The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate for the academic year 2008-2009 was held October 9, 2008 at 3:30 p.m. in the University Room (BB 2.06.04) with Dr. Mansour El-Kikhia, Chairman of the Faculty Senate, presiding.

I. Call to order and taking of attendance


Absent: Robert Amborsino, Ron Binks, Mary Ellen Garcia (excused), Melody Lo, John McCray (excused), Eduardo Jimenez, Zlatko Koinov (excused), Sharon Nichols (excused), Darryl Ohlenbusch, Nestor Sanchez, Hatim Sharif (excused), Howard Smith (excused), Raydel Tullous (excused), John Wald (excused) Mary Zey

Guests: Ashley Diaz, Bernadette Andrea, Donna Edmonson, Veronica Ramirez

Total members present: 36 Total members absent: 15

II. Approval of minutes of September 18, 2008

The minutes were approved.

III. Reports

A. System Faculty Report- Dr. Mansour El-Kikhia

Dr. El-Kikhia reported on the Sys Fac meeting in Austin. He reported that there were a number of speakers including Dr. Shine, the Interim Chancellor and the Executive Vice Chancellor of Health Affairs. He spoke about the destruction on Galveston and UTMB. The damages are going to consume a tremendous amount of University resources. Fortunately they have insurance, the cost of insurance was $15 million dollars for $100 million, and the damage was approximately $500 million dollars. There is little funding for Academic components. It was
reported that originally there was $12 billion dollars of surplus. However $10 billion has already been spent and the remainder of $2 billion dollars may be considered for Higher Education.

Amy Jasperson added to the discussion of Higher Education and circulates a handout of information for faculty to review.

Dr. El-Kikhia discussed the (10% rule) that UT Austin is addressing, and they are trying to change the rules in order to allow other Universities to take in those other students.

B. University Assembly Report- Sandy Norman

Dr. Norman briefly stated that there was nothing to report because there had not been a University Assembly meeting.

IV. Unfinished Business

A. Graduate Consent Calendar

2009-2011 Graduate Catalog was approved.

B. HOP Sections 2.34 and 2.6

The faculty discussed sections of the HOP and the issues they had with some sections. Carola Wenk suggested revisions via email and these suggestions were forwarded to Bernadette Andrea for review.

The HOP changes that were made at the May 15, 2008 meeting were voted on and approved.

Betty Travis made suggestions during the meeting and agreed to be sent out to all senators via email.

V. New Business – There was no new business

VI. Provost Report – Dr. John Frederick

There was no report made.

VII. Open Forum

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously accepted at 4:55 pm.