

**Stephen F. Austin State University  
Faculty Senate Agenda – Meeting #463  
Wednesday, November 13, 2019  
Forestry Building 117  
2:30pm**

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

**Excused Senators:** Christina Guenther, Larry King, Franta Majs, Sarah Straub (no Proxy), Scott Sosebee. Heather Olson-Beal left early to teach and Brittany Fish attended remaining part of meeting as her Proxy.

**Guests:** Dr. Scott Gordon, President, Dr. Danny Gallant, VPFA, Ms. Jessica Barrett, Budget Director, Dr. Steve Bullard, Provost & VPAA, Dr. Marc Guidry, Associate Provost, Ms. Alisha Collins, Budget Analyst for Academic Affairs

**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, President, addressed the Faculty Senate and thanked faculty for serving at the Showcase Saturday event on November 9, 2019. He discussed pressures in higher education that may affect SFA, but mentioned our opportunities to be a leader in higher education in the USA. He listed decreasing state funding and increasing tuition costs as disruptors. He also discussed the college loan crisis and new massive online programs developing across the country. He mentioned dual credit return on investment conversations at SFA and data collection currently under review. Dr. Gordon spoke positively regarding our opportunities in higher education He wants us to look at who the learners are out there that SFASU is not connecting with. He says we need to determine our “IT” so that we can be the lead in our “IT” nationwide. Dr. Gordon welcomed faculty input regarding how SFASU can address the disruptors occurring in higher education as we make future plans for our university.

Dr. Oswald asked about the SPIES survey Dr. Gordon sent out to faculty regarding the SFA Strategic Plan and whether we would be able to see the results. Dr. Gordon said the survey results will be made available to faculty. Dr. Gordon was asked about Dr. Baker Pattillo’s (previous President of SFASU) emails by Dr. Taaffe and Mr. Kyle Ainsworth. Dr. Gordon said he would meet with Dr. Jeremy Stovall and Mr. Damon Derrick to look

into the concerns associated with archiving Dr. Pattillo's emails and other correspondence within the archives in the Steen Library.

- B. Dr. Danny Gallant, VPFA, presented a power point presentation on the SFASU budget and on higher education funding components. The power point presentation will be posted online soon by the administration. Much discussion ensued. All is recorded and available on the Faculty Senate website.
- C. Dr. Steve Bullard, Provost & VPAA, reminded the faculty of the opportunities ahead that we have for adaptation for our campus.

### III. Break – Committee Breakout Session (4:50 pm – 4:55 pm)

### IV. Approval of Minutes from Meeting #462

Dr. Stovall asked for any changes to the Minutes from Meeting #462. Minutes were approved.

### V. Officer Reports

- A. Chair – Dr. Jeremy Stovall mentioned three December graduation ceremonies and four for May graduation due to continued campus construction. He attended the Texas Council of Faculty Senates meeting and reported similar trends involving enrollment and greater incorporation of non-tenure track faculty onto senates currently going on in other universities. He shared new leadership information regarding the Higher Education Coordinating Board. Dr. Stovall also shared he is now on the Fixed Tuition Rate committee.
- B. Chair-Elect – Dr. Andrew Lannen shared the outcome of the Associate Provost search committee he was on. Due to budgetary concerns the hiring was put on pause for now. He presented at the October Board of Regents meeting since Dr. Stovall was attending a conference, sharing faculty accomplishments. He also presented the Senate resolution related to faculty representation on Presidential searches in the future, focusing on our goals this year of positive and transparent communication.
- C. Secretary – Dr. Kathy Sheriff - No Report
- D. Treasurer – Dr. Brian Uriegas reported that the Senate account balance as of November 13, 2019, is \$7597.97.

### VI. Committee Reports

#### A. External (University) Committees

- a. Academic Affairs (Stovall) Dr. Stovall was unable to attend the October 30 meeting due to attending a conference, but the agenda included discussions of the ongoing budget savings issue, and the freezing of the associate provost search.
- b. Core Curriculum Assessment Committee (Dr. Gooch) The committee met and had a long discussion of SFA's current core assessment model. He shared that SFASU will transition to the Faculty Trust Model.
- c. University Assessment Steering Council (Dr. Oswald) No Report at this time.
- d. Distance Education (Jones, Sheriff, Weaver) No Report at this time.

- e. Graduate Council (Dr. Lannen) Dr. Lannen reported the Graduate Council Academic Affairs Sub-committee will meet this week to conduct initial review of curriculum changes.
- f. Policy (Barrios, Drury, Onchoke) The Policy Committee reported it has met weekly to look at substantive changes and wants to put all policies on five year rotation rather than three year to be more efficient in use of time.
- g. Ad Hoc Committees:
  - a. Electronic Accessibility Team (Dr. Weaver) Dr. Weaver reported the committee is looking at many of the SFA websites and webpages to make sure they are accessible.
  - b. Ad Hoc Graduate Student Experience & Enrollment (Berg, Oswald) Committee had final meeting. Dr. Berg stated they are finalizing a list of recommendations to submit to Dr. Bullard regarding improving graduate enrollment and the graduate student experience. The list will be shared with the Senate by Dr. Berg when it is available.
  - c. Reimagining Advising (Guenther, Oswald): Reported was that committee work will be completed at December meeting.
  - d. Associate Provost Search (Lannen) : Dr. Lannen reported this search has been paused due to budgetary issues at this time.
  - e. Director of HR Search (Stovall) Dr. Stovall shared there are three candidates coming to campus next week for interviews. All three would do a good job working with faculty, in Dr. Stovall's opinion.

#### B. Internal (FS) Committees

- a. Academic Affairs (Weaver) Dr. Weaver shared this committee is exploring a new no test option for admission to SFASU such as the SAT and ACT. We are reading some information sent from Dr. Bullard at this time.
- b. Administration and Finance (Uriegas) No Report at this time.
- c. Communications (Greule) No Report at this time.
- d. Elections (Jones) Dr. Jones reported this committee is currently developing a survey to send to faculty regarding election of non-tenure track faculty to Faculty Senate.
- e. Ethics (Gooch) No Report at this time.
- f. Faculty Government and Involvement (Ainsworth) This committee has been looking at the Faculty Senate constitution and reviewing Lamar University's constitution and model.
- g. Professional Welfare (Berg) Dr. Berg reported this committee looked at data regarding the new faculty Foundations in Teaching and Learning course. He stated that no recommendations have been made at this time to change that process for new faculty.
- h. Strategic Planning (Lannen) No Report at this time.

#### VII. Old Business:

No old business discussed.

VIII. New Business:

Mr. Ainsworth shared information on the *Proposed SFASU Faculty Senate Resolution on Presidential Records*. Discussion involved communication with SFASU General Counsel regarding presidential records and in particular e-mails. Mr. Ainsworth proposed submitting this proposal as a recommendation to the President. Motion to table this resolution document was made by Dr. Gooch allowing for communication with Dr. Gordon first. Dr. Uriegas seconded. Motion passed.

Adjournment:

Dr. Jones moved for adjournment. Motion was seconded by Dr. Gooch. Faculty Chair Stovall adjourned the meeting at 5:53 P.M.