System. **Not passed**

iii. *Membership*

Section 1. (a) The Faculty Senate will be constituted in the following manner. Each Department/Academic Unit will be represented by a minimum of one Senator. The number of Senators per Department/Academic Unit will be apportioned by the number of General Faculty in the Department/Academic Unit divided by the total number of General Faculty times the number of Departments/Academic Units rounded to the nearest whole number. ~~Senators-at-large will be apportioned across each College based on the following formula, rounded to the nearest whole number. The number of General Faculty in each college divided by the total number of General Faculty times ten. No Department/Academic Unit may have more than one Senator-at-large.~~ **Not Passed**

iv. *Membership section 2: (b) ~~Senators-at-large from each eligible College shall be elected by the General Faculty of that College.~~* **Not Passed**

v. (c)(b) Senators from each Department/Academic Unit shall be elected by the General Faculty of that Department/Unit.

vi. Section 3. ~~Senators will be elected by plurality by secret ballot. Procedures for electing Senators shall be: The Department Chair, Unit Dean or Director, or College Dean shall have their respective ballots prepared and distributed to all eligible voters. Ballots shall be signed in a manner that provides for the removal of signatures without damage to the ballot. The ballots shall be sent to the Faculty Senate Election Committee. In the presence of at least three witnesses, the Faculty Senate Election Committee shall check the ballots for eligibility of voters, remove signatures, and count the ballots. The time and place of the vote count shall be publicized so any General Faculty member can witness the count. It~~

a tie occurs, the position shall be determined from among those tied candidates by lot.

- vii. The Election Committee shall record votes. The tally of votes for each candidate shall be forwarded to the Faculty Senate office and remain on file. The voting record shall become the basis for eligibility to fill Senate vacancies.
- viii. Section 4 (c) Elections of Senators-at-large shall take place during early March. **Not Passed**

(d)(c) Terms of out-going Senators shall expire at the conclusion of Old Business at the regular April meeting. Newly elected Senators shall take office at the initiation of New Business at this meeting. **Not Passed**

- ix. Section 7. Officers of the Faculty Senate shall be:

1. President,

2. President-Elect (who will serve as the following year's President),

3. Secretary (who will serve as Secretary to the General Faculty), and

4. Parliamentarian., and

4.5. Immediate Past President (as Ex-Officio member). **Not Passed**

- x. (a) All officers of the Faculty Senate shall be elected by the Faculty Senate by secret ballot from among its members. Nominations for officers of the Senate may be submitted by any faculty member to the Faculty Senate Election Committee Chair. Senate officers must be members of the Senate. The slate of officers for the Executive Committee positions shall be prepared by the Election Committee, with the consent of the nominees, prior to the elections held at the second-to-last regular Faculty Senate meeting of the Spring Semester. Nominations may be made from the floor with the consent of the nominee(s). **Not Passed**

- xi. (b) Nomination Forms: The Election Committee shall distribute Nomination Forms to eligible voters providing names of eligible nominees that have given consent. The Nomination Form shall provide a space for the written consent of a nominee in order for that person to be included on an Election Ballot. **Not Passed**

- xii. (c) Nominees: After the results of the nomination process have been determined, the Faculty Senate Election Committee shall create and distribute an Election Ballot that lists the names of all consenting nominees as candidates for open seats. **Not Passed**

*xiii.* (a)(d) Validity of Election: The Faculty Senate Election Committee is responsible for ensuring that all elections are fair and valid. Concerns about the validity of a Senate election should be directed to the Faculty Senate Election Committee. When the validity of a department or Library election is challenged, the Faculty Senate Election Committee shall decide whether the election results should stand or be invalidated. **Passed** Article 3 Section 4, C5

*xiv.* (b)(e) Upon the Senate President's assuming office, the Senate seat the President held shall be declared vacant and shall be filled for the duration of the President's term by the procedures set forth in Article II, Section 5. The President shall be ineligible for re-election to the Senate until a year after leaving office as President. The President shall be ineligible to serve two consecutive terms as President.

*xv.* (c)(f) The Senate President shall be granted 25 percent reassignment time per semester. In addition, the Senate President may choose to assign a weight of zero percent to both Categories II (Research and Scholarly Activity) and III (Professional Growth and Activities) for the Annual Evaluation of Faculty for those evaluation years that overlap the year of service as President of the Faculty Senate.

*xvi.* Section 14. (a) Minutes taken by the Faculty Senate must be available to the General Faculty on the Faculty Senate website sent to each member of the General Faculty once approved by the Senate within ten working days. Such action shall be considered as approved by the General Faculty unless letters from fifteen percent of the General Faculty stating reasons for the objection to a given action of the Faculty Senate are received by the Secretary of the Faculty Senate within ten working days of the publication of the minutes. **Passed**

*xvii.* Article III. THE FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEES

Section 1. (b) The Faculty Senate Executive Committee shall consist of the Senate President, President-Elect, Parliamentarian, Secretary of the Faculty Senate, and five additional Senators, one from each of the following Colleges: Agriculture and Human Sciences, Arts and Sciences, Business Administration, Education, and Engineering. **Passed**

*xviii.* (c) At its first meeting in April, the new Faculty Senate shall elect, by secret ballot, the President-Elect, Parliamentarian, Secretary of the Faculty Senate, and the five additional Senators. . **Passed**

- xix.** Section 3. (b) The Committee on Committees shall:  
(1) consist of a minimum of ~~seven~~ six members with representation from each undergraduate College, ~~University College~~, and the Library, **Passed**
- xx.** (2) appoint members to all **standing** Senate Committees (~~see list of Faculty Senate standing committees on Faculty Senate website~~), .  
**Passed**
- xxi.** Section 5.. (b) The Resolutions and By-laws Committee shall consist of ~~seven~~ six Senators elected by secret ballot. No more than one Senator shall be from any one College or the Library  
**Passed**
- xxii.** (5) reporting to the originator the disposition of any proposal that is not presented to the Senate for action.  
~~(e) The Resolutions and By-laws Committee shall make a report at each meeting of the Senate.~~ (ef) The Resolutions and By-laws Committee shall establish guidelines for submission of proposed actions, resolutions, and amendments, and establish timetables for consideration of such proposals.  
(fg) After 30 days of inaction by the Resolutions and By-laws Committee, proposals shall be forwarded to the Senate Executive Committee, including reasons for such inaction. **Passed**

The Faculty Senate Constitution, with approved changes, will now be voted on by the General Faculty.

c) Annual Faculty Evaluation Report – Senator Miller reported that there was only one comment recommending electronic portfolios, which suggested changing certain language. Senator Miller recommended sending the report to the Faculty Handbook Committee. The Handbook Committee will prepare a Resolution for the Faculty Senate.

d) Faculty Teaching Load – Senator Fiestas revised proposal according to website. The report will be prepared and send to Senate.

At 4:40 p.m. Incoming Senators were seated and outgoing Senators thanked for their service. President Chaloo passed the gavel to incoming Faculty Senate President Richard Miller. President Miller thanked outgoing Senate President Chaloo for his service and presented him with a plaque.

## VI. New Business:

- a. Senate President Miller introduced representatives of the Texas A&M University-Kingsville Student Government Association. David Barrera, SGA President, shared SGA Resolution S.R. 91-05, Erection of a Javelina Monument – Honoring Our Departed Colleagues. After a brief discussion, Senate President Miller asked for a motion to endorse the student resolution. A motion supporting the SGA resolution was introduced, seconded, and passed. Senator Meyer and Senator Sherris volunteered to work with SGA on plans for the Erection of a Javelina Monument – Honoring Our Departed Colleagues.
- b. New Senators were welcomed.
- c. Election of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee was declared open for nominations. The following Senate members were elected as Executive :

*Officers:*

Senator Janzen	President Elect
Secretary	Senator Ayala-Schueneman
Parlamentarian	Senator Allred

*Representatives:*

College of Agriculture	Senator Anouro
College of Arts & Sciences	Senator Glick
College of Business	Senator Shorter
College of Education	Senator Sherris
College of Engineering	Senator Verma

Committee elections will be held at the Senate's May 2 meeting.

- d. Senate President Miller introduced an Action Plan for 2017-18 and solicited input from Senators. The Action Plan will be discussed at May meeting.

**VII. Announcements:**

- a. Faculty Senate's next meeting: Tuesday May 2, 2017.

**VIII. Adjournment:** At 5:10 p.m., a motion to adjourn was made and passed.

**Respectfully submitted**

**María de Jesús Ayala-Schueneman**