

Faculty Senate Meeting
February 5, 2021
11:30 am - 1:00 pm
AGENDA

WebEx Link: <https://tamusa.webex.com/tamusa/j.php?MTID=mc3c98c5895e6adfb22c231943aa4c326>

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:29am.

2. Approval of Minutes (5 minutes)

The minutes from 12/2/20 were approved but have to add Katherine Bridgmena, Maria Aquino Acevedo full name not included. Motrioned to accept the minutes Matthew Mangnum, seconded by Leonard Love.

accepted: unanimously accepted

3. Administrative Update

- a. Provost (10 minutes) – Diversity, Inclusion and Equity designation of specific courses resolution. There a number of courses that address equity already.
- b. Meeting with provosts to come up with a list of what different campuses are doing in terms COVID related teaching. Coordinating board is leaving it up to universities for the rest of the year in terms of online versus f2f instruction. Wants feedback from faculty senate executive team on that. Fall: probably the same status for Fall semester in terms of social distancing. Err on the side of caution with perhaps a little bit more face-to-face courses. President: There seems to be more desire for asynchronous class by students. Discussion around synchronous versus asynchronous teaching.
- c. President (10 minutes) – Strategic plan: Sent out a report to everyone. Task force for strategic planning the goal is to

complete it by December. Added an employee experience component because we are also faculty centered in addition to being student centered. Goal: Employee centered as well. ED Talks – 10 minute talks. Synchronous vs. asynchronous student feedback from students yesterday.

- d. Legislative session in session: Financial hearing/presentation will be made in person. Goal: to reverse expansion reduction. Additional initiative (ask Joe or look up on email from). Education and public health lab building funding ? Business and Library building
- e. Enrollment: down in student credit hour production and head count. Probably similar across the nation. New transfer and freshman student; down in continuing student enrollment.
- f. Budgeted: Exceeded our budget target – good news.
- g. Call for faculty fellow: good time to put faculty fellow out. ENI? course designation. Anitracist framework. How do we share and learn more about democracy find a way to come back to democratic values and liberal education. Faculty are the most important to educate future students on democratic process.

4. Old Business

Points of order Joe Simpson: Adhoc committees; Resolutions: follow the process of introducing new topic. Also, one comment per person

- a. Update on Diversity Office ad hoc committee (10 minutes, James Finely) – Committee held a teaching last month. There is a recording that can be accessed, which can be requested.
- b. Update Evaluation of Chairs and Deans ad hoc committee (5 minutes) – Committee needs to meet soon so there will be a usable evaluation process soon for the 2021 evaluation period.

- c. Update Faculty Handbook ad hoc committee (5 minutes, Mathew Mangum) – Reviewing models for other universities; focus addressing also professional track. If feedback please contact Matthew Mangum.
- d. Update on Ombudsman ad hoc committee (10 minutes, Megan Wise de Valdez) – Presentation by Megan Wise de Valdez: Ombud person- function safe place for faculty to address problems without to (see screenshot). Sandry DeGrassi, Leonard Love etc committee members. Committee met for brainstorming session. Some ideas → Serving: tenured faculty member. Seek applications that faculty would review; make recommendation to president who will appoint the ombuds person. Formal office? What training would they receive? Stipend and funding? Length of service? 2-3 year position? Time line: proposal by March and up and running by Fall semester.

5. New Business

- a. Equity Course designation (10 Minutes-Vicky Elias & Leonard Love) – requirement of all students to complete 6 hours of courses that have been designated as equity and inclusion courses. Vicky Elias presented on concerns pertaining to instituting equity courses.

Task force will be disbanded and additional changes will go through the curriculum committee moving forward.

Motion to accept resolution and move forward the resolution for implementation. Leonard Love initiated the motion and Matthew seconded.

vote:

in favor to add equity designation to course

in favor: 18

no: 0

abstain: 0

Motion passes, and will be forwarded to the curriculum committee.

- b. Removal of SRI Items (10 Minutes-Leonard Love, Daniel Delgado, Joseph Simpson) –
Removal of items from SRI forms that do not evaluate instruction items 13-18
Motion to adopt this resolution Leonard Love; seconded Bob Shelton

in favor: 17
opposed: 0
abstain: 1

- c. Memorandum of Understanding on Policy (5 minutes)
Review of process for shared government. Working with provost and President on a draft to develop a formal process.

6. Announcements

- a. AAUP (Daniel Delgado) – Have set a new chapter and an executive committee has been established. Need a new secretary for the rest of this semester. American Association of University Professors. Mainly focuses on academic freedom. Membership provides to different parts of the organization.
- b. Academic Integrity Statements (Micayla Bean mbean@tamusa.edu) – request emails of academic integrity from – working on academic integrity statement for the University

7. Adjournment - 12:59.