

## Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2023

1:30-3:00pm

**Senators:** Dr. Vikram Bhadauria (absent), Dr. Brian Billings, Dr. Jaime Cantrell, Dr. Joy Cooper (Secretary/Parliamentarian), Dr. Rebeca Cooper (Zoom), Dr. Sara Lawrence (Zoom), Dr. Brian Matthews, Dr. Sheila Moore, Dr. Craig M Nakashian (President), Dr. James Nguyen, Dr. Godpower Okereke, Dr. Sebastian Schmidl (Zoom), Dr. Kevin Williams (Vice-President) (Zoom), Dr. Faycal Znidi

- I. Call to Order 1:33 p.m.....Dr. Craig M Nakashian
- II. President's Report.....Dr. Ross Alexander
  - a. Provided update on raises and enrollment projections.
  - b. Provided the preliminary vision of future sports program additions and sports complex projects.
  - c. Addressed need of qualitative and quantitative student enrollment and program expansion.
  - d. Preparing to conduct tour of campus departments and visit with faculty and staff.
- III. Provost and VPAA's Report.....Dr. Melinda Arnold
  - a. Discussed Academic Affairs expansion and upcoming reorganization meeting.
  - b. Stated SB17 is now in effect and provided reminder that implementation impact is minimal if instruction is relative to course content.
  - c. Reminded Senate salary adjustment applications (beyond the 5%) are due to managers/supervisors by the close of business on October 6<sup>th</sup>.
- IV. Approval of Minutes from 04/12/2023.....Dr. Craig M Nakashian
  - a. Minutes from 4/12/2023 were approved and adopted without objection (11-0-0).
- V. President of Faculty Senate Report.....Dr. Craig M Nakashian
  - a. Reported on College Station visit and the potential of additional Senate guidance from the TAMU system.
  - b. Provided information regarding Texas A&M System Assembly of Faculty Senates are in the process of building a governing board and looking to enhance governance.
- VI. Committee Reports & Business Items
  - a. Curriculum Committee..... Dr. Godpower Okereke
    - i. Finalizing committee members:
  - b. Core Curriculum Assessment.....Dr. Faycal Znidi
    - i. Finalizing committee members
  - c. Educational Technology.....Dr. Kevin Williams
    - i. Finalizing committee members
  - d. Academic Rules & Procedures.....Dr. Craig M Nakashian

- i. Finalizing committee members
- e. Academic Standards.....Dr. Sheila Moore
  - i. Finalizing committee members
- f. Faculty Welfare.....Dr. Joy Cooper
  - i. Finalizing Committee members
- g. FRED.....Dr. Jaime Cantrell
  - i. Finalizing Committee members
- h. Budget Committee.....Dr. James Nguyen
  - i. Finalizing Committee members

VII. Old Business

- a. QEP Selection Committee.....Dr. Craig M Nakashian
  - i. Dr Minton stated the selection of the QEP chair is in underway.
  - ii. Reminded Senate that EL, student research, academic advising, and support for digital learning is encouraged and supported. Requested feedback on additional resource needs that could be supported.
  - iii. A timeline for the meeting with the Provost is being drafted and will be sent to Dr. Nakashian for approval.
  - iv. OTAFA Co-Director Dr. Burzynsk provided a report on new faculty orientation activities and upcoming events
  - v. OTAFA is currently recruiting an advisory board.

VIII. New Business

- a. Approval of Faculty Senate Committee Membership.....Dr. Craig M Nakashian
  - i. Committee Chairs agreed to email a final list of members to Dr. Nakashian prior to the October 2023 meeting.
  - ii. Dr. Worthen and Sharma are working to form two committees: one committee will review scheduling and the other will review average student-credit-hours a faculty member should cover.
- b. Welcome Orionna Williams, SGA President.....Dr. Craig Nakashian
  - i. Orianna informed the Senate that SGA and Student Success would like to bridge the gap between students and faculty; and initiatives to form that bridge are underway.
- c. Faculty Handbook.....Dr. Craig M Nakashian
  - i. Dr. Nakashian proposed the idea of creating a faculty handbook.
  - ii. Dr. Lawrence agreed to chair a sub-committee to review and update the faculty handbook.
- d. System policy 12-01-01 (tenure) finalized.....Dr. Craig M Nakashian
  - i. Dr. Nakashian announced 1201 and 1206 have been revised (Meetings are scheduled to review).
  - ii. Seeking faculty input prior to review.
  - iii. Tenure changes are collected annually.
- e. System Regulation 112.01.01, Institutional Rules for Implementing Tenure...Jill Whittington
  - i. Announced Institutional Rules for Implementing Tenue was approved by the Chancellor, effective September 4, 2023, and provided a summary of the details.

IX. Next regular meeting of Faculty Senate- Friday, October 13, 2023 at 1:30pm in UC 251

X. Meeting adjourned at 2:48 p.m. -----Dr. Joy Cooper