

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes – May 7, 2019

Senators Present: Matthew Alexander, Ambrose Anoruo, Lucy Camacho, Jieming Chen, David Cutton, LaVonne Fedynich, Manuel Flores, Michelle Garcia, James Glusing Maribel Gonzalez-Garcia, Maria Hernandez-Velez, Simona Hodis, Michael Houf, Ya-Wen Liang, Steven Lukefahr, Lifford McLauchlan, Craig A. Meyer, Humberto Perotto, Christine Radcliff, Chika Rosenbaum, Alex Sanchez-Behar, Hans Schumann, Ari Sherris, Jack Shorter, Marsha Sowell, Haibin Su, Dazhi Sun, Ramiro Torres, Benjamin Turner, Subbarao Yelisetti, Teresa Young

Senators Absent: Rudolf Bohm, Ulan Dakeev, Dongnyoung Kim, Veronica Lopez, Richard Miller, Patrick Mills, Ryan Paul, Amber Shipherd, Fulden Wissinger, William Worek

I. Call to Order and Quorum Call.

At 3:31 p.m. President Anoruo asked the parliamentarian, Michelle Garcia, if enough members were present for a quorum. Senator Garcia replied in the affirmative.

II. Approval of Minutes from April 2019 Faculty Senate Meeting.

President Anoruo asked for approval of the previous meeting minutes. Senator Meyer motioned, Senator Sowell seconded. Minutes were approved.

III. Presentations

a. President Hussey

President Hussey stated he was going to cover three topics; Legislative Standing, Principles/Department Meetings, Inauguration Comments.

- a. Legislative Standing – He is hoping that funding will be equal to or greater than the Senate version. This version says that the hold harmless will be maintained, an increase of 1.4 million for Education and General** funding (with no enrollment increase), maintain funding for special items with a 10% decrease for Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute and others. The House version has an increase of 3.6 million in ENG funding with Citrus Budwood / Premont listed in the special items. There is also a Tuition Revenue Bond of 65 million for a STEM & Health Professions building.
- b. Principles – He is used to a 2-3 year budget plan. He wants to give budget authority to VP's/Deans/Dept. Chairs. Preliminary budget for FY 20 is based on the Senate version; 2m short of a balanced budget, budget given to the VP's with 1.8m less and they need to find out how to make it work, Provost given budget numbers also and does not want the "give back" funds to come from Units. President Hussey would like to reduce Admin overhead with a goal of 7-6% (currently at 8.3%). He is planning a reorganization at the VP level to bring down the overhead. He read the comments from the survey and feels that some of the changes in overhead could be in response to those comments. He is hoping for a 2% one-time merit request, and if enrollment increases then there is a possibility of making a merit plan.
- c. Inauguration – President Hussey reiterated the goals he spoke about at inauguration. He would like TAMUK to be one of the top 3 school choices for graduating Seniors, he wants to benchmark ourselves, to strengthen the Universities Carnegie classification (the new permanent VP for Student Affairs will take the lead on this), and finally to grow research and graduate

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programs. He mentioned an example of this would be that the President and the Provost would have a fund that would allow for a faculty member who receives a funded grant that includes a graduate assistant to be able to have another graduate assistant position. If the faculty did not want another GA, then that position would be offered to the department/Dean. President Hussey would like to see more graduate students and feels that offering these additional GA positions would increase graduate enrollment in the future.

His last, longest goal is to be a member of the APLU, Association of Public & Land-Grant Universities. This is something he would like to work toward over the next 8-10 years. TAMUK would fall under the discretionary membership category. Requirements include:

- i. Research Activity
 1. Total Research Expenditures. Greater than \$35 million in total R&D expenditures
 2. Research Intensity. Greater than \$25 thousand in total R&D expenditures per faculty fulltime equivalency (FTE).
- ii. Breadth of Doctoral Programs and Research Focus
 1. To satisfy the criteria, an institution must be included within the selected Carnegie Basic Classifications and Graduate Instructional Program Classifications. The selected classifications represent an institution with significant research focus and a range of doctoral programs.
- iii. Student Enrollment.
 1. To satisfy the student enrollment criterion, institutions must have an average annual, unduplicated student headcount of 10,000 students. [TAMUK is at 7,200 now.]

He also mentioned that the Interim VP for Student Affairs would be announced in the next few weeks, and that some of the current duties of this position would be pulled and transferred to other areas while the Interim is in place.

He then asked if the Senate had any questions.

- Senator Garcia asked about moving to a 3/3 teaching load and what logistics would be in play?
 - President Hussey said he would have no problem moving to a 3/3 and thinks that we should. He said this would probably start with new hires in FY21.
 - He also said that he wants to align the terminology with other universities (i.e. Adjunct). He wants to make sure that we speak the same language as others, but do not have to be the same, we can be different.
 - He also wants to honor the wishes of faculty who might want to stay 4/4 and feels that moving to 3/3 will be phased in over time.
- Senator Schumann asked about undergraduate quality for admissions.
 - President Hussey understands that TAMUK has a strong heritage of serving this region and we need to continue doing so.

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- We can still bring in higher scores on paper
- How do we retain these students, that is the bigger focus (6yr graduation rate)
- We need to advertise our unique areas better
- We need to focus on transfer students

b. Recognition of Dr. Elizabeth Janzen

President Anoruo had a plaque created for Dr. Janzen to express to her the appreciation of the Senate for her hard work and dedication as Senate President. She was unable to attend, but President Anoruo spoke briefly about Dr. Janzen wanting to publicly recognize how hard she worked for the Faculty in this position. He also mentioned that he had never seen such organizational skills, and she has made the transition for him to the Senate President position very easy.

IV. Report of Officers

a. Senate President Ambrose Anoruo

President Anoruo reported on the following items.

- The first class day for Fall 2019 is August 21st. President Hussey will not have a general faculty meeting, but will instead speak at the first Senate meeting in September. College and Department meetings will still occur as usually scheduled. The Provost will be bringing a speaker from the Smithsonian to campus to speak on grant funding. This is not a mandatory meeting, but faculty are encouraged to attend.
- Shared Governance – The Senate will be holding off its survey until the Best Colleges survey results are released. The Senate President will have full access to the report. Deans will have a version of the report for the departments.
- Anonymous letter – A letter was sent to President Hussey, Senate President Anoruo, and a few others on behalf of faculty and staff who expressed their concerns in the area of Administrative overhead.
- Enrollment – President Anoruo does not know the true numbers, but enrollment numbers are guesstimated at 6,200 Undergraduate, 1,300 Graduate and 1,300 Dual Enrollment.
- Faculty Reinvestment Grants – The committee awarding these grants couldn't make a decision at this time. They will meet again and decide on 3 awards now and 3 later.
- Dead day wording – Dr. Jaya Goswami suggested some wording that President Anoruo will send to Senate Secretary Radcliff to forward to Senator Meyer who created the document. This wording will also be updated in the Faculty Handbook.
- Holy day wording will be added to all the areas we requested.

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- Department computer updates are in progress.
- Javelina Leadership Academy – This will be led by the Head of Human Resources. It was created by a suggestion from Staff Council to train staff. The first one will have 10 people. Not sure where the funding is coming from at this time.
- [System Regulation 17.01 Intellectual Property Management and Commercialization](#) changes became effective May 1st.
- President Hussey has asked that the following be part of the Senate Action Plan for 2019-2020.
 - Faculty evaluation = promotion and tenure mechanism
 - Faculty title/what does adjunct mean? How does [31.05.01.K1 Faculty Consulting, External Professional Employment](#) affect adjuncts?

b. Action Plan for 2019-2020

President Anoruo asked for suggestions from Senators for items they would like to see worked on this year. Suggestions included: merit pay (lump sum vs. in salary), admin passwords on computers, ability to do work in light of computer restrictions from ITech, ITech person assigned to each building to do computer updates, workload input, MAC computers not supported, summer pay. President Anoruo also asked that any items thought of at a later date be emailed to himself or Secretary Radcliff.

V. Old Business – n/a

VI. Standing Committee Reports

- a. **Resolution and By-laws/Handbook Committee** – no report
- b. **Committee on Committees** – Matt Alexander agreed to serve as the Engineering Representative.
- c. **Election Committee** – no report

VII. Reports from Committees Reporting to the Senate

- a. **Administrator Evaluation Committee** - no report
- b. **Annual Faculty Lecture Committee** – no report
- c. **Piper Award Committee** – will be announced in the Fall
- d. **Faculty Evaluation Committee** – no report
- e. **University Appeals Committee** – no report
- f. **Faculty Benefits Committee** – No report
- g. **Policy Revision Committee** – no report

VIII. New Business

- a. **Move to online elections**

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- i. A constitutional amendment needs to be made, Senator Radcliff will propose wording in the Fall
- b. **Constitutional Amendment: Senate Absentee Policy**
 - i. An ad hoc committee will be set up in the Fall to look into this. Senator Meyer has agreed to be on the committee.

IX. Announcements

a. President Anoruo

- i. Asked if in the future Senators could please stay until the meeting is officially adjourned and not leave the meeting at 5pm if business is not completed.
- ii. Apologized for missing the April transition meeting. He wanted everyone to know he has been Senate President before at a previous institution. He also wanted Senators to know that he feels he has a unique perspective of being both Faculty and an Administrator at TAMUK that will benefit him as Senate President.

b. Senator Radcliff had a few announcements from the Library.

- i. Punkin the therapy dog will be visiting the Library during finals week. Please let your students know, or come give her some pets yourself!
- ii. The South Texas Archives located on the 3rd floor of the Library asks that if there are any University publications created by your department that you please send a copy to them for the University Archives collection. A list of publications that are currently collected will be attached to the minutes. If you have any questions please contact Matthew Tallant (x3251; matthew.tallant@tamuk.edu)

- X. **Adjournment** – At 4:55pm a motion to adjourn was made by Senator Meyer and seconded by Senator Houf, motion was passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Radcliff
Faculty Senate Secretary, 2019-2020