

Faculty Senate Meeting
September 6, 2013
14:10 hrs - 17:03 hrs

WHTC Room125

I. Call to Order by President Ramirez at 14:10 hrs.

II. Roll Call, **Present:** Mr. B. Townsend, Dr. A. Ramirez, Dr. F. Rhodes, Dr. M. Bennett, Dr. G. Clarke, Ms. V. Garcia, Dr. H. Mandal, Mr. J. Maxstadt, Dr. M. Munoz, Dr. Q. Ni, Dr. J. Norris, Dr. G. Potter, Dr. L. Prieto, and Dr. M. Vargas

III. Our guests were given the floor:

Dr. Keck:

- A University-wide initiative aimed at increasing enrollment and distance education offerings is to be promoted. Such initiative needs to engage faculty. Activities may include, among others: taskforce(s), discussion fora/blogs, and experts' presentations.

Mr. Juan G. Garcia, Jr:

- Mr. Garcia asked from Faculty Senate members to inform him about some issues that may require attention by the Registrar's office. Issues discussed included: deadline for submitting grades, cases of improper classroom assignment, confusion regarding language requirements, and class size for WIN courses.

Dr. Ken Tobin:

- Thursday and Friday single session courses miss time in Fall break. It was informed that the schedule will be changed, next year, to Monday and Tuesday.

Dr. Stephen Duffy:

- The Quality Enhancement Plan requires, for SACCS' accreditation, to select subject(s) which will give attention to both learning outcomes and the support environment. It was suggested that a meeting be organized among University entities dealing with assessment to generate and organize ideas and actions.

IV. Reports of Officers:

- Dr. Ramirez indicated that he will keep sending summaries of executive council meetings. A list of Senate committees was provided so that senators were able to

indicate their preferences regarding committee membership. Senate committee membership will be completed once pending Senate elections take place.

V. Unfinished Business:

- Mr. Maxstadt proposed a minor change in wording to *"in one or more areas"* in the Post-Tenure Review section of the Faculty Handbook. The change was considered editorial. This was voted on and approved unanimously.

- A change to article 1 section b of the Faculty Constitution adding *"full-time fixed term (12.07) faculty, and faculty with full-time appointments at the rank of instructor"* was recommended by Mr. Maxstadt. Such change was voted on and approved unanimously.

- Several issues were discussed concerning Scholar of the Year and Teacher of the Year including timelines and the nature of the awards. It was agreed that the Faculty Morale Committee will look at several suggestions and suggest possible reforms.

V. New Business

- Several reviewers for the College of Education Master's Degree Program In Educational Administration were proposed. After some discussion, the Senate voted on the proposed set of reviewers and approved them unanimously.

- The Professor Emeritus TAMU Faculty Handbook Policy was discussed concerning the degree to which faculty may participate in the process. It was suggested that in order to add specificity to such policy, it may mimic the tenure process. The Academic Affairs committee was charged with writing an updated policy.

- A proposed presentation to all faculty by Mr. Selengo, sometime at the start of the Spring semester 2014, was discussed. It was agreed to further discuss this issue in the October meeting of the Faculty Senate.

- Dr. Rhodes indicated that a call for nominations and elections will take place in the next few days to update membership of the Faculty Senate as well as of several University committees. Dr. Rhodes will also document what is to be done to have an election.

Session adjourned at about 17:03 hrs.