



**2015-2016 Faculty Senate Meeting VIII Minutes
Friday, April 29, 2016, 2:00-4:30 PM
RAHC 1.100, Harlingen Campus**

Minutes prepared by Wendy Lawrence-Fowler, UTRGV Faculty Senate, Secretary

SENATORS PRESENT: Andrew Anabila, James Boudreau, DongYop Oh, Wendy Lawrence-Fowler, Mahmoud Quweider, Sanjeev Kumar, Micky (Dumitru) Caruntu, Rosalinda Hernandez, Bobbette Morgan, Jacob Neumann, Robert Gilbert, Britt Claude Haraway, Frederick Darsow, Justin Writer, Daniel Hunter Holly, Angela Scoggin, Wilma Mealer, Fidencio Mercado, Catherine Faver, Jeffrey McQuillen, Dora , Thomas White, Rosalva Resendiz, Michael Weaver, Brent Campney, Ernesto Ramirez, David Anshen, William Sokoloff, James Wenzel, Aziza Zemrani, Sheila Dooley, John Newman, Christopher Vitek, Eleftherios Gkioulekas, Ranadhir Roy, Jasang Yoon , Volker Quetschke, Nicolas Pereyra, Kathy (Kathleen) Carter, Arden Dingle, Michelle Alvarado, Kelly Leu

SENATORS ABSENT: Sam Sale, Irina Armianu, Immanuel Edinbarough, Jameela Banu, Alexander Kazansky, Murat Karabulut, Cory Wimberly, Matthew Terry, Brian Warren, Bailey Wang, Wendy Innis, Sibin Wu, Mohammadali Zolfagharian, Mohammad Azarbajani, Lionel "Javier" Cavazos, Irasema Gonzalez, Jeannean Ryman, Joe Lacher, Sandra Hansmann, Stephen Merino, Maria "Miriam" Herrera, Yuanbing Mao, James Bullard, James Hinthorne,

SENATORS ABSENT (EXCUSED): Donald Lyles, Lilia Fuentes, Margaret Graham, Sandra Musanti, Yasar Tasnif, Gary Leka, John VandeBerg

FACULTY SENATE OFFICE ASSISTANT III: Vanessa Ceballos

VISTOR(S): Kristin Croyle, Cynthia Brown, Sergio Barrera, Valerie Cerda, Monica Alvarez, Teresa Feria

- I. Pre-Meeting Activities:
 - Senators sign in for attendance and for travel reimbursements
- II. Convene Meeting: President Saavedra convened the meeting at 2:22pm. President Saavedra welcomed the Senators to the final meeting of the 2015-2016 and indicated that we have a very full agenda.
- III. Pressing Business (Action Items) :
 - a. Vaquero/Vaquera Resolution: Senators Ramirez, Boudreau, and Leu
Senator Boudreau provided an over view of the faculty resolution recommending changes on how the name of the mascot is used to support gender equity. The resolution reads:

We, the UTRGV Faculty Senate, recommend that:

The term Vaquera be the official recognized and institutionally used name for the female student body, and such as that the term Vaquera be officially adopted and recognize by both the institution and athletics as the term of representation for student female athletes.

1. Newly designed mascots, logos, and school spirit merchandise should be available for females. (e.g., "Vaqueras" t-shirts will be available for purchase at the bookstore.)
2. Emails sent out to the student body contain the use of the "Vaquer@s" to be more inclusive.
3. There will be no official use of the term "vaqs" since it may be interpreted as a "gendered slur".

Senator Wenzel moved that the Senate discuss the resolution. Senator Gkioulekas seconded the motion.

Discussion ensued concerning the economic impact of this potential change, and why the use of vaquer@s rather than vaqueros and vaquera, as well as how the men feel about the use of the terms.

Senator Quetschke made a friendly amendment to modify number 3 to read: Emails sent out to the student body shall either use the term "Vaquer@s" or spell out both vaqueras and vaqueros explicitly to be more inclusive.

Senator Quetschke called for the question. Senator Morgan seconded. The friendly amendment carried with two abstentions.

Senator Caruntu called for the vote. Senator Morgan seconded the motion to approve the resolution with the amendment. The motion carried.

b. White Paper Executive Summary or Resolution

1. Senator Morgan summarized the meeting of the Faculty Executive Committee with Executive Vice Chancellor Leslie, Kevin Lemoine, and Rebecca Karoff and Tony Cucolo in Brownsville. Dr. Leslie laid the groundwork stating that faculty are valued. He then opened the floor to questions and concerns. Senator Morgan reported that the Executive Committee shared concerns based on the white paper. The meeting was cut short by changes in transportation plans due to severe weather.

President Saavedra indicated that it is time that the faculty is considered as a partner in solving the problems. The Faculty Executive Committee will have a conference call with the individuals to complete the conversation.

2. White paper summaries were handed out.
 1. Senator Anshen moved that we go into executive session. Senator Gkioulekas seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. The motion carried.

The Senate moved into closed session for 15 minutes.

- a. The Senate reviewed both the resolution and a white paper draft. Senator Quetschke presented a draft resolution. Senator Wenzel presented the most recent draft of the white paper. Discussion of the white paper ensued.
- b. Tom White moved and Senator Vitek seconded the motion that we allow email and technologically enhanced meetings over the summer to facilitate participation. The motion carried.
- c. Senator Quetschke suggested that the Senate should attempt to get the documents completed within the next month.
- d. Senator Zemrani moved that we go forward with the resolution that focuses on processes and systems that need remediation so that the university can run effectively and efficiently. Senator Quetschke seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The executive session terminated.

2. Senator Kumar moved that we impose a May 31, 2016 deadline for completion of a white paper. Senator Zemrani seconded the motion. The motion failed.

c. Election of 2016-2017 Faculty Senate Executive Committee

1. Senator Morgan took over as incoming president to oversee the elections for 2016-2017. She introduced the slate:

President Elect: Senator Saavedra
Secretary: Senator Alvarado
Parliamentarian: Senator Quetschke

2. Senator Wenzel moved that the slate be elected by acclamation. Senator Zemrani seconded. The motion carried.

IV. Progress Report: Staggering of Terms and Election/Re-election Results (Updates to Vanessa)

(25 seats need to be 1 year; 25 seats 2 year; 25 seats 3 year terms)

1. President Saavedra asked that those who are going off make sure that elections for new senators be completed by May 15, 2016.

V. Old Business: (HOP Review Presentations from Senate Committees and Possible Action/Vote)

- a. ADM 6-111 Faculty Grievance (Tom White et al.)
 - i. Senator White showed the changes suggested in the special meeting held April 15, 2016.
 - ii. Senator Weaver moved that we vote on this policy electronically, Senator Vitek seconded the motion. The motion carried.
 - b. ADM 6-302 Appointment of Deans (for c, d, and e)
 - i. The sub-committee reported that the clean copy is identical to the tracked copy
 - ii. The committee moves that we accept ADM 6-302 as written. Senator Caruntu seconded the motion. The motion carried.
 - c. ADM 6-201 Academic Program Standards and Approval
 - i. The clean copy is identical to the tracked copy
 - ii. Senator Haraway moved that we accept ADM 6-201. Senators Wenzel and Weaver seconded the motion. The motion carried.
 - d. ADM 06-102 Faculty Files
 - i. It was reported that substantial recommendations were made and can be found in the minutes of the April 15, 2016 meeting.
 - ii. Senator Caruntu moved that ADM 6-102 be amended such that when something is added to faculty files, a copy should be provided to the faculty. Senator Wenzel seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- VI. Senator White moved that we add approval of the minutes to the agenda. Senator Wenzel seconded. The motion carried.
- VII. Senator Weaver moved that we approve the minutes from March 4; March 25; April 1; and April 15. Senator Morgan seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- VIII. New Faculty Senate Information Items
 - a. President Saavedra turned over the floor to Senator Morgan. President Elect Morgan discussed summer meetings and the use of electronic mechanisms. She noted that the White Paper is a priority and that it needs to get to the administration so that the administration can move on items by the fall. This will also allow us to set the agenda for next year.
- Dr. Brown thanked the senate on behalf of Dr. Rodríguez, commending us for the work we completed this year.
- IX. President Morgan adjourned the meeting at 4:33 pm.