

MINUTES

Meeting: Faculty Senate Meeting June 10, 2015, Wooten Hall, Room 322

Present: Brian Ayre; Kim Baker; Glen Biglaiser; Sheri Broyles; V. Barbara Bush;

Douglas Campbell; Denise Catalano; James Conover; Shelley Cushman; Elliot Dubin; Kamakshi Gopal; Paul Hutchison; Samuel Manickam; Saraju Mohanty; Maria Muñiz; Prathiba Natesan; Divesh Ojha; Phil Paolino;

Audhesh Paswan; Elizabeth Prosek; Brian Richardson; Dorian Roehrs; Emile

Sahliyeh; Jeffrey Snider; Beth Thomsett-Scott; Manish Vaidya; Guido

Verbeck; Karen Weiller; Oksana Zavalina; Tao Zhang.

Absent: Jennifer Callahan; Adam Chamberlin; Patricia Cukor-Avila; Jesse Eschbach;

Morgan Gieringer; John Ishiyama; Jennifer Lane; Smita Mehta; Dan Peak; Jyoti Shah; Stephen Slottow; Jae Jae Spoon; Srinivasan Srivilliputhur;

Jessica Strubel; Phil Sweany; Mary Ann Venner; Laura Waugh.

Guests: Neal Smatresk President; Finley Graves, Interim Provost and VPAA; Christy

Crutsinger, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs; William Moen VPPA; Margaret Vestal, Provost Office; Patrick Pluscht, CLEAR; Sian Brannon, UUCC; Matthew Zabel, URCM; Pam Harrell, TE&A; Gus Seligmann,

History; Ernestine Bousquet, URCM; Erin O'Toole, Libraries.

I. Welcome and The meeting was called to order at 2:08 pm

Introductions End of term certificates of appreciation given to Brian Richardson, Kim

Baker, Dorian Roehrs, Guido Verbeck, James Conover, Jae Jae Spoon, and Jesse Eschbach. Pam Harrell received a recognition plaque for her years of

service as senator and Executive Committee member.

II. Approval of Moved by Senator Hutchison and seconded by Senator Prosek, the minutes

Minutes were approved as distributed.

2015) [Vote]

(May 13,

III. Faculty Feedback and questions from constituents:

Senate

Discussion How effective is SETE regardless of format. What is the university going to

do for equitable responses?

On May 30, it was reported that UNT main campus is not getting a STEM

building. Why?

If we are bringing in external groups (Summer Camp, etc.) do we have

space?

Office of Sustainability, why is it closed given our strengths and national standing?

Other items submitted online were shown on the projection screen.

IV. President Neal Smatresk and Provost

Finley Graves

President:

He referred to an *Inside Higher Ed* article on SETE that held scale does not matter. His take is that student evaluations are fine, but other issues should be considered. Subjective portions tend not be useful. He is more interested in learning outcomes. His concerns are for responsibility and accountability with more attention to scholarship and creative activity.

Concealed Carry: There are weapons on campus with or without permits. Will level change? Nationally, there have been no incidents. The law, as passed ties our hands tightly. We know that preschool and mental health facilities will be excluded. However, we cannot block legal guns from public buildings and classrooms most of the time. Our approach will be to listen to what others are doing. Bob Brown will be holding an open meeting. We will be surfacing recommendations across the state from police. This will weigh heavily. Practical advice will be sought from those who have the policy in place. Open forums for staff and faculty will be held for understanding and to address concerns. Will sporting events be excluded? Not every classroom will be prohibited. We will listen, come up with responses, hold discussions, and provide training. Students have developed consortium against concealed carry. We are urged not to over-react.

Raises: There will be merit and equity—separate.

More faculty- There is still the thought from faculty that we have too many administrators. There may have fewer. VP for Enrollment has been hired with no expansion. Other VPs (With, Brown) have staffing that remains stable or has been moved to central administration. The president agrees with the need for more faculty. Priorities will be established when funding is determined.

Student quality: The average SAT scores are stable around 1100. First generation students require a stretch. We need them to be competitive. Our goals in this area should align around what we are doing-transforming student life. We will see gaps primarily in language and math. We must be reminded of our status and mission.

New Building: We got the TR building. CBEC is the other needed for general research. We will try again after the next session. There has been expansion at Discovery Park. The decision was just made to redo SRB. Wet lab space is needed and may be the next asked. Space planning is becoming more organized and thoughtful. Deans will review, and FS will be brought in.

Off-Campus: The president wants to turn summer into a more revenue-producing activity. It was a bad financial decision to cut summer funding.

Changes will take time, Provost Graves is working on this.

Sustainability: Sustainability functions have been moved to student affairs because the function is student fee-driven. Can be run more effectively. The function will continue to partner with Facilities. We paid for the status. From a marketing perspective, sustainability is important. We will reboot to make it better.

A representative group of faculty will be part of consensus-building activity in the fall. The Senate will be asked to nominate faculty in and out of FS. Much has been accomplished in one year.

There has been good and positive dialogue on **15.0**. One question: What is the next step? There is no veto from president planned. It is a good, consolidated document needing only a few tweaks.

Librarians: There are no agreed upon criteria for the librarian review process. Standards need to be established.

Graduate Assistants: Graduate Assistants website? Provost Graves stated that they are continuing to work on a letter to faculty regarding GATS and health insurance. The website is dependent on these decisions.

President Smatresk is sorry for delay on this matter, but writing of policy has implications. We need up to \$2.1 million to meet commitments. We are honoring GATs and health insurance commitments from existing GAs. GATS goes away after this. We are not funding TAs in the future except for tuition. Grants should cover the remainder of the funding. Frontloading commitment FY18, our net will be less. Details have not been worked out for hourly assistants such as graders.

Salary Raises: Is compression being considered? He is trying to work this out with deans who are thinking top down. The president envisions a three or four year process. Provost Graves asked deans to address equity and compression now and let him know. He will look at numbers before plans are approved. We are trying to get parallels across campus and empower deans as a team. There are higher expectations of the deans.

We will try to approach as a team the tracks of teaching and research as a team.

V. UUCC
Reports and
Resolution
(Sian
Brannon)
[Vote]

UUCC presented minutes from May and June meetings. Sian Brannon highlighted elements of the minutes. The resolution regarding a 2.0 overall as a minimum for graduation was presented with support of the requirement. A motion from the Senate, passed unanimously.

VI. Policy Review Update (James Conover)

First Reading:

 18.1.16 Student Academic Integrity Senator Weiller reviewed the policy.

Second Reading:

• 15.0.1 Academic Appointments

Senator Ayre moved and Senator Cushman seconded a motion to accept. The motion passed unanimously.

15.1.9 Faculty Workload

Senator Thomsett-Scott moved, Senator Cushman seconded a motion to accept. The motion passed unanimously.

- 15.1.28 Orientation, Supervision, and Evaluation of Academic Assistants Senator Broyles moved and Senator Weiller seconded a motion to accept. The motion passed unanimously. A motion to amend was introduced by Senator Thomsett-Scott, and Senator Broyles seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- 15.1.30 Use of Academic Assistants in Large Classes Senator Broyles, moved and Senator Hutchinson seconded a motion to accept. The motion passed unanimously.

Grievance Committee

First Reading:

Senator Ishiyama introduced a charter amendment to create the Faculty Grievance Committee.

Second Reading:

Two amendments: *Charter Article II*, Section 4 (Composition)

Senator Paswan moved and Senator Weiller seconded to accept. The motion passed unanimously.

Charter Article III, Section 3 (Terms, Qualifications, and Elections)

Senator Thomsett-Scott moved, and Senator Prosek seconded to accept. The motion passed unanimously.

Charter Article III, Section 4

Senator Thomsett–Scott moved and Senator Catalano seconded to accept. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Policy
Review
Update
(Christy
Crutsinger)

The Safety and Instructional Policy has been approved. PAG is working on better process for moving policies through. Some are at the legal department for minor changes. Two or three are being checked for legal sufficiency: Finals Week and Academic Program Review.

VIII. SETE Replacement Update (Christy Crutsinger)

Crutsinger outlined the process for selection of the teaching evaluation. How effective? House Bill states we must conduct a teacher evaluation, but this needs to be meaningful. It can only be one piece. A soft pilot of IA system out of U of Washington was conducted. They have used this instrument for 20 years. Paper evaluations would be at cost of the department. We do need common instrument. IA only will be tested in the summer. The committee will report on this test in September. Issues of paper option were discussed as low cost but difficult to analyze. Reminders and ways of increasing participation discussed.

IX. Committee on Committees Update (Audhesh Paswan and Laura

Waugh) [Vote]

Moved acceptance of committee nominations from committee. Senator Catalano seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

X. Annual Committee Reports (James Conover)

The Academic Affairs Committee; Committee on the Status of People of Color; Committee on the Status of Women; Evaluation of Administrators Committee; Faculty Research Committee; Fine Arts Series Committee; Oversight Committee on the Core Curriculum; University Writing Committee; University Undergraduate Curriculum Committee have all submitted annual reports.

Reports have been posted on the Faculty Senate website as they come in.

The Faculty Senate Evaluation of Administrator results have been posted online under the "Workplace" tab.

XI. Committee of the Whole

Fine Arts Series Committee: Adequate facilities are not available for artists. The new union has less space, more seats.

XII. Adjournment

Senator Cushman moved and Senator Thomsett-Scott seconded for adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm