The regular monthly meeting of the Faculty Senate for the 2020-2021 academic year was held January 28, 2021 at 3:30 p.m. in Zoom (online meeting) with Dr. Chad Mahood, Chair of the Faculty Senate, presiding.

I. Call to order and taking of attendance.


Absent: not available

Guests: Kimberly Espy, Heather Shipley, Sarah Soulek, Veronica Mendez, Sheri Hardison, Tammy Anthony, Kendra Ketchum, Melinda Utoft

Total members present: 56   Total members absent: not available

II. Consent Calendar

- Approval of minutes – December 3, 2020
- No one objected to Consent Agenda

III. Reports

University Leadership Updates –
- Sheri (Controller) FY 2021 UT System Budget mid-year update (see slideshow)
- Veronica Mendez: COVID Vaccine Updates (slideshow)
- Kendra Ketchum: Update hack through solar winds; UTSA did a complete cyber scan and there was no UTSA data breach. This was the reason UTSA faculty, staff and students had to reset their PASSPHRASE in December 2020. There is a UTS Strategic Plan that Kendra can share with the Faculty.

University Updates – Academic Affairs – No Report

Chair’s Report: Chad Mahood – (See PowerPoint)
- Same schedule in the Spring; Fall 2021 semester will look similar; might have a few more face-to-face classes but will depend on vaccines and heard immunity. February 26th there will be more updates.
- Chris Packham: feedback from Governmental Agent: the budget wasn’t as bad as anticipated in the state of Texas.
• COLFA Dean Search: having to start the process over.
• HACU Leadership Award: now accepting nominations.

A. Curriculum Committee – no report

B. Graduate Council Chair – no report

C. Academic Freedom, Evaluation and Merit Committee – Priya Prasad
   • Topic of concern brought up about assignment and exam answers being posted on websites; if anyone has similar concerns or examples that they should email her and AFEM will discuss.

D. Budget Committee – no report

E. HOP Committee – no report

F. Nominating, Elections and Procedures Committee – Debra Pena
   • Approve of friendly amendment: 3 ABSTAIN, 39 APPROVE, 0 DO NOT APPROVE; remove the sentence it doesn’t have to be faculty.
   • Vote for NEP proposal: addition to Article II of Senate Bylaws; An electronic vote was cast during the meeting; the Faculty Senate voted as follows: Approve: 32, Do Not Approve: 4, Abstain: 7

G. Research Committee – no report

IV. Unfinished Business: none.
V.
VI. Open discussion: Faculty Recruitment Manual – updated; concerns about Department Chair Search Committee Composition

VII. New Business:
   • Workload questions - concept of time: meetings are taking more time, answering emails, writing at all hours of the day. Students need face to face meetings and it is difficult in the virtual world.

VIII. Adjournment:
   There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously passed at 5:06 PM