

**TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY**  
**Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**April 10, 2015, WHTC 125**

**I. Call to Order: 12:02 p.m.**

**II. Roll Call, Present: Marvin Bennett, Ken Tobin, Qingwen Ni, Leonel Prieto, John Maxstadt, Alfredo Ramirez, Jr., Gilberto Salinas, Lynne Manganaro, Vivian Garcia, Lourdes Vilorio, Brendan Townsend, Katie Lewis, Hari Mendal, Marcela Morán, George Clarke,**

**III. Approval of Minutes: Postponed to the next meeting**

**IV. Our guests were given the floor:**

**Dr. Arenaz:**

Dr. Arenaz reminded us that announcements regarding Teacher of the Year “TOY” and Scholar of the Year “SOY” would be made next fall at the faculty assembly prior to the beginning of Fall Semester.

We will have three commencement ceremonies, as previously scheduled. Sen. Ted Cruz will not be our commencement speaker, in fact there will not be a commencement speaker other than the honored students. We will have approximately 600 graduating seniors.

Enrollment for the Fall shows a small uptick in upper class enrollees.

The House passed the Tuition Revenue Bond we are interested in, and the Senate version is pending. It looks good for having our new building in 2016.

Many important activities are coming up over the next month or so: Dr. Negroponte is coming to speak, the Mariachi Festival, etc.

Dr. Keck dropped in for a few minutes to our meeting.

**Mayra Hernandez, Director of Student Conduct and Community Engagement**

Ms. Hernandez visited our meeting to report concerning the continued efforts of her office regarding the Honor Code, and getting the word out regarding the TAMIU Honor Pledge. They want to focus on the positive aspects of observing the Honor Code, rather than focusing on consequences for violating it; or emphasis is on training students rather than reporting students. Her office will be making some proposals regarding adjusting the Student Handbook and perhaps the Faculty Handbook to increase the involvement of faculty towards this new focus.

**V. Faculty Senate President Report on Executive Council Meeting, Dr. Ramirez**

No news to report other than Dr. Ramirez’s written report previously sent to us via e-mail.

**VI. Faculty Senate Vice-President Report on Provost Council Meetings, John Maxstadt**

No Report.

## **VII. Reports from Committee Chairs**

A. The Academic Oversight Committee, Dr. Gilberto Salinas

No report

B. The Budget and Finance Committee, Dr. George Clarke

No report

C. The University Ethics Committee, Dr. Lynne Manganaro

No report.

D. The Committee on Creation, Composition, and Responsibilities of Committees, Dr. Francis Rhodes.

No report

E. The Committee on Faculty Work Environment and Morale, Dr. Qingwen Ni

No report.

F. The Faculty Handbook Revision Committee, Mr. John Maxstadt.

Elections are coming up, and there will be a vote to the faculty at large on the measures the Faculty Senate has approved in past meetings this semester.

Dr. Townsend requested the Faculty Handbook be made into a webpage, with hyperlinks to pertinent materials and information referred to in the report. Dr. Bennett volunteered to do this, and requests everyone who hasn't already done so, send him a picture for our FS website.

G. The Distance Education and Instructional Technology Committee, Dr. Jim Norris

No report

H. The Technology Advisory Committee, Dr. Brendan Townsend

The issue for support for equipment purchased through grant funds was raised at this committee's last meeting. It has apparently been a problem, as OIT does not have resources to support these grant-purchased computers. It is, then, requested of all persons applying for grants to include a request for support and repair for any computer equipment included in the grant.

I. The Assessment Committee, Dr. Kimber Palmer

The administrator evaluations will be taking place in the near future. They have been set up with the assistance of Eric in OIT. All are encouraged to participate.

## **VIII. Unfinished Business**

All unfinished business has been covered in minute items, above.

**IX. New Business**

All new business items have been covered in minute items above.