



**2015-2016 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
December 4, 2015, 1:30- 4:00 PM
RAHC 1.100, Harlingen, Texas**

Minutes: Prepared by Bobbette M. Morgan, UTRGV Faculty Senate, President-Elect

SENATORS PRESENT: James Boudreau, Dongyop Oh, Mahmoud Quweider, Lionel "Javier" Cavazos, Rosalinda Hernandez, Bobbette Morgan, Jacob Neumann, Robert Gilbert, Donald J. Lyles, Britt Claude Haraway, Frederick Darsow, Justin Writer, Daniel Hunter-Holly, Yasar Tasnif, Jameela Banu, Murat Karabulut, Joe Lacher, Angela Scoggin, Wilma Mealer, Fidencio Mercado, Catherine Faver, Jeffrey McQuillen, Dora Saavedra, Rosalva Resendiz, Michael Weaver, Brent Campney, Ernesto Ramirez, David Anshen, Irina Armianu, Cory Wimberly, William Sokoloff, James Wenzel, Aziza Zemrani, Margaret Graham, Sheila Dooley, John Newman, Matthew Terry, James Bullard, Eleftherios Gkioulekas, Jasang Yoon, Volker Quetschke, Nicolas Pereyra, Kathy (Kathleen) Carter, Arden Dingle, Wendy Innis, John VandeBerg, Michelle Alvarado, and Kelly Leu

SENATORS ABSENT: Andrew Anabila, Sam Sale, Sibin Wu, Fuat Firat, Mohammadali Zolfagharian, Mohammad Azarbajani, Wendy Lawrence-Fowler, Sanjeev Kumar, Immanuel Edinbarough, Sandra Musanti, Irasema Gonzalez, Brian Warren, Bailey Wang, Alexander Kazansky, Jeannean Ryman, Lilia Fuentes, Sandra Hansmann, Stephen Merino, Maria "Miriam" Herrera, Christopher Vitek, Yuanbing Mao, Ranadhir Roy,

SENATORS ABESENT (EXCUSED): Micky (Dumitru) Caruntu, James Hinthorne, and Thomas White

FACULTY SENATE OFFICE ASSISTANT III: Vanessa Ceballos

VISITOR(S): Mark Kaswan

I. Convene Meeting

II. Action Items

- A. Approval of Minutes: President Dora Saavedra called meeting together at 1:52 pm.
 - a. Michael Weaver made the motion and Nicolas Pereyra seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the October 23 meeting. Minutes were approved as presented.
- B. Old Business:
 - a. Technology enabled meetings: Volker made a motion to table this item. The motion seconded. The motion to table passed.
- C. Academic Committees and Councils

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The document ADM 2-201 was presented for review. The administration is recommending some committees be eliminated. New committees are being recommended to take the place of others. Extensive discussion centered on why these changes are being recommended. More discussion will be facilitated during college caucuses. The Senate would like for the administration to share how these recommendations were arrived at.

Senator Issues 1: Faculty are concerned about the short timeline from the time classes are finish and when grades are due. One faculty member pointed out that s/he teaches a graduate course online with 120 students and finishes finals on Wednesday. They cannot post grades by Friday at 3:00 pm. Some faculty expected to have until Monday following graduation to complete posting grades. The short turnaround was a surprise.

Senator Issues 2: Faculty haven't been consulted about changes. A discussion moved ahead about a vote of no confidence. There was a comment that the Working Groups work has not been paid attention to by the administration. It created some very valuable ideas that have been ignored. This document was voted on by both Senates last year and presented to President Guy Bailey in the spring of 2015.

Senator Issues 3: The paycheck errors in Brownsville affected everyone on the campus. Withholding was calculated differently than in the past. It was corrected in a timely manner.

- 1) The Senate returned to the ADM 2-201 discussion.
- 2) Process for Nominations via College Caucuses
- 3) Library Committee Question
- 4) Honors Council question (no faculty---need council?)
- 5) Caucus need to recommend what to keep, add, eliminate on ADM 2-201.
- 6) Question from Dr. Jonikka Charlton (The committee was approved on a temporary basis)

III. Dr. Bailey's Request for feedback on Campus Processes (need to review)

- A. What are Faculty Concerns?
 - a. Campus Carry (Mark Kaswan, Brownsville Campus visitor volunteered.)
 - b. Advising (Holds were released)
 - c. Huron Report-is not available yet. Date keeps moving back. Dora Saavedra will check with UTS FAC in Austin next week to see if other campuses are doing a study.
 - d. Faculty Report-Annual evaluations are an issue. Ten people received "Does Not Meet Expectations" (We don't know if this was in a college or total). Meet expectations vs Exceeds expectations. How do they differ? Merit is involved.
 - e. Many courses for students needed for graduation are not available on the Brownsville campus.

- f. There is very little visibility of administration on campuses.
 - g. Staff positions aren't being filled because salaries are low.
 - h. Budgets are not available.
- B. College Caucuses (Action Needed by Senators) Senators took a 5 minute break from 3:07-3:12 and then went to work by colleges to discuss issues presented. Each group reported out starting at 3:30 pm:
- a. CLA: modified proportional model is suggested based on size of colleges used to determine Membership on committees. Research Committee: Keep. Core Curriculum group appears to overlap with the General Education committee. University Undergraduate Committee we need. Intermediary appeal process is needed in the tenure review process.
 - b. CEP: and COBE: We reiterate what CLA said.
 - c. SOM: Membership of committees discussed, will make recommendations of individuals.
 - d. COS: Gen Education and Undergraduate Curriculum Committee have overlapping responsibilities. Who approves curriculum? Tenure review-maybe only the files with controversy be reviewed; should tenure related committee be in this policy? Document all administrative issues that impede faculty from being able to do their work such as labs. One rep per college for membership---size of committee a problem. Letter of employment---we have no evidence of employment. In the past we received a Memorandum of Appointment with salary and number of years toward tenure or post tenure review. Undergraduate Committee reports to Student success. This is an issue.
 - e. COHA: agreed with CLA. Annual review 1 or 3 years, requirements unclear.
 - f. CECS: email answers---only 1 ----more resources from library, put faculty development leave for discussion. University College: information goes to Kristin Croyle.
 - g. COFA: ART doesn't know who to work with, budgets in department, no one knows.
- C. Library: Sections in policy need to include the librarians. Library Committee needs to exist. Levels of communication for faculty with library need to be in place.
- D. Topics presented by faculty for next meeting:
- a. 3-5 issues for Faculty Senate Agenda Items from above issues
 - b. Staggered terms decisions
 - c. Academic Committees and Councils (nomination process)

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- d. HOP Policy Review Committees (formation) Policies to be reviewed:
- e. Phased retirement not found. We will ask about this policy. Grievance committee policy needs to be reviewed. Curriculum review, textbooks, Evaluation of administrators
- f. Proposed Shared Governance Mini Conference Committee (FSEC)

IV. Announcements/Discussion

- a. Invitation to Theresa Maldonado, VP Research Innovation & Economic. She has accepted and will be scheduled in the spring semester.
- b. Working Group Invitation
- c. Strategic Planning Committee Invitation (Reps selected) Linda Matthews, Edinburg Campus, Mark Kaswan, Brownsville Campus, and Kathy Carter, from School of Medicine they will represent us. The Faculty Senate also added two alternates, one for each academic campus.
- d. Attendance of Faculty at Commencement
 - i. Grand Marshals (3)
- e. Technology Issues (help identifying issues)
 - i. Listserv vs Senator Distribution
 - ii. Website
- f. Agreement with WFN to share reports on:
 - i. Academic Affairs Council Meeting Notes (Nov.9; 1-5 pm)
 - ii. Academic Affairs Leadership Program (old AALT; Nov. 13, noon-3:30pm)

V. Adjournment at 4:10 pm.

- a. James Wenzel moved and Brent Campney seconded the motion to adjourn. The Senate meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.