

# THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

## DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

### SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING of February 11, 2010

The regular monthly meeting of the Faculty Senate for the 2009-2010 academic year was held February 11, 2010, 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

Present: Diane Abdo, Sos Agaian, Yoris Au, Manuel Berriozabal, Mark Brill, Norma Cantu, William Cooke, Kim Cuero, Sara DeTurk, Beth Durodoye, Carol Dyas, Mansour El-Kikhia, John Frederick, Mary Ellen Garcia, Robert Hard, Judith Haschenburger, Victor Heller, Amy Jaspersen, Palani-Rajan Kadappakkam, Zlatko Koinov, Margarita Machado-Casas, Randy Manteufel, John McCray, John Merrifield, Jolyn Mikow, J. Mitchell Miller, Elizabeth Murakami-Ramalho, Sharon Nichols, Sandy Norman, Ben Olguin, Hazem Rashed-Ali, Cherylon Robinson, Hatim Sharif, Ted Skekel, Johnelle Sparks, Raydel Tullous, Carola Wenk, Bennie Wilson

Absent: Steve Bach (excused), Ron Binks (excused), Joel Christensen (excused), Rhonda Gonzales (excused), Lars Hansen (excused), Mary McNaughton-Cassill (excused), Darryl Ohlenbusch, Branco Ponomariov (excused), Anand Ramasubmaranian, Robert Rico

Guests: Ashley Diaz, Akshay Thusu, Charlin Jones

Total members present: 38                      Total members absent: 10

#### II. Approval of the December 10, 2009 minutes

The minutes were approved.

#### III. Reports

##### A. Dr. Mansour El-Kikhia

Dr. El-Kikhia stressed the importance of reviewing any changes made to the Handbook of Operating Procedures.

He announced that a representative from the College of Science is needed to serve on the Nominating, Elections, and Procedures Committee. Dr. Judy Haschenburger volunteered to serve.

B. Secretary of General Faculty -- Dr. Sandy Norman

Dr. Norman noted that Regent Janiece Longoria seemed supportive of faculty and educational issues. Dr. Pedro Reyes, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Planning & Assessment felt that financial exigency policies should be reviewed on each campus. Dr. Raymund Paredes, Commissioner of The Higher Education Coordinating Board was concerned about underperforming programs. He felt that Ph.D. programs should provide stronger evidence of employment opportunities and that too many graduates were unable to find employment.

C. Consent Calendar- Dr. Norma Cantu

Senators discussed the Bilingual Reading Specialist Graduate Certificate. The certificate was approved with one opposing vote.

D. Curriculum Committee- Dr. Hazem Rashed-Ali

- Concentration name change

Dr. Rashed-Ali explained the proposal from the Communication Department to change the name of the concentration from Social Interaction to Communication Studies.

E. Evaluations, Merit, Rewards and Workload Committee- Dr. William Cooke

Dr. William Cooke reported that he had met with the Provost regarding merit guidelines. The committee is in the process of reviewing the merit guidelines sent by the department chairs.

IV. Unfinished Business

A. UTSA Honor Code- Akshay Thusu and Charlin Jones

The senators discussed the drafted Honor Code, provided feedback, and asked questions.

Senators expressed their concern about the length and content of the Honor Code. Some suggested that the statement should be brief and simple. Mr. Thusu responded to questions from Senators and agreed to come back to the Senate with an update.

B. Evaluation Instrument update

Dr. Raydel Tullous gave a brief update on the course/faculty evaluation instrument.

Senators expressed their concern about the surveys being conducted online; they were concerned with confidentiality issues for students and with the response rate. A pilot for the new survey is scheduled for this summer.

V. New Business

The Senators approved adding Dr. Randy Manteufel to the Academic Policy and Requirements Committee.

VI. Provost Report – Dr. John Frederick

Dr. Frederick reported briefly on F&A and announced that his presentation on the subject is scheduled for February 12 at 9:00 a.m. in the Bexar room.

Dr. Frederick discussed the evaluations of the Deans. A six-year review of Dean Gelo was completed, and three-year reviews of Dean Perry and Dean Agrawal were completed.

Dr. Frederick gave an update on the budget reduction plan. UTSA is making contingency plans for a 5% budget cut. If no merit funds are available for the upcoming year, the Provost suggested carrying over faculty productivity from the previous year to be included in the next merit exercise.

He reported that the university has received more applications for the fall semester than it received at this time last year, especially applications for graduate school.

A plan for new admissions standards is forthcoming. The university plans to keep undergraduate enrollment at its current level, but the Provost wants to maintain the diversity of the student body.

VII. Open Forum

No discussion.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously passed at 5:20 pm.