

Faculty Senate Meeting – September 5, 2017

Senators Present: Polly Allred, Ambrose Anoruo, Maria Ayala-Schueneman, Santa Barraza, Marion Blake, Jieming Chen, Horacio Duarte, Christine Fiestas, Karen Fugerson, Jeffrey Glick, Christopher Hearon, Brent Hedquist, Elizabeth Janzen, Kai Jin, Joseph, Jones, Tanner Machado, Lana McDonnell, Brian Menaker, Craig A. Meyer, Richard Miller, Patrick Mills, Barbara Oates, Tim Oblad, Joseph Sai, Elda E. Sanchez, Ari Sherris, Jack Shorter, Tushar Sinha, Amit Verma, Randall Williams, Pamela Wright, Subbarao Yelisetti, Hong Zhou

Senators Absent: Natasha Bell, Rudolf Bohm, Ann Fronckowiak, Armando Garza, Kristopher Garza, Dongnyoung Kim, Larry Knight, Barbara Oates, Patricia Polastri, Elda E. Sanchez, Nuri Yilmazer

Attending: Dr. Heidi Anderson

- I. **Call to Order and Quorum Call – 3:35 p.m.**

President Miller asked the parliamentarian, Polly Allred, if enough members were present for a quorum. Senator Allred replied in the affirmative.
- II. **Approval of Minutes from April Faculty Senate Meeting**

President Miller asked for approval of the previous meeting's minutes. The minutes were approved.
- III. **Presentations:**
 - a. **Presentation from Dr. Heidi Anderson, Provost**
 - Dr. Anderson reported on the Coordinating Board meeting in July. Dr. Anderson discussed dual credit courses for 9th and 10th graders, low producing programs, Strategic Plan 60x30, Texas Success Initiative, and the Coordinating Board plan to roll out an online portal.
 - Dr. Anderson discussed the new College of Health Professions and responded to several questions.
 - Dr. Anderson also discussed the Student Success Diagnostic Agenda, from recruitment to graduation.
- IV. **Report of Officers**
 - a. Senate President Miller reported that the Senate Executive Committee had ensured the formation of several Committees.
 - b. Senate President Miller reported on the August 21st Budget Council meeting. According to the TAMUK Council and Committee Handbook, the University Budget Council membership includes the following representation from the Faculty Senate: President, President-elect, Secretary and one additional senator chosen by the Faculty Senate President. This representation, except for the Senate President, had been overlooked in recent years. All proper Senate representatives are now recognized as members of the Council.
 - c. Senate President Miller also reported that he had been appointed to a Coordinating Board advisory committee.

- d. Senate President Miller reported on the Senate Executive Committee luncheon with AMK President, Dr. Tallant. Plans to help students impacted by Hurricane Harvey were discussed.
 - Some questions and concerns arose, including procedures for Safety Classes.
- V. **Old Business**
 - a. Administrative Control Over Computers for Full-Time Faculty – Ufinity, a program that allows computer updates and the installation of “white-listed” computer programs, is available to faculty. Ufinity will be installed on faculty computers upon request. A major concern of faculty is that not all necessary programs are included in Ufinity.
 - b. Annual Faculty Evaluation Report needs to be sent to the Resolutions and By Laws Committee.
 - c. Faculty Teaching Load. The Faculty Senate voted for the second time. After discussion, Senate President Miller pointed out the three options available to the Senate: 1) Move to adopt & amend, 2) Send back to Committee, 3) Send it forward. The resolution passed for the second time.
- VI. **New Business**
 - a. Election of Committee Chairs for Senate Standing Committees.
 - Committee on Committees – Tanner Machado.
 - Election Committee – Karen Fugerson.
 - Resolutions and B-laws Committee – election at future time.
 - b. JNet – announcements. Senate President Miller will discuss with Administration the possibility of producing a “weekly activities” email. The email would be an optional subscription.
 - c. Senate Task Force on Diversity. A brief discussion ensued on the possibility of having a task force examine issues of diversity and equity, academic freedom, political climate, and psychological aspects of these issues. The purpose is to reassure students of AMK’s inclusiveness. Senate President Miller will raise these concerns with Dr. Tallant and Dr. Anderson.
 - d. Action Plan – was left for next meeting.
- VII. **Announcements**
 - a. Changes to the Constitution of the General Faculty of Texas A&M University-Kingsville must be approved by the General Faculty. The proposed changes will be sent to the General Faculty for a vote.
- VIII. **Adjournment:** At 5:08 p.m., a motion to adjourn was made and passed.

Respectfully submitted

María de Jesús Ayala-Schueneman