

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING OF March 19, 2009

The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate for the academic year 2008-2009 was held March 19, 2009 at 3:30 p.m. in the Assembly Room (BV 1.338) with Dr. Mansour El-Kikhia, Chairman of the Faculty Senate, presiding.

I. Call to order and taking of attendance

Present: Diane Abdo, Steve Bach, Sara DeTurk, Mansour El-Kikhia, Juanita Firestone, Mary Ellen Garcia, Rhonda Gonzales, Robert Hard, Amy Jaspersen, Eugene John, John McCray, William McCrary, Jolyn Mikow, Branco Ponomariov, Hazem Rashed-Ali, Robert Renthal, Cheryl Robinson, Hatim Sharif, Howard Smith (Armando Trujillo), Raydel Tullous (Juan Gonzalez)

Absent: Marian Aitches (excused), Robert Ambrosino, Yoris Au, Ron Binks (excused), Rena Bizios (excused), Susan Bruenger (excused), Aaron Cassill (excused), Fengxin Chen (excused), Joel Christensen (excused), William Cooke (excused), Kim Cuero, Beth Durodoye (excused), John Frederick (excused), Judith Haschenburger (excused), Victor Heller, Craig Jordan (excused), Zlatko Koinov (excused), Sharon Nichols (excused), Sandy Norman (excused), Darryl Ohlenbusch, Ben Olguin (excused), Michael Ryan (excused), Nestor Sanchez, Alan Shoho, John Simonis (excused), Ted Skekel, John Wald (excused), Carola Wenk (excused), Karen Williams (excused), Mary Zey

Guests: Ashley Diaz, Jessie Zapata, Robert Baron, George Perry, Chris Reddick, and Richard Tangum

Total members present: 21 Total members absent: 29

II. Approval of the February 12, 2009 minutes

The minutes were approved.

III. Reports

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

Dr. El-Kikhia briefly reported that President Romo and Dr. Frederick have approved two Faculty Senate resolutions:

- 1) Opposition to allowing concealed handguns on campus.
- 2) Support for continued internet & library access for UTSA retirees.

Dr El-Kikhia also encouraged faculty to make use of the expanded preventive medicine programs, which include full coverage for expensive screenings, such as colonoscopies.

B. University Assembly Report- Dr. Sandy Norman

Dr. Norman was not able to attend the meeting. Report will be forthcoming.

C. Curriculum Committee-Dr. Hazem Rashed-Ali

The Curriculum Committee had reviewed the following proposals:

- Certificate in Jazz studies
- Three new minors in athletic coaching, exercise science, and physical education
- BS in Computer Engineering

Dr. Rashed-Ali briefly explained each proposal and presented feedback from the committee. The Faculty Senate members discussed the proposed certificate, minors, and bachelor's degree.

The certificate in Jazz studies was approved by the Faculty Senate. The three new minors also were approved.

Questions were directed to representatives supporting the proposed Computer Engineering degree. The Faculty Senate approved the B.S. degree in Computer Engineering.

D. Graduate consent calendar-William McCrary

The M.S. in Urban Regional Planning proposal was approved.

IV. Unfinished Business

There was none.

V. New Business

A. Dr. George Perry, Dean of the College of Sciences

Dr. El-Kikhia introduced and welcomed Dean Perry who presented following report and plans:

- 1) Report by the Earth and Environmental Science Review Committee-
March 2007
- 2) Memorandum to President Romo from Dean Perry- April 2007
- 3) Environmental Science Group Draft Strategic Plan- October 2008
- 4) Environmental Science Group Draft Strategic Plan Power point presentation-
December 2008

- 5) Department of Geological Sciences Strategic Plan- Final draft 2008-2009
- 6) Geological Sciences Hiring Plan- March 2009 draft
- 7) Report- Restructuring Fact Finding Committee- Department of Biology
- 8) College of Sciences- Strategic Plan 2007-2016

VI. Provost Report – Dr. John Frederick

Dr. Frederick was unable to attend the meeting.

VII. Open Forum

Dr. Amy Jasperson, senator from the Department of Political Science, initiated the discussion concerning the Texas House and Senate bills allowing license holders (21 years or older) to carry concealed handguns on college campuses. The bills were expected to be considered over the next couple of weeks.

Dr. Jasperson stated that faculty cannot lobby as UTSA representatives; however, they can educate students on this matter.

Dr. Jasperson will provide additional information on the bills, which will be forwarded to Faculty Senators.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously accepted at 5:30 pm.