

Faculty Senate Meeting

2 September 2010

12:00 n - 2:30 pm

WHTC 250

- I. Call to Order by Dr. W. Riggs at 12:04 p.m.
- II. Roll Call : **Present:** Dr. M. Bennett, Dr. L. Brown, Dr. G. Clarke, Ms. V. Garcia, Dr. P. Hoang, Dr. J. Kilburn, Dr. A. Limon, Mr. J. Maxstadt, Dr. J. Norris, Dr. L. Prieto, Dr. C. Sung, Mr. B., Townsend, Dr. M. Vargas, Dr. F. Rhodes, Dr. A. Ramirez, Dr. W. Riggs
- III. Our guests Dr. Keck and Dr. Arenaz were given the floor.

Dr. Keck:

- Tx has a 12 - 18 billion dollar budget deficit, looking at low performance programs and our PhD in Business was questions, but just made the necessary numbers.
- TAMIU will probably not be hit by budget cuts, but all schools are expecting the possibly due to the deficit.
- TAMIU will be asking for \$50 million as a TRB to revamp our Library and build a new Classroom Building, but the monies may be given to universities who haven't received these form of funds lately.
- The following Thursday @ 2:00 pm the new Student Success Building will have a ribbon cutting ceremony with our Lt. Governor as a guest.

Dr. Arenaz:

- The Office of the Provost will work closely with the Senate to create a new Ombudsman position and to get a formal statement of shared governance that we can all work with.
- Work is going forth to come into compliance with House Bill 2504 to get CV's, syllabi and other information on the web.
- Almost all of our Sister Universities have raised their undergrad student caps to 15 and Grad student caps to 7.
- TAMIU should better utilize it's class space by scheduling classes from 7:30 am until 7:30 pm and should come up more with ways of dealing with our rapidly increasing enrollment and shrinking class space.

Both Drs. Keck and Arenaz urged the Senate to endorse the tuition raise for our student athletics, so that Athletics could become self-supporting.

IV. Agenda Items and Discussion:

- Handbook Committee

Mr. Maxstadt requested that the new Handbook revision be ratified ASAP so that it could go out to the Faculty for a vote. It was suggested that the revised Handbook be put on line and the errata sheet be sent to the Faculty for a vote. Once approved by the Faculty, priorities are as follows:

- add in all of the items that have already been approved;
- remove redundant items and/or those that go against System Policy;
- See if the P&T process as spelled out in the Handbook is actually being followed.

- Assessment Committee

Mr. Townsend reported that our classes must be assessed, but that we the Faculty have the right to select the type and timing of the assessment event. The Assessment Committee was charged with looking into our current student evaluations for possible improvement and to continue working with the Administration to formulate a better Administrator evaluation.

- Elections Officer

Dr. Rhodes reported that the call for elections will begin soon to fill vacant positions on the Senate and University Committees. Votes will follow after nominations are made and nominees approved. We are still using paper ballots, but are still hopeful that electronic voting will soon appear.

Discussion was made on how to proceed with developing the new Ombudsman Position and it was agreed to have the University Ethics Committee in charge and have them put together a list of qualifications for the Senate to review.

V. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and was approved at 2:09 p.m.