

Stephen F. Austin State University
Faculty Senate Agenda – Meeting #477
Wednesday, November 10, 2021
Zoom Meeting
2:30pm

- I. Call to order: 2:30 PM by Chair Brian Uriegas
- **Attending Senators:** James Adams, Kristen Bailey-Wallace, Jeremy Becnel, Sara Bishop, Rebecca Davis (**proxy:** Steve Kosovich until 4:00pm), George Day, Sarah Drake, Xiaozhen Han (**proxy:** Bidisha Sengupta), Margaret Leysath, Christina Guenther, Larry King, Franta Majs (**proxy:** Dr. Michael Maurer), Rob McDermand, Chris McKenna, Rajat Mishra (**proxy:** GW Scott beginning 4:00 pm), Jonathan Mitchell, Amanda Moore, Heather Olson-Beal, Tina Oswald, Pamela Rogers, Gretchen Patterson, Diane Sizemore, Sarah Straub, Louise Stoehr, Bailey Thompson, Chris Turner, Victoria Wagner-Greene, Yanli Zhang, Daniel McCleary (**proxy:** Summer Pannell), Herbert Midgley, Steve Cooper, Darrel McDonald, Michelle Klein
 - **Not Present:**
- II. Presentations
- A. Dr. Lorenzo Smith, Provost & VPAA- Tuition Revenue Bond Support from State
- a. Not present
- B. Jason Reese- 4SP Priorities
- a. Recap of the proposed priorities
 - b. Described clarifications that were addressed (town halls, etc.); responded to all 5 requests made during Oct. 27 meeting
 - c. UBC determined 5 campus priorities (access/recruiting/onboarding/retention, teaching and learning, student support, career/civic/global readiness, RSCA)
- C. Erma Brecht, Executive Director of Enrollment Management- Enrollment
- a. Shared that packages were being delivered. Included viewbook (mail to prospective students; smaller brochure (road piece); etc.
 - b. Demonstrated fall 2021 enrollment (2017-present)
 - c. Recruitment focus: First Year (First time Undergrads), New Transfers, Continuing Undergraduates, New Graduates
 - d. Question about flat rate tuition – did it accomplish its mission? Unclear.
 - i. Will work with Karen Hall in IR to collect data regarding this
 - e. Discussion on engagement and traditional connection for students affected by the pandemic
 - f. Ways to address issues: Example – students who plan to pursue nursing and apply to enter nursing but don't get in, there is a clear alternative pathway
 - g. Question asked regarding the impact of 8-wk courses – IR has SCH by parts of term. Will ask IR for fall 2021 impact
 - h. Shared retention graph from IR for undergraduate retention (Erma will share with Brian after this meeting)

- III. Break (if needed)
 - a. Return to session 3:40 PM
- IV. Approval of Minutes from Meeting #476
 - a. Senator Wagner Greene – motion to remove times and approve minutes
 - b. Seconded Senator Midgley
 - c. Motion Passes

V. Officer Reports

- A. Chair – Dr. Brian Uriegas
 - a. Discussed major updates to meeting schedules
 - b. Discussed potential boycotts
 - c. Discussed trust factor and good faith initiatives
 - d. Follow up on this upcoming Wednesday
 - e. Clarified student meeting as not having been SGA
 - i. SGA was pro-President in Board Meeting
 - f. Discussion on Board meetings per Rule 25
- B. Chair-Elect – Dr. Chris McKenna
 - a. UBC is currently in Working Groups
 - b. Next meeting is next Friday
 - c. Generated list of Budget Priorities that reflect university mission (shared by Jason Reese)
- C. Secretary – Dr. Sarah Straub
- D. Treasurer – Gretchen Patterson
 - a. \$2,000 balance
 - b. \$400 for dues (not posted)
 - c. \$25 for virtual conference (not posted)

VI. Committee Reports

- A. External (University) Committees
 - 1. Academic Affairs Council (Uriegas)
 - 2. Core Curriculum Assessment Committee (Drake)
 - 3. Distance Education (McDonald)
 - 4. Graduate Council (McKenna)
 - a. AA convos on changes to graduate programs
 - b. Committee will be taking a hard look at cross-listed graduate course syllabi (400/500/600 level courses); concern that these will be accreditation problems; emails will be sent to affected faculty members
 - 5. Policy (Drake)
 - a. Collaborative efforts with Professional Welfare
- B. Internal (FS) Committees
 - 1. Academic Affairs (Turner)
 - i. Agreed on proposal to Senate for Latin Honors
 - 2. Administration and Finance (Sizemore)
 - i. Connected with UBC with request to assist

- ii. Waiting for response
- 3. Communications (Day)
- 4. Elections (Rogers)
 - i. Nominations due 1st of the year
- 5. Ethics (Klein)
- 6. Faculty Government and Involvement (Adams)
- 7. Professional Welfare (King)
- 8. Strategic Planning (Mitchell)

VII. Old Business

VIII. New Business

- 1. Attendance Rosters
 - a. Motion to Table: Senator Straub
 - b. Seconded: Senator King
 - c. Motion Passed
- 2. Possible action on 4SP recommendation
 - a. Chair Uriegas shared Mission Elements and Campus Priorities from UBC
 - b. Chair Elect McKenna supported with contextual information from UBC meetings
 - c. Senator King expressed concern that some of these may not be relevant to Academic Affairs
 - d. Senator Day discussed scholarships and recruitment coming out of this document as not representative of Academic Affairs
 - e. Motion: Senator King
 - f. Seconded: Senator Stoehr
 - ii. AMENDED: (1) reject the proposed priorities previously presented to the Faculty Senate (2) form a committee to propose an alternate set of priorities to report back at next meeting on December 1st
 - iii. Motion Passed
- 3. Latin Honors
 - b. Goal to align with peer institutions
 - c. Move to Accept: Senator Mitchell
 - d. Seconded: Senator Oswald
 - e. Motion Rescinded
 - i. Entered discussion regarding minimum hours
 - 1. Was this policy for all students or just transfers?
 - 2. More discussion needed on 42 hour minimum
 - ii. Sent back to committee for further discussion

Laude – 3.5-3.699
 Magna – 3.7-3.899
 Summa – 3.9-4.0

42 minimum hours from SFA

4. Possible action regarding request from Staff Council on Faculty Senate Liaison
 1. Do we want this in standing rules or constitution?
 2. Motion: Add to Standing Rules by Senator Turner
 3. Seconded: Senator King
 4. Motion Passed
 5. From Herbert Midgley: Tuesdays 9:00-10:30 Meeting Support Request (BIP Committee?)
5. Policy Requests-Faculty Workload, Class Sizes
 1. Faculty Workload – Survey distributed and results reviewed
 - a. Reviewed information from the shared documents and background on requests for expediency
 - b. Shared reservations regarding pushing university policies to colleges
 - c. Discussion on policy sentence that gives Provost, AP the discretion to move away from policy in the interest of the university
 - d. Motion to Accept Faculty Workload Recommended Revisions
 - i. Motion by Senator Day
 - ii. Seconded by Senator Stoehr
 - iii. Request for Amendment by Senator McKenna to include specific parties rather than “relevant parties”
 1. Change to “by relevant entities, including Faculty, Chairs, Deans, Provost, and others”
 2. Motion by Senator Stoehr
 3. Seconded by Senator Bishop
 4. Motion Passes
 - iv. Motion Senator Wagner-Greene
 - v. Seconded: Senator Turner
 - vi. Motion Passes
 2. Small Class Size
 - a. Senator King shared context regarding AA budget
 - b. Motion to Review by Senator King
 - c. Seconded: Senator Wagner Greene
 - d. Motion to Approve: Senator Stoehr
 - e. Seconded: Senator Guenther
 - f. Motion Passes
6. Faculty Survey on Joining a University System
 1. Do we want Professional Welfare or Ad Hoc to address this and make the survey?
 2. Do we even want the survey?
 3. Request for research on what the faculty impact would be
 4. Request for faculty town hall for information gathering or question-generating

5. Staff Council engagement request – should each entity conduct their own survey? Chair Uriegas and Chair Elect McKenna will coordinate with Megan Weatherly, Staff Council Chair
 6. Senator King brought up a previous survey that we could replicate
 7. Motion to Create survey to Poll Faculty on System Interest:
Senator Wagner-Greene
 8. Seconded: Senator King
 9. Motion Passes
7. Possible action on response to Board of Regents on issues provided by the Senate on 9/22, Follow-up from Leadership meeting on 11/5.
 1. Expressed reservations about a Vote of No Confidence against the Board
 2. Suggestion to pause on this until survey results collected about joining a system
 3. Motion to establish ad hoc committee to analyze responses and present possible actions by the next scheduled meeting by Senator Turner
 4. Seconded Senator King
 5. Motion Passes

Motion to Adjourn Senator Wagner Greene
Seconded Senator King
Motion Passes