The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

2018-2019 Faculty Senate Meeting VIII
Harlingen Clinical Education Building 1.100 Auditorium
Friday, March 22, 2019
2:00pm - 4:30pm
Minutes

Minutes prepared by Ernesto Ramírez, UTRGV Faculty Senate, Secretary

Senators Present: Punit Ahluwalia, Andrew Anabila, Sonja Arredondo, Sandra Atkins, Jameela Banu, Karl Berg, Dumitru Caruntu, Mark Dantzker, Arden Dingle, Raquel Estrada, Ibrahim Farooqi, Marcus Farris, Teresa Feria Arroyo, Firat Fuat, Eleftherios Gkioulekas, Jonathan Guist, Kip Austin Hinton, Elamin Ibrahim, Murat Karabulut, Hale Kaynak, Dongchul Kim, Richard Longoria, Donald Jerry Lyles, Theresa Mata-Pistokache, Jung-Il Oh, Cynthia Paccacerqua, Ernesto Ramirez, Candace Robledo, Sam Sale, Clarissa Salinas, Andrea Schwarzbach, Hilda Silva, Owen Temby, Annelyn Torres-Reveron, John VandeBerg, Jorge Vidal, Michael Weaver, Yingchen Yang, Michelle Zeager, Aziza Zemrani

Senators Absent: George Amorim, Elvia Ardalani, Bruno Arthur, Steve Chamberlain, Chinwendu Chineke, Frederick Darsow, Abdoulaye Diallo, William Donner, Miryam Espinosa-Dulanto, Louis Falk, Lilia A. Fuentes, Laura Gephart, Maria Miriam Herrera, Wendy Innis, Sunand Kallumadanda, Dae Kim, Kye-Hwan Lee, Junfei Li, John Luna, Marci McMahon, John Newman, Denise Silcox, Samuel Snyder, Garry Souffrant, Jasang Yoon

Senators Absent (Excused): Stephanie Atkins Sharpe, Mircea Chipara, Elizabeth Deven-Hernandez, Richard Edmonson, Margaret Graham, Irving Levinson, Karin Lewis, Anahit Galstyan, Maria Romero-Ramirez, Gary Schneider, Laura Seligman, Volker Quetschke, William Sokoloff,

Visitors(s): David Carren

Office Assistant III: Vanessa Ceballos

I.   Convene Meeting and Welcome Senators and Guests 2:04PM

II.   Action Item: Approval of Minutes ⌞SEP⌟motion – Dantzker, second Aziza
        Approved by voice vote majority

III.   Guest: Roberto Cantu – Presentation on course material adoptions. (10 min)

        Letty Benavides, Campus Auxiliary Services.

Timely adoptions are required by law, must be available at the time of registration so that students can be aware of all costs involved in their education. Some sources of pay (scholarship) require that the source of purchase be the school bookstore, so the bookstore needs the text as early as possible for the students. Clarification – informing the students is the requirement, adoption facilitates that.

Joanna Garza & Carmen Rodrigues (managers Brownsville and Edinburg)
Overall there is a low rate of response to the system, requiring the bookstore to use more expensive options for course materials as the semester begins.

Admin can enter the book adoption information through the concierge access point. This is useful when a department has knowledge of who will be teaching, but it is not yet reflected in the computer system.

Q. Why is stock not available? A. The buying decisions are made by the consideration of prior enrollments and buying patterns.
Q. Older editions availability? A. Available if done early enough.

IV.   Report from the Faculty Senate President - Postponed

V.   Announcements

   a. Election reminder

   b. Dora Saavedra – Ombudsperson

VI.   Workload / MOA / T&P guidelines

   a. Latest versions of documents (handout).

   b. Fair payment for overload

WORKLOAD

How do we calculate or look at the research aspect? We have so many details of teaching that are clearly defined (i.e. class size and multipliers), but we have no idea how to quantify the research component. We need to have some additional guidelines in place for this which is equitable.

The research effort is quantified by the chair and faculty member because of the variety of expectations that are in place across the institution, such as with Fine Arts and Engineering. Conversation ensued about the need to have this dialogue at the college level and to clearly define this there in the light of the new workload policy. The suggestion for Academic Affairs is to follow up with the Engineering College and how they moved this discussion forward there.

Criminal Justice is looking at the time of teaching corresponding to how many hours could be

equated to research. So that a course is 45 hours of time, this is the basis for their conversation as it relates to service as well – time!

All the criteria must be defined by the producers of the artifact – research, class, or service; not from the university. Must be clear that T&P and workload are not the same. One-hour course is 10% of our time.

What do we want to do? Policy is already in place. Maybe a committee to advocate for this dialogue, perhaps for sharing already developed policy at the departmental level so models are in place and a place of launching a discussion with colleagues.

Again, because of service that appears, you cannot account for it in a year of advance.

At another meeting we can do this work and share information to determine if that is a place from which to make further action.

At another meeting we will have a best practices report, group meetings to address the identification of themes, and then report back to determine need.

Workload has been confusing from the start, 3/2 load and committee work was addressed. These were specified in the hiring contract. Now there are percentages that being asked about. Again, we need to have three policies that are working as they are all linked together. Workload leads to Annual Review, which is then connected to T&P.

MOA and T&P – We will have discussions if need be with the Workload discussion at another meeting. Perhaps CRIJ can provide us their progress on the clear linking of the three so that we can follow and learn from their success.

Keep in mind that in some areas, regardless of how faculty work to create their departmental guidelines, it must also still be approved at the Dean level. There is precedent in denial of these documents. There should be a mechanism in place for appeal of policy decisions for review.

There is a need to have a discussion, a Blue-Ribbon panel to discuss the timelines in review and those involved in review. EVPAA agrees.

Information needs to be shared, in an open area in a way that is accessible to all.

VII.   Update on DORA outreach – Justin White (10 min)

        An informational webinar was presented earlier this semester. It is recorded and available for viewing. This is additional information for consideration before we bring the possible resolution to a vote before the senate on signing on the declaration.

VIII.   Lecturer Guidelines

a. Proposed changes (handout)
How will we address this? Consensus Me and others about the need to review this document in further detail. There are opportunities here for improvement and adding of titles for clarification of roles, promotion potentials, and standardization across the university. One suggestion is to add Distinguished Senior Lecturer and to review the Professor of Instruction title along with the existing Lecturer and Senior Lecturer ranks and the Professor of Practice title currently being used.

Motion: One clinical NTT faulty to meet with Dr. McHatton to improve this document. FSEC will solicit volunteer from HA to do this.
Senator Karabulut moved; seconded by Senator Zemrani
1 opposed; approved by majority vote.

A group of FS will begin to work on a resolution for faculty equity, valued personification, regardless of title and position.

We must remember that we should use outside actions as a guideline to be better, not to be just as good. If we wish to treat all faculty as if on the TT then we should, don't allow the law or other policy to indicate that we have done enough.

IX. HOP updates

a. ADM 06-111 Grievance – update
Will be reviewed once ombudsperson will be brought onboard
Senator Caruntu moved
1 opposed; approved by majority vote.

b. General HOP updates. Policy statement and EVP adjustment
Senator Atkins moved; seconded by Senator Salinas
Five abstentions; approved by majority vote.

X. Business

a. Constitution Committee Status Report – chair Dora Saavedra – Deadline March 15.

The committee will have to cut the report in pieces. There will not likely be a new constitution report until the last meeting of the semester. All the comments will be available, recommendations will be brought forth, and then it can be voted by Senate and all faculty for approval, then to other outside legal element for coverage and review.

c. Chair Survey Committee Status Report – chair Aziza Zemrani.
It is complete and in BB. It was developed by a committee comprised of a number of faculty in WFN, Senate, and a representative of the Council of Chairs.

Needs to add N/A for some of these. – send info to Aziza.

    d.   Whitepaper Report Card Committee - investigate overlap with ModernThink survey and Administrator evaluation – chair Michael Weaver Discuss possible action. Document done will be sent out soon for reading.

XI.   AOB

Course schedule issue:
Parenting information – how to be a family friendly on this new schedule
OYA and others have the ability to schedule, knowing the future availability
Afternoon activity period is interfering with afternoon scheduling of labs sections associated with the large class, this creates a gap in time from lecture to practice.
We are scheduling in advance to our workload negotiations – need to have this addressed

EVPAA – Online Teaching: we need to have a discussion around telecommuting. Not a policy on Online Teaching. The concept of a limitation of teaching online and moving toward using this modality more often do not work together. Then there was a request about information about teaching completely online. There is no big brother action in place to watch over, although it appeared that way. The teaching guidelines are gone. A group needs to come together to discuss what telecommuting is.

XII.   Adjournment 4:29

XIII.   Next meeting:

Edinburg: EACSB 1.104/Brownsville: BSTUN 2.24 (Zoom) April 19, 2019 2:00pm-4:30pm