

Faculty Senate Minutes

January 24, 2012

Present - Kevin Kendricks, Durant Frantzen, Megan de Valdez, Stefanie Wittenbach, Richard Green, Pat Holmes, Dennis Elam

1. Minutes of Prior Meeting

Motion by Durant and second by Megan to accept the minutes.

Minutes will be posted to the intranet site on TAMUSA. It is located under Committee Sites.

Richard demonstrated what the site looks like and how to navigate it.

Megan related that we should send announcements out from the site about future meetings.

Pat mentioned that Sean Kearney suggested an agenda item that we had not covered. Secretary should make a call for agenda items a week before the deadline. The deadline is the 15th of the month prior to the scheduled meeting which would be on or about the 8th of the month.

2. Faculty Status for Librarians

Stefanie would have professional track status like faculty. This gives librarians a rank. As it is there is no way to recognize what librarians are doing from a professional standpoint. Librarians are not required to publish in the same way as faculty. Librarians work hourly schedules so there is not regular time for research. There was some discussion about how librarians are treated at different institutions. Stefanie expressed the idea that faculty status best expressed what librarians do.

A professional track means faculty that are professional or teach only like a clinical track. It has a renewable contract but not a research component. Presentations, committee work, and teaching are reflected in this track.

Assistant, Associate, and Librarian would be the designated ladder of titles.

Stefanie will send the Senate a draft of the proposal. Megan suggested this be discussed at an open faculty meeting. Stefanie agreed wanting a full airing of the topic, no surprises. Brent thought there should be a recommendation from the Senate.

3. Set firm dates, times and places for meetings during Spring 2012

February 2 at noon in the Brooks Auditorium

Following will be March 1 at noon Main Campus Rooms 204-207

First Thursdays are the designated meeting date for the spring semester.

April 5 Brooks

May 3 Main Campus

4. Election Committee for Spring Faculty Senate Election

Section 9.0.2 controls the election. Two more from each college will be elected for a total of 12. There will be an executive meeting for organization purposes in May. The election will be in April. Richard will serve on the election committee, Megan and Kevin will also serve with Stefanie.

5. Faculty Handbook Update

Carolyn Green has been writing on this, while creating a Masters Degree in Cyber Security. Richard estimates the first week of February.

6. Post Tenure Review

Durant, Kevin, and Megan have finished the first draft. There was some discussion among them about that process. Durant thought they could put this up as an agenda item.

7. Faculty Senate Constitution

Richard pointed out it has been posted on the Intranet.

8. New Business

Proposed Agenda Items for February 2 Meeting

1. On line course caps increased to 50 students.
2. What is an appropriate course cap for both face to face and on line courses.

Brent pointed out the 50 was more for enrollment purposes to keep registrants from being shut out. The class limit is actually 35. Megan thought it was important that Brent be here to help shape the wording of agenda items like this. Richard suggested this was more of an administrative issue. If an adjunct did not teach the subsequent semester the hiring process had to begin all over again.

Megan thinks this directly affects faculty. There was some discussion about hiring adjuncts and waiting on transcripts. The problem is also that HR demands items sent directly to them. There appear to be multiple hang ups in the administration of hiring adjuncts.

3. Feasibility of a + - system for final Grades GPA.

4. Rules pertaining to faculty advisor sponsor of student organizations and protection of credit scores.
5. Advisabilty of faculty advising
6. + - system for grading.

Stefanie made the motion to adjourn.