

Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Faculty Senate Minutes
December 3, 2013

Present: Aden Ahmed, Bart Ballard, Apurba Bhattacharya, Edward Butterworth, Rajab Challoo, David Cutton, Farzad Deyhim, Karen Furgerson, Jeff Glick, Norma Guzman, Lorraine Killion, Lisa McNair, Selahattin Ozcelik, Victoria Packard, Ali Pilehvari, Patricia Polastri, Jacki Thomas, George Vargas, Amit Verma, Colin Wark, Zak Watson

Absent: Jon Cicala (2), Oscar Diaz (1), Don Fisher (1), Tim Fulbright (1), James Glusing (1), Nirmal Goswami (1), Alvaro Martinez (1), Geri Maxwell (1), Randy Powell (1), Hans Schumann (1), Greta Schuster (4), Manuel Soto (4), Dazhi Sun (1), Rongdong Wang (4), Kenneth Williams (1), Randall Williams (1)

- I. Call to order 3:39
 - a. Quorum call
Quorum Present
- II. Approval of minutes, November Meeting. Motion: Senator Glick. Second: Senator Vargas.
Approved by voice vote.
- III. Presentation
 - a. Provost Rex Gandy: Thanked President Challoo and the senate for a very active and busy semester and congratulated faculty on two commencement ceremonies for the fall semester.
 - b. ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT Duane Gardiner
 - i. Lecturer and professor of Practice Promotion Procedure—Revised (vote) G-1: The document was presented, with changes in red. Motion to approve: Senator Verma. Second: Senator Furgerson Passed by voice vote.
 - ii. SACS and B.A.A.S. Proposed Procedure—Revised (vote) Document presented at November’s meeting. Electronic form coming soon. Motion to approve: Senator Verma Second: Senator Glick. Passed by voice vote.
 - c. ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT Nancy KingSanders
 - i. Extended hours at the LAC
 - ii. Time-to-degree taskforce report
 - iii. FIG program, Faculty/Chair/Administration Role: Faculty Senate President Challoo raised his concern that the FIG plan was never presented to the Faculty Senate and asked what committee created the FIGS. Associate Vice President KingSanders indicated that Provost Gandy requested the FIGs. FSP Challoo reiterated his concern that decisions affecting instruction are being made without consulting the Faculty Senate. Dr. KingSanders asked if there were other examples of Student Success acting unilaterally. Senator Vargas asked whose decision it was to have faculty no longer advise undergraduate students. Dr. KingSanders said the decision was taken in response to student comments she received. Senator Vargas asked who the responsible administrator was and

Dr. KingSanders said it was probably a collaboration. She further indicated that the Faculty Senate could get representation on decisions that affect instruction.

- d. Chief Felipe Garza and Senator George Vargas: Campus parking.
 - i. Master plan for campus parking: A traffic study was done. Recommendation was not to have dual lots anymore, because they are too confusing. The Chief further indicated that the campus actually has enough parking: we don't have a parking problem, we have a walking problem. Discussion ensued. Senator Vargas asked if there is a faculty representative on the parking committee, and if the Faculty Senate could be represented there. Chief Garza said we could. If you have parking problems, call Felipe Garza.
- IV. Report of Officers
- a. Senate President Rajab Chaloo
 - i. Meetings with President Tallant and Provost Gandy:
 - ii. Senate Standing Committees and University Committees: Effort is underway to combine and merge Faculty Senate and University Committees. The merger and a committee handbook should be complete in Spring 2014.
 - iii. Post-Tenure Review: May take the form of extended annual reviews. Senators Thomas, Williams, and Chaloo are working on this. Provost Gandy says an ad-hoc committee will need to be charged with creating the new guidelines.
- V. Old Business
- a. Thesis/Project/Course Options—revised (vote) to start Fall 2014. (see attachment)
Motion to approve: Thomas. Second: Senator Vargas. Passed by voice vote with one opposing vote.
 - b. Administrator exemption from post-tenure review (vote) options are >50% or >=50%.
Should chairs be included or should they not? Council of chairs excluded chairs. Motion to continue to include chairs in the PTR: Senator Thomas. Second: Senator Ahmed. 2 nays. Passed by voice vote.
 - c. Promotion to full professor—outside letters (vote). Should outside letters be required in the materials submitted for consideration for promotion to full professor? Motion to maintain the option: Senator Furgerson. Second: Senator Vargas. Passed by voice vote.
 - d. Continuation Procedures and Tenure section proposed for the Faculty Handbook: this document regularizes continuation. Please take this to your department and get feedback from faculty: This is a very important issue. Vote coming in February.
 - e. QEP Proposal revised version: The question of the difference between the QEP writing lab and the LAC was raised. ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT Gardiner said the QEP lab would be aimed at all students while the LAC is mostly for remediation. Please take this to your department and get feedback from faculty.
 - f. Definition of credit hour revised: Motion to add the phrase “or any other method of assessment” to the end of the first sentence of the second paragraph: Senator Oczelik. Second: Senator Verma. Passed by voice vote.
- VI. New Business
- a. FS constitution—meetings/attendance reminder.

- b. Problem of exploitation of non-tenure-track faculty members.
- c. Motion to adjourn: Senator Glick. Seconded by Senator Packard at 5:07. Passed.