

Faculty Senate Agenda
December 1, 2017
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Room: Madla 134

Attending: Brenda Rushing, Robin Kapavik, Edward Westermann, Clair Nolasco, Amy Porter, Douglas Carter, Andrew Sanders, Dan Glaser, Rodolfo Valdez, Scott Peters, Ann Bliss, Jack Ayres, Corinna Ross, Gilbert Barrera, Marina Narvaez, Deidre McDonald, Caroline O'Quinn, Katie Bridgeman,

Call to Order is made by Porter.

Approval of Minutes- Peters motions that the minutes are accepted. Nolasco seconds.

Administrative Update-

Dr. O'Brien- Arnie Ruka, Lenesci and Jozwiak will work on a committee to decide if the student will get in to the university. Is it a provisional acceptance or a full acceptance? Is it that they will have a dual enrollment with the Alamo Colleges?

Jackie, Barrera and Kapavik will serve as the faculty academic decision makers of dates.

Stewart Elementary is working well and had many parents involved in the literacy night.

Summer Pay will remain the same, and we will teach the same way. There was a misunderstanding when Dr. O'Brien said that he would not pay someone \$9,000 to teach a course that has a low enrollment. We must be careful that we are using the money appropriately. A faculty committee will make a decision about merit pay.

New freshman admissions: 34% came from the lowest quartile of their class. We need a formalized expression of these numbers. Have we lost focus on this? Dr. O'Brien says they talk weekly about this very thing. He says that he has seen ACT and SAT scores are flat. Class standing has gone down. If you want the data, you can have it. Shelton: Where would we get this? Dr. O'Brien: Ask and you can have it. There is a committee that looks at entrance requirements, but we are waiting to know about the application numbers. We have 54% ahead of where we were last year in terms of numbers. We are missing opportunities to get students from Alamo Colleges. We have made a pipeline to get here and they know. The average student as a transfer brings in 83 hours. We want them to never lose hours when they come here. Downward expansion happened fast, and there are some issues. We will work on some of the requirements and make changes.

Dr. Matson: A power hour was held in October wherein we presented on each student, what happened to them, the whole fact pattern around each student. Of the 504, 115 are not with us. Of the 115, there are 43 that can't be accounted for. 15 left with debt, and we want to target strategies to help that.

Peters: What do you want to do with it?

Westermann: It is important for us to stay ahead of the metrics with our students so that we can track it and see the trends.

Matson: We are also digging.

O'Brien: The numbers are small and thus it is hard to say if it is a correlation. We need to get bigger numbers to really see. We have n=504; we need 10 times that. We need to co-enroll with

the Alamo Colleges. They could be tiered, but we are not abandoning students; we are really looking to make that student successful.

There is a Core Group that works on retention (Spicer-Runnels).

Glaser: If we get an invitation to teach somewhere else, can we use our travel funds to go? It seems like an excellent opportunity. Can we use those travel funds to go?

O'Brien: We put \$1300 in for each faculty, and it can be used for whatever faculty things you need to do. You can do that. There are many Fullbrights and other opportunities, an O'Brien will stand behind that. It is service, teaching and research.

Valdez: Research and Development has talked about faculty salary and research.

Matson: It has been a busy month. She has presented unconscious bias at Duke and Texas State about mentoring. Land Development by the tower is going on. New HR director begins today. Early College High School Program (SWISD), and STEM has been worked on. There is much fundraising happening. The Branding has been worked on. Student Regent was here for the Lights of Esperanza. Mehaffy at ASCU came and worked on comprehensive expansion and other tasks.

Executive Committee Updates-

Porter: Shared Governance has been talked about and a discussion with faculty was held. There is also a Blackboard space for more comments that are anonymous.

Douglas: We will view "Starving the Beast." There will be a date in February.

Porter: Budgets are due in the next week. Be aware. Spindle is working to make the faculty's voices heard. The Parking Consultant was asked about. We aren't large enough to have a parking manager so we use a consultant. There are others that look at traffic flow etc. and are paid by the hour.

Old Business-

HIPs Committee (Andrew Sanders): See his report. We will discuss it in depth in February. Porter: We would like to see a resolution to support this and create this as a permanent committee. Valdez: JagTracks surveys should be done in a year and not right now. The responsibility was given to Academic Affairs. Sanders: We also need to look at the survey in terms of the difference between SRI's and the actual teaching of the content. The division though should be in academic affairs. Valdez (Blanton): There needs to be a committee for experiential learning. An amendment needs to be written for experiential learning as a committee, Sanders: It is possible that each needs to add an amendment. The question is, "When and how?" This has been so vague for Blanton, and we need to be more concrete in what we are asking and how we are wanting it to be done. Sanders: These are not requirements, but recommendations. Barrera: There are particular reasons that class credit cannot or can be given. If you want a course designation and you meet and go forth. Westermann: That is what the template will help us know. There isn't any standardized way to do this right now. But, it is in this document that will help us to align all of this. Sanders: Can we request that each of the representatives of the 5 HIPs be at faculty Senate next year (Shelton, Webb, Bridgeman, and Blanton). That way questions can be asked and answered particular to each of the HIPS. Ross: Has there been a discussion of how

we are tracking this? Sanders: It will be housed in Academic Affairs probably and the Provost will recommend how it is being kept. Bridgeman: It might be an alternative transcript.

Parking: Barrera: We will have no problems with parking lot 1 and 2. All will be fixed. There is a meeting on Monday and attempt to handle the goal of making it work by the Spring.

Food Waste: Sanders: How accountable would the student rec center be? Maybe a disclaimer. Valdez: Approached by the Mesquite to know how we are handling recycling. We need information about how recycling is happening and recyclables.

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Nolasco met with Verhasselt about the committee. Rigor within the course, proposals must be aligned with the goals of the university. Dates have been set for review.

Graduate Faculty Council: GRP and Thesis templates have been updated. Westermann: Is there a way that we can be contacted when our graduate faculty status is up for renewal?

Faculty Research: Travel funds and transparency needs to be developed in programs. There would be roll-over funds for travel so if your money isn't used, it can be used the following year. This committee would like to become an ad hoc committee. Valdez: O'Brien says that it will not come to him, so even though he says he can make decisions, it must be brought first by the chairs and deans. Sanders: Office of Sponsored Projects will have a director in January.

New Business

Faculty Senate Budget: Porter: Resolution for Faculty Senate Budget. Westermann: There should be at least \$3000 for faculty senate development. Carter: Reads the Resolution. Glaser moves that the resolution is accepted. Wilson seconds. It is passed. Valdez: There will need to be a treasurer for faculty senate. Then, during the executive committee will update and propose the use of the funds.

Terms of Administrators/Committee: Glaser: Concern that there is not anything in the bylaws about voting or committees. There isn't anything formally written. Porter: Work forward to the resolution. This might be handled different by each college. Glaser: There must be something done about the processes for P&T and other things that may need to be fixed. Carter reads the Resolution to increase terms to 2-3 years respectively. Peters makes the motion that the resolution moves forward and O'Quinn seconds. Porter makes the motion that an amendment to the amendment. It will now remove the words respective college bylaws and instead move to have it be moved to the college. Carter: Vote for the resolution to approve the amendments to the Constitution. Peters motions and Nolasco seconds.

Greek Life Expansion Update: Porter: Concern about the addition of additional Greek Life. Transfer students are the ones mostly asking about their organization on our campus. We have one sorority and one fraternity on campus. It seems to also help those to maintain alumnus connections. 9 applications. 2 will be chosen. Carter will keep Faculty Senate informed. All have accepted their offer and will be coming in February. Sanders: The concern was should we be

doing this at all. Porter can invite someone to come speak to Faculty Senate. Valdez: The issue is a matter of culture. There can be penalties for those that are attempting to join. There needs to be a code of conduct. Westermann: This really isn't a Faculty Senate issue. It is an academic affairs issue.

Terms of Administrators will be discussed next time.

Announcements

Adjournment at 1:06pm.