



Stephen F. Austin State University
Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
#436
March 9, 2016



I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Stephen F. Austin State University Faculty Senate was held on March 9, 2016, at 2:30 p.m., at the Baker Pattillo Student Center, President's Suite A. It was presided over by Chair Embry-Jenlink.

Attendance

Voting Senators in attendance: Kenneth Austin, Joey Bray, Lauren Brewer, Erica Chapman, Carlos Cuadra, Darrell Fry (proxy for Kefa Onchoke), Dennis Gravatt, Karen Embry-Jenlink, Stacy Hendricks, Janice Hensarling, Candace Hicks, I-Kuai Hung, Kyle Jones, Stephen Kosovich, Mark Ludork (proxy for Sharon Eaves), Glen McCuller (proxy for Ginger Kelso), David McKemy, Bradley Meyer, Olga Minich, Christopher Ryan (proxy for Tammy Harris), J.D. Salas, Paul Sandul, Le'Ann Solmonson, Louise Stoehr, Steve Taaffe, Kimberly Welsh, Todd Whitehead

Senators not in attendance: Sharon Eaves, Ginger Kelso, Tammy Harris, Kefa Onchoke, Karen Price, Jay Thornton

II. Presentations

A. The Honorable Travis Clardy, TX State Representative, District 11: A summary of the Lone Star Summit was given. An overview of his committee work in Austin was explained. Information regarding TX higher education issues was shared. Time for questions and comments was given.

Chair Embry-Jenlink presented an axe handle to The Honorable Travis Clardy as a token of the Faculty Senate's appreciation for his involvement with SFA.

B. Dr. Dana Cooper, President of the Texas Council of Faculty Senates (2015-16): Provided perspective from the Spring meeting of the Texas Council of Faculty Senate: Campus Carry; the 60x30 Strategic Plan; how faculty can support non-tenure track faculty; and Governor Abbott's Task Force. An internal SFA publication, *Scholars*, was shared. Time for questions and comments was given.

III. Approval of Minutes

Chair Embry-Jenlink requested approval of the minutes from Meeting #435. Senator Hendricks moved that the minutes from meeting #435 be approved, Senator Whitehead seconded. Motion carried to accept Minutes #435 as written.

IV. Officer Reports

A. Chair Dr. Karen Embry-Jenlink:

- 1. Provost Search:** An update to this process was given. March 29th and 30th is the time for the FS to interview and interact with candidates. Evaluation sheets will be posted online.
- 2. SFA Envision:** Chair Embry-Jenlink continues to serve on the committee for



Stephen F. Austin State University
Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
#436
March 9, 2016



Attracting High Quality Faculty and Staff as a FS representative. Senator Brewer has also joined the committee. A survey will be sent out soon to solicit feedback on non-salary incentives that are attractive to faculty and staff.

3. **Ethics Committee:** Chair Embry-Jenlink, Chair-Elect Salas, Senator Kosovich, and Senator McKemy presented the Faculty Senate ombuds proposal to the University Strategic Planning Committee on University Culture chaired by Dr. Bullard, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. The proposal was unanimously supported by the Committee after vigorous discussion. The University Culture Committee agreed to recommend this initiative in their next meeting with the Vice Presidents who chair one of the University Strategic Planning Committees.

4. **Email List:** Chair Embry-Jenlink shared that the FS will now have their own email list for the FS to communicate directly with faculty. A college distribution email list is being explored so Senators can communicate with their respective colleges and departments.

B. Chair-Elect Dr. J.D. Salas:

1. **Lone Star Legislative Summit** – An overview of this summit was given. A Chamber of Commerce membership for the FS was discussed.

2. **Ombudsman** – This initiative will continue through the next term.

3. **Campus Concealed Carry Committee:** This committee has completed its work and has presented it to Dr. Pattillo. Time for questions and comments was given.

C. Secretary Dr. Kimberly Welsh: Secretary Welsh welcomed Visitors and Senators and reminded them to please sign in. If you are serving as a Proxy, please sign the visitor log and write the name of the Senator you are representing.

D. Treasurer Dr. Joey Bray: Faculty Senate had a previous balance from February of \$1,534.09. Total expenditures from February 2016 was \$0. Account balance as of March 9, 2016 is \$1,534.09.

V. Committee Reports

A. External (University) Committees

a. **Academic Affairs:** Chair Embry-Jenlink stated that the committee had not met since the last Senate meeting.

b. **Core Curriculum Assessment:** Senator Austin reported stated that the committee had not met since the last Senate meeting.

c. **Distance Education:** Senator Solmonson reported the Committee has been reviewing feedback. Time for questions and comments was given.



Stephen F. Austin State University
Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

#436

March 9, 2016



- d. **Graduate Council:** Chair-Elect Salas reported that the committee is reviewing thesis and dissertation grading practices. Financial assistance for graduate assistants is still being reviewed. Time for questions and comments was given.
 - e. **Policy:** Senator Taaffe reported that this committee will meet and go over the comments related to the Distance Education Faculty Competencies and Compensation Policy 7.9, as well as the Post Tenure Review and Merit.
- B. Internal (FS) Committees**
- a. **Academic Affairs:** Senator Stoehr stated that the committee had not met since the last Senate meeting.
 - b. **Administration and Finance:** Senator Bray stated that the committee had not met since the last Senate meeting.
 - c. **Communications:** Senator Chapman and Senator Cuadra reported that the FS meeting is live streaming with 10 people watching.
 - d. **Elections:** Senator Hendricks reported that election nominations have been sent in. A ballot will be emailed on March 23rd for voting and will close on April 5th. At the April meeting, adjunct nominations and FS officers will be solicited. The ballot needs to be approved today since there are more nominations than vacancies. Chair Embry-Jenlink requested approval of the Ballots for each college.
 - Senator Solmonson moved that the ballot from Education be accepted as presented, Senator Bray seconded. Motion carried to accept the ballot from Education as presented.
 - Senator Stoehr moved that the ballot from Fine Arts be accepted as presented, Senator Whitehead seconded. Motion carried to accept the ballot from Fine Arts as presented.
 - Senator Minich moved that the ballot from Liberal and Applied Arts be accepted as presented, Senator Brewer seconded. Motion carried to accept the ballot from Liberal and Applied Arts as presented.
 - e. **Ethics:** per Chair's report in Section IV.A.3.
 - f. **Faculty Government and Involvement:** Senator Meyer reported that a newly revised faculty handbook has been posted on the FS website.
 - Senator Bray moved that the Faculty Handbook revisions be accepted, Senator Hendricks seconded. One abstention. Motion carried to accept the revised Faculty Handbook.
 - g. **Professional Welfare:** Chair-Elect Salas reported that the Adjunct Teaching Award recipient has been selected. At this point, SFA has 242 faculty that fall under the heading of adjunct as written in the Adjunct Teaching Award guidelines.

A Feedback Summary Report was shared regarding the Distance Education Faculty Competencies and Compensation Policy 7.9 that is up for consideration.

- Chair-Elect Salas moved that the FS *not* support the changes to the current policy as they are written in the Distance Education Faculty Competencies and Compensation Policy 7.9, Senator Hendricks seconded. Fifteen in favor, four



Stephen F. Austin State University
Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
#436
March 9, 2016



abstentions. Motion carried that the FS *not* support the changes to the current policy as they are written in the Distance Education Faculty Competencies and Compensation Policy 7.9.

- Senator Gravatt moved that the Feedback Summary Report of the Distance Education Faculty Competencies and Compensation Policy 7.9, presented by the Professional Welfare Committee, be posted on the FS website, Senator Hendricks seconded. Discussion ensued. Motion failed that the Feedback Summary Report of the Distance Education Faculty Competencies and Compensation Policy 7.9, presented by the Professional Welfare Committee, be posted on the FS website.
 - Senator Meyer moved that themes from the Feedback Summary Report of the Distance Education Faculty Competencies and Compensation Policy 7.9, presented by the Professional Welfare Committee, be posted on the FS website, Senator Gravatt seconded. Motion carried that themes from the Feedback Summary Report of the Distance Education Faculty Competencies and Compensation Policy 7.9, presented by the Professional Welfare Committee, be posted on the FS website.
- h. **Strategic Planning:** Chair-Elect Salas reported on the February FS Forum and stated that another one will be held in April.

VI. New Business

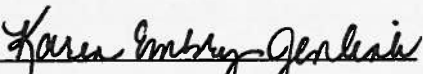
- A. **Provost Finalist:** Chair Embry-Jenlink reported that the Faculty Senate will have an opportunity to conduct interviews with the finalists on March 29 and 30, 2:15-3:00, in the BPSC Multi Media Room.

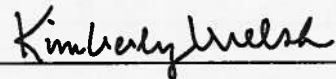
VII. Other:

- A. **Calendar Committee:** Senator Hendricks reported dates on future university calendars have been recommended beginning with the 2017-2018 year.

VIII. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:36 p.m.


Karen Embry-Jenlink, Chair


Kimberly Welsh, Secretary