

UTRGV ACADEMIC AFFAIRS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

APRIL 24, 2017

1:30PM – 4:30 PM

EDINBURG CAMPUS, COE DEAN'S
CONFERENCE ROOM

MEMBERS PRESENT	Havidán Rodríguez, Nina Young, Marcy de León, Lisa Smith, Bobbette Morgan, Michael Lehker, Steven Block, Walter Diaz, Dave Jackson, Jeff Graham, Juan Sanchez, Ala Qubbaj, Marie Mora, Paul Sharpe, Cynthia Brown, Parwinder Grewal, Patricia McHatton, Mark Andersen, Alberto Davila (in place of Mark Kroll), Alexander Domijan, Kristin Croyle, Steven Lieberman
MEMBERS EXCUSED	Mark Kroll
OTHERS PRESENT	
REVIEW OF MINUTES	March 23, 2017 – minutes approved

AGENDA TOPICS

PROVOST'S UPDATES

HAVIDÁN RODRÍGUEZ

DISCUSSION	<p>Provost Rodríguez recently met with Provost Karan Watson from Texas A&M University – College Station and Provost Heidi Anderson Texas A&M University – Kingsville, and their respective teams, as well as the UTRGV team. Both universities are interested in providing academic programs in the RGV, especially in Sciences and Engineering. The THECB will make the final determination regarding what new academic programs are offered in the RGV, but we are working on establishing productive partnerships with the A&M institutions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary Separation Incentive Program (VSIP): Topic was discussed at the AALP on April 21st. • SACSCOC: SACSCOC Board approved UTRGV's requested waiver of institutional credit for December 2015 through December 2016. Other important updates regarding the SACSCOC UTRGV probation include; Updated link for the UTRGV history page: http://www.utrgv.edu/en-us/about-utrgv/history/index.htm; a detailed timeline for the creation of UTRGV will be posted soon; financial audits are cleared; websites are being revised to reflect changes regarding concerns highlighted by SACSCOC; and we are currently preparing for the SACSCOC team visit in October. • Equity/Salary Adjustments: The salary inversion/compression study is being finalized over the summer. Adjustments will be made effective Fall 2017. • College/Department Policies & Guidelines: While progress is being made, it is critical for all new policies to be in place and approved by the Provost no later than September 1, 2017. • Promotion & Tenure: While the process for this academic year is complete, deans are strongly encouraged to discuss with department chairs and school directors important issues/challenges encountered during the P&T process, especially as they relate to peer observations of teaching, external reviews, and substantive reviews of each P&T case/dossier. • Peer Observations of Teaching: Peer observations are required. Please see guidelines at this link http://www.utrgv.edu/files/documents/provost/faculty-resources/utrgv-guidelines-for-faculty-peer-observation%20of%20teaching.pdf. • Selection of External Reviewers: External evaluations are required for tenure and/or promotion. Please see guidelines at this link http://www.utrgv.edu/files/documents/provost/faculty-resources/utrgv-guidelines-for-external-reviewers.pdf. • Faculty rank of Chairs/Directors & Associate Deans: Topic was discussed at the AALP on April 21st. • AY 17-18 Faculty Hires: The recruitment cycle for faculty starting 9/1/17 is concluding; all faculty hires need to be completed ASAP.
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NEW HOP POLICIES (ATT.)

ALA QUBBAJ

DISCUSSION	The Blue Ribbon Committee is making significant progress in the review of HOP policies. HOP ADM 06-043, Endowed Appointments and Reappointments, and HOP ADM 07-500, Research Centers and Institutes, were discussed and tabled for the next AAEC meeting.
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GUIDELINES FOR APPOINTMENTS & REAPPOINTMENTS TO ENDOWED POSITIONS (ATT.)

ALA QUBBAJ

DISCUSSION	Suggested changes were discussed regarding the Guidelines for Appointments and Reappointments to Endowed Positions. Please contact Dr. Ala Qubbaj with any specific changes or recommendations.
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PATHWAYS FOR REVIEW DEADLINES 2017-2018

ALA QUBBAJ

DISCUSSION	Please use this document as a tool to remind faculty about important review deadlines. http://www.utrgv.edu/files/documents/provost/faculty-resources/utrgv-pathways-deadlines-2017-2018.pdf
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EAB GRADUATE SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP

DAVE JACKSON

DISCUSSION	The Graduate College has been changing their marketing services and will also utilize some of the services that EAB offers. Webinars and seminars are being planned, focusing on increasing graduate enrollment for the Fall 2018.
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UPDATES

DISCUSSION	<p>Information Technology: Your UTRGV password will expire every 365 days; users will be proactively guided to reset their password before it expires. Additionally, users will need to verify their alternate email address associated with the account and update their security questions on an annual basis.</p> <p>Student Success:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Engaged Scholar Symposium was a success with 250 presentations and about 700 participants. 2. The Engagement Zone (http://ez.utrgv.edu/) currently has 190 agencies and almost 10K users signed up in the portal. 3. Core Curriculum Assessments must be completed. 4. The annual SGA inauguration ceremony welcomed and congratulated its new elected members. 5. The annual Student Recognition Ceremony recognized graduating student leaders. 6. A "Blueprint" template for each college/department is being created to use as an advising tool. <p>Faculty Affairs & Diversity:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We had an 80% response rate for student course evaluations during the Spring. 2. Academic Affairs continues with its subscriptions to Inside Higher Ed and The Chronicle to post faculty positions; these subscriptions will be renewed for FY 18 at no cost to the colleges/departments/schools. 3. Deans were encouraged to attend these important events: May 4th in Brownsville, Faculty Excellence Awards and Recognition Event; and May 9th in Edinburg, Reception Honoring UTRGV Faculty Retirees. <p>Faculty Senate: Four policies were approved at the last Faculty Senate meeting and will come forward to the AAEC soon. May 5th is the last Faculty Senate meeting and the change of officers will take place then. Dr. Dora Saavedra is the incoming president of the Faculty Senate. Tony Cucolo, Associate Vice Chancellor for Leadership Development and Veterans Affairs, will conduct a site visit (May 30-31) with other colleagues regarding shared governance. There will be over two days of meetings with faculty, staff, students, and administrators. This is part of the Chancellor's initiative to promote shared governance. Meetings will take place at all UT institutions.</p> <p>Women's Faculty Network: The last WFN meeting was Thursday, April 27th. UT System is creating a Chancellors Network for Women's Leadership with Tony Cucolo as the liaison. UTRGV is the first to launch this network. UT Arlington was inspired by UTRGV's WFN to develop their own version. The WFN Women of Color Committee completed a report on the challenges and potential solutions encountered by women of color and other women faculty at UTRGV, which the WFN Executive Team will discuss with the Provost at their May 16th meeting.</p>
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ADJOURNMENT	Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm
NEXT MEETING	May 18, 2017 at 11:30 am in Edinburg, TX