

Stephen F. Austin State University
Faculty Senate Minutes- Meeting #459
Wednesday, April 10, 2019
McGee 121 2:30 p.m.

Voting Senators in Attendance: K. Ainsworth, C. Allen, T. Barrios, W. Berg, Y. Castillo, C. Conn, L. King (Proxy for P. Dutra), D. Gooch, A. Greule, P. Griffin, G. Hardin, A. Jones, M. Montgomery, D. Joubert, A. Lannen, C. McKenna, J. Mehaffey, P. Ogale, K. Onchoke, M. Klein (proxy for C. Ryan), K. Sheriff, S. Taafe (proxy for S. Sosebee), L. Stoehr, J. Stovall, B. Uriegas, Proxy for J. Morris, J. Weaver.

Excused Senators: D. Cegelka

Guests: Megan Weatherly, Provost Steve Bullard, Associate Provost Mark Guidry

I. Call to order:

Faculty Senate Chair Jason Reese called the meeting to order at 2:31 p.m. He welcomed the senators, and guests. First up, Megan Weatherly.

II. Presentations:

Megan Weatherly, Strategic Planning Mission Report
Dr. Steve Bullard, Provost, Stephen F. Austin State University
Dr. Marc Guidry

Ms. Weatherly gave us a thorough update on our University Strategic Plan Progress. Including goals, activities and assessments.
Please answer Culture Survey when it comes along to help assess progress.

Dr. Bullard reinforced the importance of the strategic planning especially as we search for an incoming president. Actively including faculty senate members and deans on every committee. Stressed the pressure from the state to increase and strengthen articulation agreements with community colleges. We are tasked to involve all community colleges in our region in some way. Field of Study for transfers is an important issue that we continue to be at the table discussing. More information was offered by Dr. Marc Guidry including a handout. Bill presented breaking core into two parts. This is all under discussion and revision now. Cannot require a 1000 or 2000 level course if they enter here with completed Field of Study. Dr. Bullard appreciates the Faculty Senate efforts to participate on the president search.

III. Break – Committee Breakout Session (if needed)

IV. Approval of Minutes from Meeting #458

Edits: Strategic Planning Meeting April 3 instead April 13

Motion at end of meeting about policy 12.5 was made by Senator Barrios and seconded Senator Stoehr.

Senator Griffin moved to accept the minutes, and Senator Uriegas seconded. Minutes were accepted by voice vote affirmation.

V. Officer Reports

A. Chair – Dr. Jason Reese

Chair Jason Reese offered reports on the following:

Presidential Search: Created Presidential Leadership Statement for Presidential Search website. This can be located as a pdf on the SFA website under Presidential Search by clicking on the “Profile” tab. <http://www.sfasu.edu/about-sfa/presidential-search>

This is the language included with direct feedback from faculty:

“PREFERRED QUALITIES: • A transformative academic leader with an innovative mindset to bring new ideas to SFA • An administrator at the vice president or president level with a terminal degree and experience as a tenured faculty member • A visionary for change who can achieve that vision by communicating with integrity to all stakeholder groups • Ability to represent SFA to legislators and to alumni and donors in East Texas and throughout the state • Ability to secure funding to ensure financial viability and support each element of SFA’s strategic plan.”

Reese also showed us the timeline for the hiring process also available on the website cited above. Please share with colleagues and ask them to contact Senator Reese with any questions or concerns.

Cost analysis will be conducted to determine feasibility of the career ladder proposal from faculty senate.

Employee Tuition Assistance is being addressed by the committee working on “Recruiting and Retaining High Quality Faculty and Staff. This is a tiered approach based on years at SFA and will be continued under that committee including a cost analysis. They should address the “two employee” situation in this planning.

Academic Affairs has earmarked the funds for the faculty mentoring program. There will be a search for the library director position. Proposal in place to increase the promotion amounts to \$4,500 and \$8,350.

Internship and Mentorship teams reported to VPs. Information Technology accessibility was discussed. Can no longer buy software with a P-card, must be purchase order. Senator Weaver adds that we are “ahead of the curve” but still “out of compliance.” So, it is important to work towards that state and federal compliance.

B. Chair-Elect – Dr. Jeremy Stovall:

Senators that are returning next year please complete the Qualtrics survey sent to you today. This will be confidential and help Dr. Stovall with future planning.

Quality Enhancement Plan Team to write up implementation plan to reduce student debt.

C. Secretary – Dr. Scott Sosebee

D. Treasurer – Dr. Paula Griffin: Senator Griffin reported that the Faculty Senate had a total of \$6641.09 remaining in the budget according to banner. There are \$2500 in outstanding expenditures.

VII. Committee Reports

A. External (University) Committees

- a. Academic Affairs (Reese) – no report
- b. Core Curriculum Assessment & Advisory Committees (Sosebee) – no report
- c. University Assessment Steering Council (Stoehr) - no meeting
- d. Distance Education (Montgomery, Onchoke, Griffin, Sheriff) – no meeting
- e. Graduate Council (Stovall) - approved some curricula and course changes
- f. Policy (Jones, Barrios, Lannen) – Children in the Workplace will go before Board of Regents with no further changes from Human Resources. Special thanks to all committees and faculty feedback forum. Congratulations all! Next policy will be “Faculty Workload.”

B. Ad Hoc Committees

- a. SACS-COC (Griffin) – not met
- b. Student Retention (Mehaffey) – not met
- c. Chosen Name Committee (Conn) - mission accomplished?
- d. TCCNS Committee (Reese)

C. Internal (FS) Committees

- a. Academic Affairs (Stoehr) – concluded the charge with Brightspots Teaching Event
- b. Administration and Finance (Griffin) – not met
- c. Communications (Conn) – no tasks

d. Elections (Jones) – getting final nominations and has sent ballot to Mr. Barhart for “Important Notifications” on MySFA. Notify your colleagues.

e. Ethics (Morris) -

f. Faculty Government and Involvement (Mehaffey) – no meeting

g. Professional Welfare (Dutra) – no meeting

h. Strategic Planning (Stovall)

i. Intellectual Property Policy (9.4) Ad Hoc Committee (Gooch)

VIII. Old Business

IX. New Business

A) Library Faculty Report – Equity Promotion Raise Scale for Librarians

Senator Ainsworth presented a proposal to outline suggested adjustments for library positions to align with the career ladder policy.

Moved to adopt by D. Gooch, seconded by J. Weaver. Small edit made to remove “at least” from Librarian I-II Justification. Motion was carried by acclamation.

March meeting adjusted to March 4, 2020. April moved to April 1, 2020. May meeting adjusted to April 29. All other meetings have been sent in an e-mail. Motion to accept the seven meetings sent in e-mail by Senator Stovall, seconded by Senator Barrios. Motion was carried by acclamation.

Senator Allen made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Senator McKenna. Motion was carried by acclamation.

Senate adjourned at 3:55 P.M.

Submitted by Scott Sosebee, Secretary Faculty Senate.