

Faculty Senate Board of Regents Report – January 31, 2017

Respectfully Submitted by Dr. J.D. Salas, Chair

I. Faculty Accomplishments

- College of Science & Mathematics - **Dr. Michele Harris (Professor, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry)** is the recipient of the first endowed professorship in the College of Sciences and Mathematics

- College of Fine Arts - **Dr. Gene Moon** (Assistant Professor, music) awarded CFA's second \$125,000 endowed professorship, dedicated to orchestra.

- Nelson Rusche College of Business - **Dr. Susan Jennings** (Professor - online B.B.A coordinator) - CollegeChoice.net, an independent online publication dedicated to helping students find the right college, has ranked SFA as the sixth best university in Texas to offer an online Bachelor of Business Administration.

- James I. Perkins College of Education - **Dr. Chay Runnels, Mary Olle, Todd Barrios, Dr. Gina Causin**, SFA Hospitality Administration program was ranked No. 3 on Universities.com – best hospitality administration management list.

Dr. Le'Ann Solmonson (Professor – Director of Professional Counseling Program) SFA received the No. 1 ranking from topcounselingschools.org for having the top-value counseling master's degree in Texas. Topcounselingschools.org is an organization committed to helping students find the best higher-education counseling programs.

- College of Liberal & Applied Arts - The **Department of Psychology** is having a banner year in regard to publication. The Department has produced **Ten** publications so far this year.

- Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture – Hosted 450 high school students in their College Experience event. The event was organized by Erin Brown, Emily Payne, Joey Bray and grad student Courtney Branton.

II. Financial Forum Report

- Held on Wednesday – December 7th
- Many Thanks to Dr. Gallant and Dr. Bullard for their report and willingness to field questions from the audience.
- We look forward to making this event an annual one to further help faculty understand the financial aspect of running the university while providing input.
- The forum was created due to the 28% cut to the Professional Development Fund in the Fall. Since then, the fund has been restored and we would like to thank President Patillo, Dr. Gallant, Dr. Bullard, and all who worked hard to restore the fund.
- One financial item that has remains on the minds of many faculty and was brought up at the forum is the reinstatement of the Summer School pay which was altered 4 years ago. Understanding the upcoming state budget issues, I still felt the necessity to mention it on this report and hope that it can be addressed.

III. Faculty Socials and Coffee

- The Senate will continue to host several Coffee and Social hours throughout the semester to increase faculty participation in Senate activities and receive input from faculty members on any concerns.

IV. Post-Tenure Review Concerns

- As mentioned in our last meeting, there was some faculty concern regarding the Post-Tenure Review and its sudden implementation.
- Faculty Senate Representation on Committee headed by Associate Provost Tareilo. Representation from all three academic ranks.
- Will be reviewing faculty response from those undergoing the first wave of reviews.
- Advocate for increased Professional Development Support to accommodate the addition of those professors who will undergo PTR to those professors working towards tenure and promotion.

V. Adjunct Faculty Teaching Excellence Award

- The Professional Welfare committee has already been hard at work soliciting candidates for the Adjunct Teaching Excellence Award winner for this academic year.
- The committee also worked last semester to officially name the award to better represent the applicant pool since the adjunct rank includes several different titles. We will be forwarding that information to Provost Bullard and hopefully have it the award name at the April meeting.

VI. Other Business

- The Senate will host a Teaching Effectiveness Forum in order to better implement the findings of a report presented to us by Provost Bullard. The report was created by a focus group headed by Dean Brian Murphy, College of Liberal and

Applied Arts and covers several aspects of teaching best practices and course evaluation.