

Faculty Senate Meeting

May 2, 2014

12:33 hrs - 14:50 hrs

WHTC Room125

I. Call to Order by President Dr. A. Ramirez at 12:33 hrs.**II. Roll Call, Present:** Dr. M. Bennett, Dr. G. Clarke, Dr. L. Manganaro, J. Maxstadt, Dr. A. Moran, Dr. Q. Ni, Dr. J. Norris, K. Palmer, Dr. L. Prieto, Dr. Ramirez, Dr. Rhodes and Dr. M. Vargas.**III. Approval of Minutes**

- A vote was taken to approve the Minutes of the October's Senate meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously with a minor correction.

IV. Welcome to new members

Kimber Palmer was welcomed as a new faculty Senate member

V. Our guests were given the floor:

Dr. Arenaz:

Guaranteed fixed-rate tuition is to be offered to students as an option starting fall 2014. All fees will be collapsed into one overall fee. The Academy of International STEM Studies will start fall 2014 with about 100 students from high school. About \$500 000 will be used to hire new faculty next academic year. An increase in competency-based degrees is likely. Community Colleges may be able to offer Bachelor degrees.

Gina Gonzalez and Rosie Dickinson

It was proposed to end the University Committee in Admission Standards given that most cases fall into the category of provisional admissions. Considering the need to have faculty input in the process, it was agreed to further discuss this issue during fall 2014.

VI. Reports from committees

The distance education committee indicated that the transition to Blackboard may be delayed. Hybrid courses will comprise 85% online and 15% face to face. Quality matters training will be required for hybrid courses.

The technology advisory committee requested Senate members to send ideas for discussion aiming to develop an agenda.

VII. Unfinished business

It is necessary to involve faculty in the discussion about the proposed change in the grading system. Faculty Senate members will gather information in this regard from their department/division's colleagues.

VIII. Faculty Senate officer elections 2014-2015 academic year.

The officers elected were the following:

President: Dr. A. Ramirez

Vice President: J. Maxstadt,

Secretary: K. Palmer

Parliamentarian & Elections Officer: Dr. F. Rhodes

IX. New Business

TAMIU's Scholar of the Year and TAMIU's Teacher of the Year were elected.