

Texas A&M University – San Antonio
Faculty Senate Agenda
Meeting of Friday, November 4, 2016
CEAC - Room 219
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Call to Order – 11:30 am Senate President Corinna Ross

Attendance:

Recognition of Guests:

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| President Matson | Provost O'Brien | Joe Simpson |
| Lorrie Webb | Melissa Jozwiak | Kathrine Gillen |
| Vicky Elias | | |

Senators in attendance:

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| Corinna Ross | Robin Kapavik | Kevin Barton |
| Bob Shelton | Dan Glaser | Kathleen Voges |
| Theresa Dorel | Jennifer Wilson | Bryant Moore |
| Deirdre McDonald | Caroline Knight | K.C. Kalmbach |

Attendance by Adobe Connect:

Jack Ayers

Approval of agenda

Remarks

1. University Provost – Dr. Michael J. O'Brien
No prepared remarks, asks if any questions
Q: Joe Simpson: Scheduling classrooms issues.
A: Will pick up 29 new classrooms when it comes online. Software training to help with this will be available to the Registrar soon.
Comment: New STEM Building going to Board of Regents in February.
Q: Cory: Workload “release” for scholarly activities.
A: Chairs and Deans have more flexibility now to schedule you for research activities with undergraduates.
Comment: The new Faculty Fellow announcement will be forth coming.
2. University President – Dr. Cynthia Teniente-Matson
Number one priority to complete STEM building.
New spaces will be available for Spring.
Another building proposal will be put forward early next year.
Wrapping up Master Plan and Strategic Enrollment Plan
Super Committee work is being wrapped up. Carrying forward with two new committees. An Assessment & Retention committees will be picking up where the Super Committee left off.
3. Reports from Faculty Senate Representatives
Committee Updates
Update from the TCFS meeting - Drs. Cory Ross and Amy Porter attended.

We are experiencing the same issues here as the 37-other state school in attendance are dealing with. Dr. Ross high recommends the video “Starving the Beast”. *Announcements*: Pot Luck Nov. 21; and the need for volunteers and donations for the Mobile Food Pantry and for students dealing with Food Insecurity.

Curtis Spears is forming two new committee dealing with IT governance. One will be TAC and ATAC. ATAC will deal with academic issues. TAC will deal with broader issues and needs a Faculty Senate member. Dr. Shelton volunteers for this committee.

Dr. Theresa Dorel gave an update on the Evaluation and Merit Committee progress. General recommendations being made will be changing the calendar back to a calendar year versus the current academic year. A faculty committee within each department will be needed for merit decisions when merit is available. Promotion and Tenure issues and recommendations outside the scope of this work, but need to be revisited.

Dr. Melissa Jozwiak update on Faculty Awards process and debriefing about last year’s process. Faculty need to be identified by the end of November for reviewing in January. Portfolios are due January 31st. Two recommendations need to be made. It needs to be made clear that Portfolios are to be prepared based on the last calendar year’s work, possibly via the ePortfolio system next year. And there needs to be a Chair elected by this committee. Rubrics and scoring processes need to be reviewed after the next round.

Motion put forth by R. Kapavik: Call to be put forth now for a committee of reviewers. Those reviewers will elect a Chair. Clarify the language such that the portfolio submitted will only reflect the last calendar. And the committee will meet to confirm the final scores and make any put forth recommendations for the following year if changes are needed.

Motion passes unanimously.

Old Business

1. Previously introduced for debate by Dr. Daniel Glaser:

A RESOLUTION PROPOSING THE ADOPTION OF COLLEGE BYLAWS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SAN ANTONIO

WHEREAS, there currently exists no policy regarding college bylaws and WHEREAS, there currently exists no alignment between faculty senate bylaws, A&M system policy and college bylaws, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we request the adoption of the attached policy on college bylaws for the faculty of Texas A&M University San Antonio.

Discussion: Key points from the proposal were reiterated by Dr. Glaser.

Motion put forth to accept. Seconded.

Motion passes unanimously

2. Previously introduced for debate by Dr. Amy Porter:

A RESOLUTION PROPOSING THE ADOPTION OF A POLICY ON FACULTY WORKLOAD ADJUSTMENT FOR ACUTE FAMILY CARE WHEREAS, the university has no current consistent and agreed upon policy regarding faculty workload adjustment due to acute family care needs THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we request the adoption of the attached policy on faculty workload adjustment for acute family care for the faculty of Texas A&M University San Antonio.

Discussion: The Librarians would like clarification on eligibility. It was suggested that categories of family parallel that of the Family Medical Leave Act.

Motion put forth: Clarify language to include Librarians and categories parallel FMLA.

Motion put forth to accept. Seconded.

Motion passes unanimously

Motion put forth to accept policy. Seconded.

Motion passes unanimously. To be sent to the Provost.

New Business

Katherine Gillen and Vicky Elias presented the need for a Diversity Office. They ask that a taskforce be formed to research and make recommendations for such an office.

Motion put forth: That the Faculty Senate forwards their support to the President for the formation of a taskforce to explore a Diversity Office headed by Drs. Gillen and Elias.

Motion passes unanimously

Introduced for debate by Dr. Corinna Ross: A RESOLUTION PROPOSING THE AMENDMENT OF THE FACULTY SENATE CONSTITUTION TO ALTER THE ELECTORAL UNIT. WHEREAS, the current electoral unit for senators is the College WHEREAS, the rapid growth of the University and growing depth of the Colleges has increased the number of faculty WHEREAS, there is a need for an increase in the Senate Representation THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate Constitution be amended such that the electoral unit for Senators be changed from College to Department

Proposed Amendment to the Constitution

2.1 Operations

2.2 Faculty Senate Structure - The Faculty Senate shall be unicameral.

2.3 Electoral units - The electoral units of the Faculty Senate shall be the ~~academic colleges and schools~~ **departments** and the University Library.

2.4 Number of Senators - Each ~~academic college~~ **department** shall elect four **two** Senators, and the library shall elect two Senators to the Faculty Senate. The President of the Faculty Senate shall serve in addition to this number.

Discussion: Issues with “units” vs “departments” vs percentages for representation. This will be placed on Blackboard for further discussion and research on a “better model”.

Tabled.

Introduced for debate by Dr. Corinna Ross: A RESOLUTION PROPOSING THE AMENDMENT OF THE FACULTY SENATE CONSTITUTION TO INCREASE THE TERM LENGTH FOR SENATORS WHEREAS, the current term length for senators is two years WHEREAS, the nature of change and growth in the University is associated with extensive requirements of the Senate to write and modify policies WHEREAS, there is a need for continuity within the Senate to achieve the goals and mission of the Senate THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate Constitution be amended to increase the term length for Senators to three years.

Proposed Amendment to the Constitution

3.4 Terms of Office

3.4.1 A Senator shall serve for two **three** years.

3.4.2 A Senator may serve an additional year **additional time** as President if elected as President Elect in their second **the last year of their elected term**.

3.4.3 No person shall serve more than two consecutive terms.

3.4.4 The immediate Past President shall not serve two consecutive terms.

3.4.5 A term will begin on the last meeting of the spring semester in which a Senator is elected and shall terminate in the last meeting of the spring semester in which he/she is replaced.

Discussion: Clarification on grandfathering and current terms of Senators.

Motion passes unanimously (12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions)

Introduced for debate by Dr. Corinna Ross: A RESOLUTION PROPOSING THE AMENDMENT OF THE FACULTY SENATE CONSTITUTION TO INCREASE THE ELECTED TERM OF THE PRESIDENT AND PRESIDENT ELECT WHEREAS, the current term for the President and Vice President service is one year. WHEREAS, many of the A&M system faculty senates have longer terms for their elected officials WHEREAS, increased length of terms would increase institutional knowledge within the Senate WHEREAS, increased length of terms would increase Senate efficiency THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate Constitution be amended to lengthen the terms of the President and Vice President to two years.

Proposed Amendment to the Constitution

3.5 Terms of Office

3.5.1 A Senator shall serve for two years.

3.5.2 A Senator may serve an additional year **additional time** as President if elected as President Elect in their second **last** year.

3.5.3 No person shall serve more than two consecutive terms.

3.5.4 The immediate Past President shall not serve two consecutive terms.

- 3.5.5 A term will begin on the last meeting of the spring semester in which a Senator is elected and shall terminate in the last meeting of the spring semester in which he/she is replaced.
- 6.1 The Officers of the Faculty Senate
- 6.2 The officers of the Faculty Senate shall comprise the following and will serve as the executive committee of the Faculty Senate:
- President
 - Vice President/President Elect Parliamentarian
 - Secretary
 - Immediate Past President
 - Other offices the Senate shall create.
- 6.3 Elections and Terms of office for Executive Officers
- 6.3.1 The President-Elect **shall be elected by the Senate at the last meeting of the spring semester during an election year. The President Elect shall take the Office of President at the end of the last meeting of the spring semester at the end of the previous President's term. The President shall serve a two year term.**
- 6.3.2 The Secretary, and the Parliamentarian shall be members of the Senate and, with the exception of the President and the immediate past President shall be elected by the Senate at the last meeting of the spring semester in which they are elected. Officers shall take office following the end of the last meeting of the spring semester and shall serve in that capacity for one calendar year. All senators who have not completed their term are eligible to serve as officers.

Motion passes unanimously (12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions)

Introduced for debate by Dr. Corinna Ross: A RESOLUTION PROPOSING THE AMENDMENT OF THE FACULTY SENATE CONSTITUTION TO ADD A CONTINGENT FACULTY SENATE REPRESENTATIVE WHEREAS, the current definition of faculty for representation within the Senate is tenure track, tenured, visiting or professional faculty WHEREAS, there is currently no representation for adjunct, lecturer, or other contingent faculty positions within the Senate WHEREAS, Shared Governance within the Faculty necessitates representation of diverse faculty groups THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate Constitution be amended to add a Senate position to represent contingent faculty.

Proposed Amendment to the Constitution

- 2.5 Operations
- 2.6 Faculty Senate Structure - The Faculty Senate shall be unicameral.

- 2.7 Electoral units - The electoral units of the Faculty Senate shall be the academic colleges and schools, and the University Library, **and contingent faculty**.
- 2.8 Number of Senators - Each academic college shall elect four Senators, and the library shall elect two Senators to the Faculty Senate. **The contingent faculty shall elect one Senator**. The President of the Faculty Senate shall serve in addition to this number.
- 3.1 Eligible Persons
 - 3.1.1 The Faculty Senate shall be composed of individuals who are employed by Texas A&M University-San Antonio whose appointment to employment status was approved by the Provost of Texas A&M University-San Antonio and who is tenured or on the tenure-track, or holds the rank of Professor, Associate Professor, or Assistant Professor, including visiting or professional track professors, or holds the title of Librarian, Associate Librarian, or Assistant Librarian on any Texas A&M University-San Antonio campus.
 - 3.1.2 The Contingent Faculty Senator shall be employed by Texas A&M University-San Antonio and hold the rank of Lecturer or Adjunct Faculty and has confirmed employment for the Academic Year in which they are elected.**
- 3.6 Terms of Office
 - 3.6.1 A Senator shall serve for two years.
 - 3.6.2 The Senator representing contingent faculty will serve a one academic year term.**
 - 3.6.3 A Senator may serve an additional year as President if elected as President Elect in their second year.
 - 3.6.4 No person shall serve more than two consecutive terms.
 - 3.6.5 The immediate Past President shall not serve two consecutive terms. A term will begin on the last meeting of the spring semester in which a Senator is elected and shall terminate in the last meeting of the spring semester in which he/she is replaced
- 5.1 Electors and Elections
 - 5.2 Two Senators from each academic college shall be elected each year, and one Senator from the library shall be elected each year. One additional Senator will be elected from the electoral unit of the current President Elect.
 - 5.3 Faculty members seeking election to the Faculty Senate shall be nominated by the faculty of their electoral units according to guidelines established in this document.
 - 5.4 All full-time, non-adjunct faculty members are eligible to vote, but shall vote in only one electoral unit. In the case of a questioned status under this provision, or of any provision following, the decision of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee shall be final. The two candidate(s) who receive the most votes by secret ballot within their respective electoral units shall be elected Senators.
 - 5.5 Elections of Senators shall be held annually in April.

5.6 The Election Committee shall determine if a runoff election is necessary and, if so, shall conduct it.

5.7 The Election of the Contingent Faculty Member will occur in August following the start of the Academic Term. Eligible faculty will be those with a contract including Fall and Spring terms of the Academic Year. Voting faculty will include all adjunct and lecturer faculty employed at the start of the Academic Year. Faculty members seeking election should contact the Parliamentarian prior to the start of the Academic Term such that elections can be completed prior to the first Senate meeting in September. The candidate that receives the most votes by secret ballot shall be elected as Senator.

Discussion: Issues with Adjuncts vs Lectures

Tabled.

Adjourn at 1:35 pm