

TAMIU Special Faculty Senate Meeting

March 27, 2020; WebEx

- I. The meeting was called to order by the Faculty Senate President, Dr. Lola Norris, at 3:35 p.m.
- II. *Roll Call:* Dr. Lola Norris, Dr. Lourdes Vilorio, Dr. Marvin Bennett, Ms. Malynda Dalton, Ms. Vivian Garcia, Dr. Puneet Gill, Dr. Ariadne Gonzalez, Mr. Jose Gutierrez, Dr. Runchang Lin, Dr. Dianna Linn, Dr. Abby Lloyd, Dr. Gilberto Martinez, Dr. Neal McReynolds, Ms. Angela Moran, Dr. James Norris, Ms. Kimber Palmer, Mr. Keaton Powers, Dr. Leonel Prieto, Dr. Kenneth Tobin

- III. *Our Guests* were given the floor.

Dr. Pablo Arenaz and Dr. Tom Mitchell meet with the Senate for a brief emergency meeting to discuss issues concerning teaching and grading in the wake of the covid-19 pandemic.

Some items that TAMIU are going to implement institutionally:

- If students drop one or more courses they will not count toward the 6 total career drops currently allowed.
- Going to wave the 3 repeat rule. Since TAMIU does not receive formula funding if a student repeats a course for the third time a \$100 fee is charged to the student. This fee will now be waved.
- We are going to implement a multiple grading system. We are going to give the students the option of taking a course for a letter grade or for Pass-Fail. The default will be a regular letter grade. The problem is that a number of programs do not consider a D letter grade as passing. The proposal is that if a student chooses Pass-Fail and receives a D, then they will fail the course. The Pass-Fail option will have no impact on a student's GPA. The suggestion is that students could choose which grading system for a course up until the drop date (April 16th). This will only extend until this Spring semester. This will also only be for undergraduate classes.

We also need to make a decision on whether or not to do student evaluations.

- It was suggested that student comments would be helpful, but not the numeric evaluations themselves.

A motion was made and seconded that the Senate continue the discussion on grading and student evaluations via email.

- IV. The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.