

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING of May 5, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Faculty Senate for the 2010-2011 academic year was held May 5, 2011, at 3:30 p.m. in the Denman Room (UC 2.01.28) with Dr. Carola Wenk, Chair of the Faculty Senate, presiding.

I. Call to order and taking of attendance

Present: Sos Aгаian, Robert Ambrosino, Manuel Berriozabal, Mark Brill, Garry Cole, William Cooke, Renee Cowan, Beth Durodoye, Carol Dyas, MaryEllen Garcia, Robert Hard, Anne Hardgrove, Patricia Harris, Judith Haschenburger, Victor Heller, Amy Jaspersen, Daniel Jimenez, Palani-Rajan Kadapakkam, Kimberly Klein, Donald Kurtz, Melvin Laracey, Richard Lewis, Randy Manteufel, Mary McNaughton-Cassill, Josephine Mendez-Negrete, Elizabeth Murakami-Ramalho, Annette Portillo, Hazem Rashed-Ali, Libby Rowe, Dan Sass, Misty Sailors, Hatim Sharif, Patricia Thompson, Raydel Tullous, Alistair Welchman, Carola Wenk, Bennie Wilson

Absent: Diane Abdo (excused), Yoris Au, Mansour El-Kikhia, Lars Hansen, Mary Kay Houston-Vega (excused), Zlatko Koinov, Alycia Maurer, John McCray, John Merrifield, Darryl Ohlenbusch, Branco Ponomariov, Anand Ramasubmaranian, Ted Skekel, Johnelle Sparks (excused)

Guests: Tom Coyle, John Frederick, Kelly Garza, Nandini Kannan, Nancy Martin, Joleen Reynolds, Sandra Welch, Lawrence Williams

Total members present: 37

Total members absent: 14

II. Approval of the April 14, 2011 minutes

The minutes were approved.

III. Reports

A. Chair of the Faculty Senate- Dr. Carola Wenk

Dr. Wenk said she will continue to collect names of potential members for the recently formed Faculty Senate Research Advisory Committee. Dr. Wenk said no decision has been made whether merit increases would be given because the university administration is waiting to hear news about the state budget. Dr. Wenk made an announcement about SALSI (San Antonio Life Sciences Institute) and

ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act). She said if a new bill is passed, the unspent ARRA money would have to be returned. Dr. Wenk said the Vice President for Research will communicate this information to the faculty. Dr. Wenk presented links to various UT System reports including Fast Facts, Research Brief on Graduation Success, Research Brief on Productivity and Efficiency, Research Brief on Faculty Work and THECB National Research University Fund Report.

[http://www.utsa.edu/Senate/fsminutes/05-05-11/FS_chairReport_5-05-11\[1\].pdf](http://www.utsa.edu/Senate/fsminutes/05-05-11/FS_chairReport_5-05-11[1].pdf)

- B. Secretary of General Faculty- Dr. Amy Jasperson
Dr. Jasperson urged the senate to take a look at the UT System Reports Dr. Wenk presented. She said one of the reports highlights the faculty-student ratio and shows that UTSA has larger class sizes relative to other UT System institutions. Dr. Jasperson said the proposed “low-cost” degree issue is still playing out. She said the Texas Legislature continues to move the budget forward but no resolution has been reached yet. She said the *Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education Magazine* listed UTSA in the top one-hundred colleges for awarding degrees to Hispanics in 2010. Dr. Jasperson said that the UT System Faculty Advisory Council passed a resolution in support of Chancellor Cigarroa in the debate over higher education.
- C. Provost’s Report –Dr. John Frederick
Dr. Frederick thanked everyone for assisting in commencement. Dr. Frederick said the first comprehensive data request from UT System involved several different kinds of issues dealing with faculty, including salary, number of classes taught, number of students taught, grade distributions, evaluations, etc. He said that since the data request there had been at least three open records requests from newspapers. Dr. Frederick said the UT System is going to release the information as of this afternoon with a disclaimer that no conclusions should be drawn from the data because they are raw data. Dr. Frederick said there have been several data requests since the first request, and UTSA continues to receive them about once a week. Dr. Frederick said the most recent request dealt with evaluations and grade distributions from the academic year 09-10. He said the university continues to make the case on how well we perform as a university and that UTSA faculty are very efficient.
- D. Committee on Handbook of Operating Procedures – Dr. Mel Laracey
Dr. Laracey began his report with HOP 10.02 - Misconduct in Research or Other Scholarly Activities, which came to the senate earlier in the semester with many issues and concerns. He said Dr. Woods withdrew the old version and sent a new version to the committee. He said the new version included many of the same deficiencies, and no explanations were provided with the new draft. Dr. Laracey said scholarly misconduct is the utmost serious offense for a faculty member. He said the new process did not include the Department Chair or the Dean as

reviewers and the case would go straight to the Vice President for Research, with no process for a hearing and had no real process to appeal the decision. Dr. Laracey said the HOP Committee did not recommend approval of HOP 10.02, and he recommended that it would be a good opportunity for the Faculty Senate Research Advisory Committee to work with the university administration to develop a good procedure.

The motion to accept the committee's report and therefore reject HOP 10.02 was seconded and unanimously approved.

Dr. Laracey said the committee did not have any recommendations for HOP 4.08 Employees as Students.

E. Consent Calendar

The Business of Health Graduate Certificate was consented to by the Faculty Senate.

F. Academic Policy and Requirements Committee- Dr. Bennie Wilson

Dr. Wilson said his committee had six proposals to present to the Faculty Senate. He said each of the proposals had been approved for recommendation by the senate.

1. Biology Department Academic Standing Policy

A motion to approve was called and unanimously approved.

2. Biomedical Engineering Admission Policy

A motion to approve was called and approved by majority vote.

3. Name change for BA in Humanities to BA in Classical Studies and Humanities.

A motion to accept the change was called and unanimously approved.

4. BS in Health Degree Admission Policy

A motion to approve was called and unanimously approved.

5. Honors College Admission Policy

A motion to approve was called and unanimously approved.

6. Policy for the Quantitative Scholarship Requirement

A motion was made and unanimously approved.

G. Committee on Course Surveys- Dr. Tom Coyle

Dr. Coyle said his committee was asked to review issues associated with giving extra credit to participants who completed the course evaluations. He said the faculty were split on the issue. The committee recommended the following proposal:

“The decision to give extra credit to students for completing teaching evaluations should be left to the professional judgment and discretion of individual faculty.”

A motion to table this proposal was made and passed by majority vote.

The following proposal was recommended by the Provost:

“We advise the administration to remain silent on the issue of extra credit for student teaching evaluations.”

A motion to approve this recommendation was made, seconded and approved by majority vote.

H. Curriculum Committee –Dr. Raydel Tullous

Dr. Tullous had two proposals to present to the senate. Dr. Tullous said the Department of Information Systems and Technology wanted to add two minors: Minor in Network and Data Center Management and a Minor in Digital Forensics.

A motion was made to approve the two minors and was unanimously approved. Dr. Tullous presented the catalog changes for the Department of Finance.

1. Minor in Facility Management name change to Minor in Facility and Property Management.

A motion to approve was called and unanimously approved.

2. The addition of a Minor in Real Estate

A motion to approve was made and unanimously approved.

3. The addition of Real Estate (RFD) Courses.

A motion was made and unanimously approved.

I. Evaluations, Merit, Rewards, and Workload Committee – Dr. Amy Jasperson

Dr. Jasperson said the committee is continuing to focus on workload. She said they are also working on language to address the issue of faculty who qualified for merit based on their annual performance review in a year when merit was not given due to budget problems.

J. Criminal Background Check Committee- Dr. Amy Jasperson

Dr. Jasperson said the committee is continuing to work with Human Resources and the Vice President for Business Affairs. She said the Criminal Background Check Policy will be routed through the HOP committee and then back to the Faculty Senate.

IV. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

V. New Business

There was no new business.

VI. Open Forum

There was no discussion.

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously passed at 4:59 pm.