

Stephen F. Austin State University
Faculty Senate Agenda – Meeting #462
Wednesday, October 9, 2019
Forestry Building 117
2:30pm

Voting Senators in Attendance: James Adams, Kyle Ainsworth, Kristin Bailey-Wallace, Todd Barrios, Wesley Berg, Derek Cegelka, David Cook, Scott Drury, Donald Gooch, Al Greule, Christina Guenther, Gina Harden, Dustin Joubert, Larry King, Franta Majcs, Chris McKenna, Pushkar Ogale, Heather Olson-Beal, Kefa Onchoke, Brian Oswald, Laurie Rogers, Pamela Rogers, Chris Ryan (Proxy for Angela Jones), Kathy Sheriff, Scott Sosebee, Jeremy Stovall, Sarah Straub, Steve Taffe (Proxy for Andrew Lannen), Brian Uriegas, Jamie Weaver

Excused Senators: Dr. Andrew Lannen. Dr. Angela Jones. Dr. Heather Olson-Beal left early to teach and Dr. Barbara Qualls attended remaining part of meeting as her proxy.

Guests: Dr. Scott Gordon, President, Dr. Steve Bullard, Provost & VPAA, and Dr. Marc Guidry, Associate Provost

I. Call to order

Faculty Senate Chair Dr. Jeremy Stovall called the meeting to order at 2:30 P.M. He welcomed the senators to the Forestry building and introduced our guest speakers.

II. Presentations

- A. Dr. Scott Gordon addressed Faculty Senate and thanked all of SFA for the support he has received since arriving. He discussed the importance of the voice of the faculty. He shared information regarding the newly developed Tiger Team which is taking a look at ways we are creating barriers for students. The team is also looking at ways to improve retention and recruitment.

He discussed that there has been some opaqueness with the budget. Within the next week or so, he hopes to bring a budget presentation prepared by Dr. Gallant to college level. He is working on item prioritization throughout the entire budgeting process so that it is more transparent. Dr. Gordon said SFA will publish what we are able to fund and what we are not able to fund.

Dr. Gordon asked for questions: Dr. Larry King asked if SFA will be looking into differential tuition. Dr. Gordon responded he has had no discussions regarding this. Dr. King asked if College and Departmental budgets will be transparent? Dr. Gordon responded the budget will be transparent all the way down and he is going to expect the Deans and Chairs to be transparent with their faculty members.

Dr. McKenna asked about forwarding questions regarding the budget. Dr. Gordon said yes, and to copy them to Dr. Bullard, too.

Dr. Stovall asked Dr. Gordon if he had an opportunity to look at the Faculty Senate constitutional amendment regarding non-tenure track faculty? Dr. Gordon responded he has and he said we have his approval.

- B. Dr. Steve Bullard, Provost & VPAA mentioned The Financial Forum. He stated the complexity and challenge of understanding the budget and budget vocabulary. He mentioned Dr. Alders' quote, "We can't be J. C. Penney in an Amazon world" to addressing SFA marketing and recruitment. He mentioned his desire to make students and their parents have positive experiences as they are onboarding here at SFA. He mentioned Dr. Mehaffey helped when in the Senate with a recruitment and retention forum. He asked Dr. Stovall to state what the Faculty Senate worked on previously as a committee to find out what faculty members were doing to help us focus on retention and recruitment.

Senator Ainsworth asked questions about duo verification process.

Dr. Straub offered to find Spanish translators for Showcase Saturday events.

Dr. Olson Beal asked for the names of those individuals on the Tiger Team. Dr. Bullard shared that the Tiger team is chaired by Anthony Espinosa. He asked Dr. Stovall to send an email to Mr. Espinosa to ask him to share who is on the Tiger Team.

Dr. King asked about computer replacement funds. Dr. Bullard shared there are no replacement HEF funds.

Dr. Stovall asked about the status of the Associate Provost search. Dr. Bullard said committee is meeting Friday and hopes to start interviews very quickly.

Dr. Stovall asked about differential tuition course fees. Dr. Bullard said this is a non-issue right now because no formal drafts have been put together.

- C. Dr. Marc Guidry, Associate Provost passed out a document noting the first meeting of the Reimagining Undergraduate Advising Committee which met October 3. He said they researched some resources which were listed on the document he passed out. As a whole, SFA uses a satellite model for advising. Dr. Guidry stated advising is done differently across the campus. He shared the breakdown of advising models across the campus. His committee broke into subcommittees and he listed the subcommittees on the document he shared with Faculty Senate members. Dr. Guidry shared a research document regarding usage of the EAB.

III. Break – Committee Breakout Session (3:14pm – 3:24pm)

IV. Approval of Minutes from Meeting #461

Dr. Stovall asked for any changes to the Minutes from Meeting #461. Dr. McKenna had emailed a key update regarding the Administration & Finance Committee stating it had not met with administration. This correction was made to the minutes. Minutes approved.

V. Officer Reports

- A. Chair – Dr. Jeremy Stovall reported that the meeting Zoom capabilities have been improved. He stated the HSI readiness team will finish work this Fall, so no Senate representatives will be needed. He stated he will attend the Texas Council of Faculty Senates meeting October 18-19. Dr. Stovall stated he received a letter regarding non-tenured track faculty members' lack of support with ORSP funding. He stated that he would like to invite Dr. Sampson and Dr. Long to a Faculty Senate meeting to discuss ways to incorporate ORSP funding for non-tenure track faculty. Dr. Stovall said he is planning a discussion with Senator Olson-Beal regarding a newly formed women's group and how this group might interact with Faculty Senate.

- B. Chair-Elect – Dr. Andrew Lannen was excused and absent from meeting. No report.
- C. Secretary – Dr. Kathy Sheriff -No Report
- D. Treasurer – Dr. Brian Uriegas reported that the Senate account balance as of October 9, 2019, is \$8110.75.

VI. Committee Reports

A. External (University) Committees

- a. Academic Affairs (Stovall) The committee met once September 25th. There were three items of note that came up: First, non-tenure track faculty members were not able to evaluate Deans and Chairs. This was brought to Dr. Bullard. In future years non-tenure track faculty members will be allowed to evaluate electronically. Senator Gooch requested we ask that these future Dean and Chair evaluations be the same and not discernable from the tenure track evaluations. Second, Dr. Stovall mentioned some other graduation procedures going forward may include recognition of Emeritus faculty and Regents' Scholars. Third, Dr. Stovall shared The Faculty Government & Involvement committee's resolution, but received no specific feedback about future faculty participation regarding Presidential Screening processes.
- b. Core Curriculum Assessment Committee (Dr. Gooch) Met on October 3. Presented information on LEAP value rubrics. Committee created a Qualtrics survey to generate information on what the faculty wants regarding recertification of the core curriculum.
- c. University Assessment Steering Council (Dr. Oswald) Committee met once and has merged some activities and may change name. Dr. Oswald mentioned not procrastinating undergraduate curriculum changes.
- d. Distance Education (Jones, Sheriff, Weaver) Met with CTL which is in process of planning arrangements with a proctoring program such as Proctor U. Discussion of meeting included CTL working with general counsel regarding the previous category 2.5 rights to a course development. This entails course content would be shared by the course developer and the university. One concern is first rights to teach a particular course. CTL is looking for feedback from Faculty Senate on a new Joint Creation and Ownership Agreement for distance education. This is brand new document.
- e. Graduate Council (Dr. Lannen) Dr. Stovall stated this committee met once. All curriculum proposals at the graduate level must be in by December 18, 2019.
- f. Policy (Barrios, Drury, Onchoke) The Policy Committee reported it has been meeting every week reviewing minor policies and sees no changes there. Discussion of two big policies which are currently in limbo (Workload and Distance Ed compensation).

- g. Ad Hoc Committees
 - a. Electronic Accessibility Team (Dr. Weaver) Dr. Weaver reported the IT team is attempting to create more tools for improving access. She stated Doodle polls are not accessible and made mention that on the MY SFA webpage is a Microsoft Forms survey template that can be used for surveys.
 - b. Ad Hoc Graduate Student Experience & Enrollment (Berg, Oswald) Committee met three times and are working through ideas to increase enrollment. The committee is reviewing data and is getting closer to narrowing their ideas/top suggestions which will go directly Dr. Gordon by November 15. Discussion of ideas with Faculty Senate included reaching out to students who apply to SFA, but don't enroll, reaching out to those who leave SFA to go to another university, waiving of the TOEFL, and offering more SFA certificate programs.
 - c. Reimagining Advising (Guenther, Oswald) The committee met and has exchanged information between different advising procedures across campus. Mention was made of improving advising versus justification for software (EAB) usage.
 - d. Associate Provost Search (Lannen) No Report at this time. Dr. Bullard spoke to the status of this search.
 - e. Director of HR Search (Stovall) Dr. Stovall shared Skype interviews are scheduled the week of November 4.
- B. Internal (FS) Committees
 - a. Academic Affairs (Weaver) Dr. Weaver shared this committee met with Dr. Guidry to discuss the Fields of Study process at SFA. This committee is open to new projects/tasks Dr. Guidry may need in the future.
 - b. Administration and Finance (Uriegas) Committee reported they met to discuss the budget questions and presented a final document to Faculty Senate of questions to share with Dr. Gordon. Dr. McKenna shared the committee is trying to get more information from Dr. Gallant's office. Dr. King asked that we ask to have the new budget be available to all faculty.
 - c. Communications (Greule) No Report
 - d. Elections (Jones) Dr. Stovall mentioned we have received a list of all tenure track faculty.
 - e. Ethics (Gooch) No new news to report.
 - f. Faculty Government and Involvement (Ainsworth) This committee reported it is working toward proposed resolution to Proposed SFASU Faculty Senate Resolution on Faculty Participation on Future SFASU Presidential Searches. Committee members have been sending drafts back and forth and drafts have been viewed by all the Chairs and Deans. Most conversations were supportive. Dr. McKenna moved to approve resolution. Dr. Gooch seconded. Motion carries unanimously. Dr. Stovall will work with Dr. Bullard to present this to Dr. Gordon.
 - g. Professional Welfare (Berg) Committee reported it has been meeting virtually taking a look at faculty workload and the foundations course for new faculty. One consideration mentioned is to look at Foundations of Teaching and Learning

course and the effectiveness of that course for new faculty. One thought is whether some new faculty might be exempted.

h. Strategic Planning (Lannen) Has not met. No Report

VII. Old Business

Dr. Stovall shared an update on the amendment relating to non-tenure track faculty. The vote was 157 to 13 in favor (92%). Dr. Gordon approved the amendment earlier in this meeting.

VIII. New Business

A. Possible proposals to amend Constitution relating to non-tenure track faculty was discussed by Dr. Stovall. Dr. Stovall shared that IT can now support options so that non-tenure track faculty can elect their own candidates rather than Faculty Senate electing non-tenure track faculty.

Adjournment

Dr. Sosebee moved for adjournment. Motion was seconded by Dr. Uriegas. Faculty Chair Stovall adjourned the meeting at 4:22P.M.