

## **Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes – September 4, 2018**

**Senators Present:** Polly Allred, Ambrose Anoruo, Apurba Bhattacharya, Marion Blake, Rudolf Bohm, Jieming Chen, David Cutton, Ulan Dakeev, Horacio Duarte, LaVonne Fedynich, Christine Fiestas, Michelle Garcia, Jeffrey Glick, Brent Hedquist, Elizabeth Janzen, Joseph Jones, Dongnyoung Kim, Larry Knight, Veronica Lopez, Lana McDonnell, Brian Menaker, Patrick Mills, Christine Radcliff, Hans Schumann, Ari Sherris, Jack Shorter, Tushar Sinha, Marsha Sowell, Haibin Su, Benjamin Turner, Amit Verma, Fulden Wissinger, Nuri Yilmazer, Hong Zhou

**Senators Absent:** Karen Furgerson, Kai Jin, Tanner Machado, Craig Meyer, Tim Oblad, Dazhi Sun, Pamela Wright, Stephanie Yuma

### **I. Call to Order and Quorum Call.**

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

### **II. Approval of Minutes from May 2018 Faculty Senate Meeting.**

President Janzen asked for approval of the previous meeting minutes. Senator Shorter motioned, Senator Allred seconded. Minutes were approved.

### **III. Presentations.**

#### **a. Dr. Allen Rasmussen, Provost**

- i. Dr. Rasmussen reported that for FY18 to offset the budget issues 5.2 Million was taken from University Reserves.
- ii. For FY19 the budget is still tight. The model for this year's budget had incorrect numbers, and Dr. Tallant asked for 3 Million to be taken from the University Reserves and the Board of Regents said no. Additionally the special items were cut by the State and they are forced to take a full hit this FY. Special items include: South Texas Archives, Citrus Center, Wildlife Research Institute, Institute for Ranch Management, Connor Museum. To help make up the shortfall each Academic College budget was cut by 5% + decline in graduate hours. Academic Affairs portion of the cuts totaled 1.5 Million. He said that some of the startup grant money was used to cover budget areas for FY19. Overall Dr. Rasmussen feels good about the FY19 budget.
- iii. He reported that the Board of Regents has asked President Tallant to prepare a longterm budget plan that can be passed along to the incoming President. This will include looking at the strategic enrollment plan.
- iv. In the area of enrollment, first time freshmen enrollment increased by 15%, and all other areas of freshmen enrollment grew too. In regards

to International students, Fall '18 acceptance was extended to the Spring '19 semester for 700 students should they still want to attend TAMUK.

- v. Dr. Rasmussen opened the floor for questions and was asked the following:
  - 1. Does he think the new President will follow the budget plan?
    - a. It is up to their discretion
  - 2. Do newly hired VP's (like Dr. Croft) have to tender their resignation?
    - a. Yes, all VP's are required
  - 3. Could he address the open admissions rumor?
    - a. He has heard this rumor but asked for some numbers and deducted that over the last 3 years the ACT score, Rank and GPA requirements have been pretty consistent over that time period.

#### IV. Report of Officers

##### a. Senate President Elizabeth Janzen

- i. **Athletic Director Search:** Executive Committee members were invited to attend meetings with each candidate. President Janzen attended all of the meetings, and 3-5 other members attended various meetings with her.
- ii. **President and Provost meetings:** They met 3 times over the summer.
  - 1. **Summer salaries:** President is amenable because a cap exists, he was also pleased with the recommendation and asked the Provost to run the new numbers with the proposed rates. President Janzen asked the Provost to balance the numbers with junior faculty and the Provost responded with a new model used by TAMU-Galveston that is a "self-sustaining" approach. Dr. Tallant supports this model, but implementation will be decided by the new President. President Janzen said she would be willing to email out the model that was sent to her from TAMUG. It was mentioned that the FY19-20 budget proposal needs to be completed for review by the A&M System by October 19, 2018 so any change in summer salaries probably will not occur until summer 2021.

- a. The following is the gist of the TAMUG summer sessions funding:

\* Permanent Faculty will be allowed to teach up to a total of 12 credit hours load over the entire summer

\*Percent effort for each class will be calculated on the 12 credits maximum (eg. A 3 credits class represents 25% effort, a 4 credits class represents 33%, etc.)

\*Compensation for non-cruise courses will be based upon the number of students enrolled in each class to the salary cap of the instructing Faculty for that percent effort. The following conditions will be required:

a. The tuitions collected from the SCHs (minus 50% overhead) will go to support the salary of the instructing Faculty. The classification of the student (e.g. graduate SCHs generate higher tuition revenue than undergraduate SCHs) will be applied proportionally in the formula calculation.

b. Compensation will be capped to the monthly salary of each Faculty.

c. It is the choice of the Faculty to teach a class for the summer at a lower compensation than full monthly pay. Faculty will have until the cut-off deadline (10 business days before the course begins) to confirm if they will teach an approved course. They are committed to teach the course after the cut-off date.

\*Classes will be approved based on the following minimum student enrollment:

- a. Undergrad lect classes: 15 students
- b. Graduate classes: 8 students
- c. Specialty courses that cannot accommodate 15 students (e.g. for safety or space reasons) will have a minimum enrollment requirement of 10 students and will require a justification (how does this course advance graduation rate, contributes to strategic goals of the Campus, etc) and recommendation of the Department Head for review from the Academic Affairs Leadership Team. Because of this limited enrollment, approved specialty courses may have difficulty in generating enough tuition. To incentivize Faculty to offer such classes, Department Heads will have to commit (as part of their justification letter) the remaining 50% of the tuition from their budget to the course for compensation of the instructing Faculty. Review and approval of each individual request will be performed by the Academic Affairs Leadership Team in the January session.

\*The cut-off deadline for courses to reach the required minimum number of students and be approved will be 10 business days before the course begins.

- 2. **Teaching Overload:** The President asked the Provost to take this to the Deans next week. The Provost is not comfortable with minimum numbers. He feels that “putting reduced numbers limits flexibility”. President Janzen reported that all Colleges have expressed to her that they are confused by how this is working.
- 3. **Team Teaching:** This is supported by the President but the University will not be able to financially support this year.

4. **Presidential Search:** there are 47 candidates. The committee had a week to review the files and put together their preferences. President Janzen has 2 that she approves for sure, 17-18 strong maybe, remainder she feels are not a good fit. President Janzen reported that the company handling the search has created a list of 10 they suggest, which contains her 2 approvals plus some of her maybes and no's. The committee is going to meet on Sept 6<sup>th</sup> to narrow the list to 8 candidates for Airport interviews. Airport interviews will be conducted Sept. 12-13, and list will be narrowed to 3.
  - a. Senator Sherris brought a resolution to the table but we were unable to consider it as it had not passed through By-laws and resolutions committee. The ideas within were discussed however by the senate, and a compromise was reached to have the senate president contact the chancellor and vice-chancellor Hallmark to email an invitation to host on-campus interviews.
5. **Faculty Re-train grants:** Provost forgot about this. He said he never received the document from Past Senate President Richard. President Janzen sent it to him and made sure he received it.

## V. Old Business

- a. **Extension of Tenure Probation Period** – This was brought to the Senate as an FYI that a document exists. Need to encourage departments to be transparent this exists. It was suggested that this document might be added to the Senate webpage.

## VI. Standing Committee Reports

- a. **Resolution and By-laws/Handbook Committee** – Michelle Garcia spoke about the Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure document. She compared the TAMUK document to one provided at the System level and found that they mostly match. She also says that this policy that was updated in December is not in sync with the Faculty Handbook. She also talked about diversity on hearing committees for appeals is not addressed in the current document and she feels it should be added. She mentioned that the document is very hard to locate on TAMUK website, and suggested it be added to the Academic Affairs website.
- b. **Committee on Committees** – Tushar Sinha reported that they are still working on a College wide list of people serving on committees. He also

reported the following committee vacancies have been filled, and listed a few that still need to be filled.

- i. **Promotion appeals committee:** still need to fill the vacancy for the College of Arts & Sciences. Nominated representatives for all other Colleges are: Dr. Michelle Garcia, Dr. Jack Shorter, Dr. Melody Yarbrough, Dr. Amit Verma.
- ii. **Center for Teaching Effectiveness Advisory Board:** Dr. Hua Li has been nominated to fill this vacancy.
- iii. **University Library Committee:** Dr. Ari Sherris has been nominated to fill this vacancy.
- iv. **Undergraduate Program Review Committee:** Dr. Randy Colvin has been nominated to fill this vacancy.
- v. **Committee on Committees:** Christine Fiestas has had to step down and needs to be replaced, so there is now a vacancy for one representative from the College of Arts & Sciences.
- vi. **Administrator Evaluation Committee:** Dr. Nael Barakat has had to step down, and Dr. Gahangir Hossain has been nominated as the replacement for the College of Engineering.

c. **Election Committee** – No report.

## VII. **Reports from Committees Reporting to the Senate**

- a. **Administrator Evaluation Committee** – They plan to have this roll out October 1<sup>st</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup>.
- b. **Annual Faculty Lecture Committee** – No report.
- c. **Piper Award Committee** – No report.
- d. **Faculty Evaluation Committee** – No report.
- e. **University Appeals Committee** – No report.
- f. **Faculty Benefits Committee** – No report.

## VIII. **Task Force Reports**

- a. **SRI Revision** – There will be a meeting Sept 5<sup>th</sup>

## IX. **New Business**

- a. **Committee on Committees A&S Election** – postponed until next meeting
- b. **Online Elections Task Force** – President Janzen will talk to Brent Hedquist

- c. President's Retirement – President Janzen would like to purchase a gift from the Senate to Dr. Tallant. Budget is a couple hundred dollars, and deadline for suggestions is September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- d. New System Sexual Harassment Policies – A document with the links to the policies was distributed by President Janzen. She also said that she will have the policies added to the Senate website.
- e. University Technology Advisory Committee: Senate Rep – Ari Sherris has agreed to be the representative from the Senate.

**X. Announcements**

- a. Academic Calendar – Because Dr. Tallant has chosen to follow the more strict rules set by the Coordinating Board of 45 hours of contact for classes, TAMUK had to start the semester earlier than the other universities in the System to hit the 45 hour requirement. Additionally this campus chose to take off for the Labor Day holiday which also contributed to the need to start classes earlier than campuses who chose to hold classes Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>. A breakdown of Summer I and II hours was handed out.
- b. President Janzen reminded everyone of the reception immediately following the adjournment of this meeting honoring Dr. Maria de Jesus Ayala-Schueneman as the winner of the Faculty Senate Distinguished Senator Award.

- XI. **Adjournment** – At 5:18pm a motion to adjourn was made by Hans Schumann, seconded by Rudolf Bohm, motion was passed.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

Christine Radcliff  
Faculty Senate Secretary, 2018-2019