

Faculty Senate Meeting

19 February 2010

12:00 n – 2:30 pm

LBV 108

- I. Call to Order by Dr. W. Riggs at 12:12 p.m.

- II. Roll Call : **Present:** Dr. M. Bennett, Dr. L. Brown, Ms. V. Garcia, Dr. P. Hoang, Dr. A. Limon, Mr. J. Maxstadt, Dr. J. Norris, Dr. G. Salinas, Dr. C. Sung, Mr. B. Townsend, Dr. F. Rhodes, Dr. A. Ramirez, Dr. W. Riggs

Dr. Rhodes introduced our three new Faculty Senate Members: Dr. George Clark, Dr. John Kilburn and Dr. Leonel Prieto. All were present.

- III. The minutes for the precious Senate Meeting were approved.

- IV. Committee Reports and Discussion:

Handbook Committee:

Mr. Maxstadt reported that the reorganization and removal of redundancies in the handbook were on target for the April 1st deadline. A question was raised as to whether changes to the handbook appendices should go for a vote to the entire Faculty. There was a uniform consensus from the Faculty Senate that the handbook, including appendices, should be treated as a single entity and not piecemeal.

A question was raised concerning the chairing of the Honor Counsel by an Administrative individual and Dr. Riggs requested that the Ethics Committee look into the rules that would govern such an appointment and report their findings back to the Senate.

Assessment Committee:

Dr. Salinas read the minutes of the Assessment Committee Meeting and stated that the Assessment Committee has 2 immediate goals:

- return the results of the quantitative Administrator Evaluations
- deploy the next Evaluations and return their results in a timely manner

Dr. Riggs restated from our last meeting the 3 main goals of the Senate for the remainder of this semester:

- Work with Administration in the reorganizing of the Faculty Handbook
- Distribute the results of the 2009 Administration Evaluations and deploy the 2010

Evaluations and the results of those evaluations in a timely fashion

- Circulate a questionnaire to all Faculty asking for input on what the Faculty Senate should focus on for the next academic year.

To this list several suggestions were made as to the relevance of the questions in these evaluations and whether future evaluations should be tailored to provide more positive outcomes.

Executive Committee:

Dr. Riggs informed the Senate that the Executive Committee met with the Provost to discuss:

- Handbook issues
- placing Student evaluations of Faculty online
- placing Faculty vitae and syllabi online to bring us in compliance with System policies.

Other Committees:

All other Committee's announced that they have not met and Dr. Riggs asked the Committee on Committees to meet soon and start working on ways to distribute the work load more evenly among Senate Members concerning University Committees that should be attended by Faculty Senate Representatives.

V. Other Items:

Dr. Rhodes announced that future Faculty Senate Elections will be implemented by electronic ballot.

Mr. Townsend requested that items, such as the Mentoring Program, that have already been voted on and approved by the Senate and the Faculty in the previous academic year be included in the revised Faculty Handbook.

Mr. Maxstadt made a motion that an amendment be made to the Faculty Constitution to include a Clinical Track. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

An "All Faculty" Meeting was tentatively set for Wednesday, March 3rd to discuss the Handbook and to pass out the Senate Questionnaire to the Faculty. It was also suggested that the questionnaire be made available to Faculty during College Retreats.

VI. Announcements:

Dr. Riggs announced that he would serve as our representative to the upcoming Texas Council of Faculty Senates Meeting in Austin and will report on his findings on the March 5th Faculty Senate Meeting.

Dr. Bennett was proclaimed Faculty Senate Webmaster; pending access to the Senate's portion of the University server.

It was announced that the Faculty Senate group photo would be taken at the next Senate Meeting on March 5th.

VII. The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.