

# Faculty Senate Meeting—September 6, 2016

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**Senators Present:** Ambrose Anoruo, Maria Ayala-Schueneman, Bart Ballard (1), Santa Barraza (1), April Conkey, Barbara Cooke, Christine Fiestas, Ann Fronckowiak, Armando Garza, Kristopher Garza, Christopher Hearon, Stan Hodges, Patricia Huskin, Elizabeth Janzen, Kai Jin, Don Jones, Dongnyoung Kim, Melody Knight, Jody Marin, Bruce Marsh (1), Lifford McLauchlan, Richard Miller, Barbara Oates (1), David Ramirez (1), Kathleen Rees (1), Joachim Reinhuber (1), Alberto Rodriguez (1), Joseph Sai, Jack Shorter, Chang Sung, Randall Williams (1), Pamela Wright, Subbarao Yeliseti, Muhittin Yilmaz, Nuri Yilmazer, Hong Zhu (1)

**Senators Absent:** Xiaoliu Chi (1), Armando Ibanez (2), Khairul Islam (1), Chongwei Xiao (1),

**Attending:** Dr. Heidi Anderson, Polly Allred, Abigail De La Mora, Dr. Dolores Guerrero, Dr. Shad Nelson, Dr. Alberto Ruiz, Mr. Brad Walker

❖ **Call to Order and Quorum Call - 3:33 p.m.:**

- *Dr. Challoo asked parliamentarian, Dr. Polly Allred, if there are enough members for a quorum. Dr. Allred replied in the affirmative.*

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

- *Dr. Challoo asked for approval of the previous meeting minutes.*
  - The motion to approve the minutes as stand was made by Dr. Richard Miller. The motion was seconded by Dr. Don Jones
  - The motion passed unanimously.
    - Dr. Rees asked if there was a mistake in the minutes regarding the appointment of the parliamentarian. It was stated that there were no mistakes in the minutes and that Faculty Senate Constitution is not clear and it will be looked into and the new ad-hoc committee will be working on revising this document.

❖ **Welcome 2016-2017 Academic Year and Introductions:**

- *Dr. Challoo welcomed senators to the new academic year and asked that individuals do introductions.*

❖ **Presentation from Provost:**

- *Dr. Heidi Anderson gave an update to the Faculty Senate.*
  - Dr. Anderson welcomed the senators backed and gave an update to the Senate. Dr. Anderson stated she will be continuing her visits with departments and colleges and will be setting up those appointments with department chairs. During the summer, Dr. Mohammed Alam was selected as the finalist for the College of Engineering

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Dean search. Dr. Anderson mentioned the various search being conducted this year. A search of a Registrar will be commencing soon. Also a search for the Dean of Honor College and the College of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Human Sciences will also take place during this academic year. Dr. Anderson stated she would be working with the Senate President on getting representative from the Senate for these committees. Dr. Anderson stated she would be holding a two day retreat for deans to help with team building as well as getting focused on development and advancement. Also, a focus will be on academic planning such as establishing an enrollment plan. Dr. Anderson stated that when she first arrived she asked for this plan but one was not written. She would like to get together with Dean to help Admissions as enrollment affects everything (space, resources, etc.). Dr. Anderson reference the establishment of the College of Health Professions as stated by the President during the General Faculty Meeting. Preliminary research has been done on this regarding the discipline area and the market demand. The college would house existing programs to consolidate as well as the development of new programs such as a doctorate in Physical Therapy. Dr. Anderson wanted to congratulate the faculty on the retention rate. She stated faculty interaction is critical in the first eight weeks with freshman in their retention.

- Dr. Anderson discussed faculty salaries. She stated that faculty has been given three raises by the President in the last 18 months but felt that salaries still need to be reviewed for equity and/or compression adjustment. She stated that she will be looking at peer institutions of a similar size. Board of Regents is also looking at this and data is being prepared for the November meeting.
- Dr. Anderson also stated that the campus will be changing with the addition of the Music Building. The “old” Music building will be renovated for classrooms.
- Dr. Reinhuber asked about the issues this year regarding financial aid.
  - *Dr. Anderson stated that she suggested that Dr. Riley be invited to the meeting in order to answer these questions since that office reports to her. She did indicate that these issues are being straightened out and students are being contacted with apologies.*
- It was also asked regarding the issue of parking.
  - *Dr. Anderson stated that a plan is in place and recommended that Dr. Riley be invited to also discuss this process as she was involved with it.*
- Dr. Challoo requested an update on the Board of Regents and Coordinating Board meetings.
  - *Dr. Anderson stated that at the previous meeting Dr. Dolores Guerrero’s Dean appointment as well as the appointment of the new CFO was approved. She stated that the strategic plan was not approved at this meeting but should be approved in November.*
  - *Dr. Anderson stated that there are new rules for the Coordinating Board that we need to be aware of.*
- Dr. Anderson gave applause to the College of Education and Human Performance for their work with Premont ISD. The Chancellor discussed this and wants to use this model to have other universities work with low performing school districts.

## ❖ Presentation by Mr. Brad Walker – Chief Development Officer:

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- *Mr. Brad Walker talked with the Faculty Senate regarding the establishment of a new endowed undergraduate scholarship fund.*
  - Mr. Walker stated that the A&M University-Kingsville Foundation is listed on the SECC campaign as a charity that employees can donate to. He has asked if the Faculty Senate would approve the establishment of a new endowed undergraduate scholarship for TAMUK Staff, faculty and their dependents. One scholarship would be immediately awarded annually until the account is endowed. This scholarship came at the request of staff and administration. Mr. Walker stated that the Foundation Board is supportive if the Senate approves. This item has already been passed by Staff Council. It was stated that there is one option in SECC for donation. Donations have declined in recent years and Mr. Walker hopes to boost participating to faculty and staff. It was stated that the Executive Committee unanimously approved. It was stated that this scholarship would be for the children of full time faculty and staff. The child would be attending TAMUK and need to be in good academic standing. Dr. Chaloo asked if there was a motion.
    - *A motion was made by Dr. Richard Miller to approve the establishment of the scholarship. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ambrose Anoruo.*
    - *The motion passed unanimously.*

## ❖ **Report from Officers:**

- *Dr. Chaloo gave an update to the Faculty Senate.*
  - Dr. Chaloo stated that he had not met with the President and Provost yet but will tomorrow. He will be meeting with them on a biweekly basis.
  - Dr. Chaloo passed out the two sided handout regarding the amendment to the promotion guidelines. He stated that the president has approved but it is not reflected in the faculty handbook. Dr. Barbara Oates asked regarding a faculty member who received rank before tenure. It was referred to look at the college and/or department guidelines. Dr. Chaloo asked senators to pass the amendment to their departments as it is not in the faculty handbook.
  - Dr. Chaloo stated there was some confusion regarding the standing committee. He stated that he had worked with the President, Provost, Dr. Gardiner, and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee years back as some committees duplicated and overlapped. The committee list was then reduced to nine and these are listed on the Council and Committee Handbook. Any other list of committees is no longer valid.
  - It was stated that Dr. Chaloo will be working closely with the Handbook committee to update the handbook. The committee will also work with the Provost. It was stated that proposals are due by November 1 to amend the handbook.
  - Dr. Chaloo stated that the formation of an ad hoc committee on University Enrollment Growth would be created. The committee will consist of faculty and administrators and as part of their charge, the committee will review the past history and our growth in enrollment and make recommendations on future actions to sustain the momentum created and how to provide resources and support to faculty due to the increase in enrollment and more expectations from faculty on scholarly

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activities. A draft of charge is being developed and once approved the committee will be appointed.

- *Dr. Richard Miller stated to include someone from the health professions on this committee because of the creation of the new college.*

## ❖ **Old Business:**

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

- SRI Implementation Committee: Dr. Elizabeth Janzen stated that committee is working on implementation this fall. The committee worked last month to go over courses that would be selected to be tested. Selected courses would be taught by the same professor with multiple sections. One section would have the new SRI and the other would have the old SRI that way the professor would still have some feedback. It was stated that courses of the same size and type would be selected from all colleges and all types would be eligible. Labs were avoided. 89 courses were selected from lecturers and tenured professors. Dean and chairs were notified and the committee will approach faculty for permission. This is voluntary so a reduced list will be developed. The committee is working with OIR on a template.
  - *Dr. Kathleen Rees asked regarding faculty who are untenured going up for tenure would not be harmed by this. It was stated that the new test cannot be used negatively or positively for evaluations which was approved by Karen Royal.*
  - *It was stated that science lab were the ones eliminated as there are some courses classified as lab but are not necessarily a lab. Science labs were eliminated as they are taught usually by a TA. It was asked if students would be notified. It was stated that there was no intention to.*
  - *Dr. Challoo thanked the committee for this work.*
- Election Committee: It was stated that the committee had not met. Elections to be held to elect a new chair. 1 or 2 senators have left the Senate with one senator resigning. It was asked for this committee to meet ASAP to conduct elections on these vacancies to ensure all departments are represented. It was stated that one individual was removed due to three consecutive absences.
- Committee to review the Faculty Senate Constitution: Individuals were nominated or volunteered. Dr. Bart Ballard will serve as chair. Few items need to be revised. This is an ad hoc committee. Dr. Barbara Oates was selected to serve as College of Business representative. It was asked if there was a current list of issue. Dr. Challoo stated in the affirmative and would share the list to the committee.
- Annual Faculty Evaluations: It was stated that this committee began as a taskforce to reform a number for issues. Currently there is no difference between new and senior faculty. Faculty understands what's needed within their discipline. Reviews form different disciplines would be recognized at the college level. It was requested that this be wrapped up in October meeting. Electronic version would be sent to the Senators. Few items missing are the difference between large and small class. Expectations of the number of conference. There would be a general guideline and then disciplines would have specifics. Disciplines decide what it means to be successful in your disciplines.

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- Faculty Handbook Issues – Dr. Patricia Huskin: This issue was raised at the last meeting and was tabled. It was stated that during committee meeting of Promotion and Tenure as well as Continuation Committee can members be present virtually. It was stated that that college or department would make this guideline.

## ❖ **New Business:**

- *Dr. Challoo opened the floor for new business items.*
  - Dr. Anderson wanted to remind faculty regarding the Back to School Reception at the Wildlife Center from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
  - A suggestion was made regarding the minutes and agenda to be shared with all faculty. It was stated that representatives should be sharing this information with their departments.

## ❖ **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, October 4, 2016.*
  - With no further items, the meeting was adjourned at 4:56 p.m.