

Texas A&M University – San Antonio  
Faculty Senate Agenda  
Meeting of Friday, December 2, 2016  
CEAC - Room 219  
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

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

Recognition of Guests

Lydia Harkey

Recognition of Guests:

President Matson

Provost O'Brien

Megan Wise

Lorrie Webb

Ed Westermann

K. Bridgeman

Kathrine Gillen

Senators in attendance:

Corinna Ross

Robin Kapavik

Kevin Barton

Bob Shelton

Dan Glaser

Kathleen Voges

Theresa Dorel

Jennifer Wilson

Bryant Moore

Deirdre McDonald

Caroline Knight

Jack Ayers

Approval of today's agenda

Approval of minutes for meeting November 4, 2016

Remarks

IT Accessibility EIR Accessibility Committee – Lydia Harkey (10 minutes)

- Review of the statistics of those requesting and using services.
- Need one faculty member from each college to volunteer for the committee.

University President – Dr. Cynthia Teniente-Matson (5 minutes)

- Diversity and Inclusiveness are regular discussions topics for her and the Provost. Events and trainings are being reviewed for faculty, staff and students.
- Meeting with senior System yesterday about space needs, enrollment plans and comprehensive master plan. A meeting with the Board of Regents on all issues with the above will be happening soon.
- Recent discussions with the Chancellor regarding branding and strategic marketing of the University lead to the Chancellor's financial support for using the Hanover Group to assist in these endeavors.

University Provost – Dr. Michael J. O'Brien (5 minutes)

- Diversity with the current hiring cycle and best practices are constantly being explored and will be implemented. He is impressed with what is already in place but improvements can always be made.
- A new Academic Calendar is needed with a real exam week, reading day(s), and will be owned by Faculty Senate.

## Old Business

### Evaluation and Merit Committee Updates - Theresa Dorel (15 minutes)

- No formal update. Still revising the old policy and solicitation of more feedback.

### Faculty Awards – Robin Kapavik (10 minutes)

- Call went out for the committee. Bryant Moore from the Library; Amy Porter and Cory Ross from A&S, Kevin Barton and one yet to be named from Business; elections are happening for Education.
- Deadline for application is January 31, 2017

### Senate resolutions – Cory Ross (30 minutes)

- Bylaws & Faculty Workload Adjustment resolutions have been forwarded to the Provost and Chairs for comments. Dan Glazer inquired about Deans and Chairs presenting this to faculty within their departments. Dr. Ross will follow up on that with an email to Deans and Chairs.
- Senate Resolution regarding Term Lengths.  
Open for discussion: none; **Second Vote: 13y, 0n, 0a**
- Senate Resolution regarding Extending President & President Elect Term  
Open for discussion: Q: R. Kapavik asked about term and when they go into effect.  
A: C. Ross the President elected in 2018 will be first to serve the two two-year terms.  
**Second Vote: 13y, 0n, 0a**
- Senate Resolution regarding Electoral Unit  
Open for discussion: Lorrie Webb: Six Universities in Texas were researched. Four of them were A&M Universities. Four of the six do equal representation, either by college or department. The other two are by percentages based on full time and part time faculty numbers. Comment by E. Westermann: You might run into unequal representation if you base it here on current department numbers. Comment by L. Webb: Feels it might be unfair based on current college numbers. Question by D. Glaser: Is there really an issue with unequal representation within the colleges? Answer by M. Wise: More an issue of getting the word out when dealing with unequal representation. Fruitful discussion on the pros/cons of how to calculate numbers. Overall consensus to move towards proportion of full time faculty members as defined by constitution. Include tables based on faculty and one based on faculty and lecturers. Fruitful discussion on the pros/cons of including adjuncts and lecturers.

**Further discussion tabled.**

## New Business

### Update on faculty call to Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; J. Halmark - A. Porter

- Possible 4% budget cut
- Be aware of what politicians are saying about higher education
- Some Faculty Senate run evaluations of administrators, we might want to look at those.
- Talk of post-tenure review process amongst some Universities.

### Calendar committee – C. Ross

- Adhock Calendar Committee with two Faculty Senate representatives.  
Chair: K.C. Kalmbach. B. Shelton the other representative. The registrar, Dr. B. Rushing and someone from Business are suggestions via C. Ross. M. Wise also volunteers. Focus on study day and final exam schedule for Fall 2017.

- JagTracks curriculum review – C. Ross (10 minutes)  
Faculty concerns: Provost Office is work on JagTracks III & IV. University Curriculum Committee should create a subcommittee to examine the new curriculum and help revamp it. Comment by L. Webb: Academic Affairs need to take ownership again.

Announcements:

- President Matson: January 12<sup>th</sup>: Faculty Breakfast.
- Sanchez: Undocumented students and sanctuary school movement  
President Matson is sensitive and passionate about this issue and referenced earlier discussion. E. Westermann reminded us of the high rhetoric environment at both ends of this spectrum. And we need to approach this with objectivity and lots of discussion. There is a slippery slope between political activism and resistance.

Adjourn 1:24