I. Call to order and taking of attendance

Present: Alberto Arroyo, Carolyn Cochran, Margie DeYoung, Mansour El-Kikhia, Matt Ellison, John Frederick, Scott Kabrich, Anne Macintosh-Speights, John McCray, Patricia Morehead, Goutham Menon, Sandy Norman, Ricardo Romo, Shirley Rowe, Gabriel Salas, Alan Shoho, Betty Travis, Deanna White

Absent: Marjie French, Robert Garza (excused), Daniel Gelo (excused), Christina Gomez (excused), David Johnson, Kerry Kennedy, Shannon Krueger, Irina Solovyova (excused), Jude Valdez, Jermaine Vesey, Travis Weissler

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved.

II. Reports

A. Provost – Dr. John Frederick

President Romo welcomed Provost John Frederick.

Dr. Frederick reported on the new process called the Strategic Implementation Plan. They have created a group called the Strategic Resource Planning Council which is composed of Vice Presidents, Deans, Faculty, Staff, and student representatives. This council will discuss prioritization of objectives and activities. The CMO will give current recommendations to the President, and he will then approve the budget. The President stated that the current budget will not be much.

Dr. Frederick stated that there is a new process for making changes to the Handbook of Operating Procedures. A new committee, HOP Committee, has been created and is chaired by Dick Dawson, the Executive Director of Audit Compliance and Risk Services. When a new policy is proposed it will go through certain committees, such as Faculty
Senate, for review, and then return to the HOP committee and legal council to make sure the wording is accurate. The changes are then sent to the Office of General Council in Austin, and they will make sure that the changes are consistent with the Regent’s Rules. Once the process is complete and the changes returned to UTSA, they will become policy and entered in the HOP.

Dr. Frederick gave an update on the Leadership searches this spring. They are looking at the final two candidates for College of Architecture Dean. They are hoping to choose a new Dean and get someone on board by the fall semester. Dr. Frederick said the process of choosing a new Director of IT was underway, and the number of remaining candidates is 6 out of 100 who applied. They hope to have completed the hiring of the Director by this summer.

Dr. Frederick gave an update on the Core Values Initiative. It is an initiative to highlight the Core Values. There are 6 core values we will fulfill; Integrity, Excellence, Inclusiveness, Respect, Collaboration and Innovation.

Dr. Frederick reported on the new leadership initiative program which will involve getting 6-8 people from Academics and Student Affairs who are interested in developing new leadership skills. This is going to be a new experimental program for the fall semester which will be under the new Provost Faculty Fellow program. Also, if it works well we can open it up to other areas such as Community Services or Business Affairs.

B. President’s Report – Dr. Ricardo Romo

President Romo reported on the legislative session. Some things that are being considered are concealed weapons on campus. There seems to be support for it, but we are not certain that it will pass. The Tier 1 bill passed last week.

President Romo gave an update on the tuition bill. There has been a greater increase in tuition between 12-15 percent per year on certain campuses. UTSA is going on about a 5 percent increase. The tuition bill that is being considered is very complicated. It will basically allow small increases and tie us into different categories.

President Romo reported that 80% of freshmen who enter UT-Austin are part of the top 10%. A lot of students end up at our campus because of this top 10 percent bill. Most students are in the CAP program which is the back door to UT-Austin. The solution to this is that we need to build more top tier institutions.

President Romo reported on the Master Plan of UTSA. The Master Plan will be available on disc and on rowdy space. The plan is very impressive.

President Romo addressed the academic Calendar. Dr. Sandy Norman expressed that some faculty members would like to start the fall semester earlier so that we could get the whole week of Thanksgiving off. If we move up the semester some people are going to be unhappy. Not everyone will agree on this proposal. We need at least three different
groups to discuss this. A suggestion was made for everyone to have 2 extra days off during the Thanksgiving break. Seventy percent of students who attend UTSA are not from San Antonio and are required to travel out of town for the holidays. The largest concentration is Houston, South Texas and Central Texas. Our options are to either start earlier or take days from the end of the semester.

C. Secretary – Dr. Sandy Norman

Dr. Norman briefly discussed that we need elections of new members for next year. We will send out notifications to those whose terms are up.

D. Faculty Senate Report – Dr. Mansour El-Kikhia

Dr. El-Kikhia did not report.

E. Chair of Staff Council- Shirley Rowe

Ms. Rowe was unable to attend the meeting. No report was made.

F. Student Government President – Mr. Matt DeLeon

Matt DeLeon was unable to attend the meeting, but sent a representative on his behalf. Matt is the new Student Government President who will be representing SGA this year. The SGA plans to campaign through UTSA and freshmen initiative to become more known on campus.

IV. Unfinished Business

None

V. New Business

VI. Questions to the President/Provost

Matt Ellison what is the likelihood of UTSA no longer being a dry University once there is a football team? President Romo claimed that it won’t happen anytime soon. There won’t be any games on campus for the next 2 years, they will be held at either the Alamo dome of somewhere off campus. President Romo suggests that nothing will take place in the next 3 years.

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm.