

TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
Faculty Senate Meeting
September 2, 2016
WHTC 215

- I. Call to Order** by Dr. James Norris at 1:35 p.m.
- II. Roll Call: Present:** Dr. James Norris, Dr. Kenneth Tobin, Dr. Marvin Bennett, Dr. Frances Rhodes, Dr. George Clarke, Ms. Malynda Dalton, Dr. Stuart Davis, Ms. Linda Flores (sitting in for Ms. Vivian Garcia), Dr. Katie Lewis, Dr. David Milovich, Ms. Marcela Moran, Dr. Lola Norris, Ms. Kimber Palmer, Dr. Leonel Prieto, Dr. Lourdes Vilorio
- III. Our guests were given the floor:**

Dr. Karyn Miller, Associate Vice President for Assessment, Evaluation, and Planning:

Dr. Miller reported on the results of the 2 class assessment tools that were piloted in the Spring 2016 semester (University of Washington Online Tool) and the Summer Session II 2016 (CourseEval Online Tool). Both tools yielded similar response rates from students as had earlier paper evaluations, with the CourseEval tool giving slightly higher median score results. Further advantages of the CourseEval tool are: integration with BlackBoard, greater ability to adjust questions, and lower overall cost than the U. of Wash. Online Tool. Both online tools are much cheaper than the paper evaluations we have been using in the past. It was decided to continue using the U. of Wash. Online Tool for the Fall 2016 and work with CourseEval to switch over to that tool in the Spring 2017. It was also pointed out during the presentation that the questions to be used in the CourseEval tool should be vetted through the Faculty Senate.

Dr. Pablo Arenaz, Interim President:

Dr. Arenaz reported that TAMIU was asked to present both a normal biennium budget and a second budget with a 4% overall reduction.

Student enrollment is up 3 - 3.5% and credit hour count up 4 - 4.5% this semester. It was requested that the faculty remind the students of the 20 day payment time limit and that late payment fees include a \$100 per credit hour late fee.

It was announced that our new building is scheduled for groundbreaking on December 15, 2016.

Dr. Thomas Mitchell, Interim Provost:

Dr. Mitchell asked that faculty be reminded that HR training must be completed in a timely manner, otherwise they will get their internet access turned off after 30 days of noncompliance.

Dr. Mitchell also reported that there was a complaint that we (TAMIU) did not schedule enough late classes. It was suggested that the 5:30 p.m. class time slot be moved to 6:00 p.m. and that later class slots be readjusted appropriately.

III. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the May 2016 meeting were approved unanimously, after minor corrections.

IV. Old Business

1. It was reported that the College of Education faculty evaluation process was resolved by a college-wide vote which approved the new instrument in question.

2. It was also reported by Dr. Norris that he had used the pilot assessment tool for his summer course and that it was successful with the students.

V. New Business

1. A Faculty Senate group photo was taken for our web homepage. Missing from the photo were Senate Members Ms. Vivian Garcia, Ms. Destine Holmgreen and Dr. Ruby Ynalvez.

2. Tentative Faculty Senate Committee Assignments were presented:

The Academic Oversight Committee

- Dr. Ken Tobin - Chair (as required by the Handbook)
- Dr. Ruby Ynalvez
- Ms. Destine Holmgreen

The Budget and Finance Committee

- Dr. George Clarke
- Dr. David Milovich
- Dr. Lourdes Vilorio

The University Ethics Committee

- Ms. Vivian Garcia
- Ms. Marcela Moran

- Dr. Stuart H. Davis

The Committee on Creation, Composition, and Responsibilities of Committees

- Dr. Frances Rhodes
- Dr. Lola Norris
- Dr. Stuart H. Davis

The Committee on Faculty Work Environment and Morale

- Dr. Katie Lewis
- Dr. Ken Tobin
- Dr. David Milovich

The Faculty Handbook Revision Committee

- Dr. Marvin Bennett
- Ms. Malynda Dalton
- Dr. Leonel Prieto

The Distance Education and Instructional Technology Committee

- Dr. Lola Norris
- Dr. Jim Norris

The Technology Advisory Committee

- Dr. Lourdes Vilorio
- Ms. Marcela Moran

The Assessment Committee

- Ms. Kimber Palmer
- Dr. Ruby Ynalvez
- Dr. Leonel Prieto

3. Some preliminary Faculty Senate Committee charges were presented and all Committees were requested to meet in September to elect chairs and consider the following charges:

- Academic Oversight - New Student Evaluations, Monitor Signature Courses
- University Ethics - Contact Dr. Blackwell concerning University Honors and Student Handbook for any pending items
- Faculty Work Environment - Distribute timelines and organize TOY/SOY
- Assessment - Run Faculty Questionnaire on most pressing faculty issue(s)
- Handbook Revision - address several known issues within the Handbook

4. A problem was reported with the wording on the Promotion and Tenure Deadlines table on page 39 of the Handbook.

the August 1 deadline should read: Faculty eligible for Full Professor submit a letter of intent to the Provost. All other letters of intent should be submitted to their respective Deans.

5. A new Core Curriculum Committee was proposed to be added as an official standing Faculty Senate Committee.

6. Dr. Frances Rhodes requested volunteer(s) from the Senate to become members of the University Parking Committee. Dr. Lola Norris and Ms. Malynda Dalton both volunteered to serve on the committee.

7. The question of whether a Faculty member should be required to attend both Summer Graduation and Fall Freshman Convocation was tabled in light of the current search for a new University President and the new President's inclination to continue Freshman Convocation.

VI. The meeting was adjourned at 3:53 p.m.