**FACULTY SENATE MINUTES**

**SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY**

September 30, 2021

3:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Remote via Zoom

**Senators Present (30).**

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Samuel Adu-Prah (COSET), Mario Aschauer (CAM), Natalie Baker (CJ), Maria Botero (CHSS), Tim Brown (COE), Patrick Buzzini (CJ), Rhonda Callaway (CHSS), Mona Cockerham (COHS), Tamara Cook (COSET), Brandy Doleshal (COSET), Mandy Duan (COBA), Debbi Hatton (CAM), Damon Hay (COSET), Soo-Yeon Hwang (NGL), Nick Lantz (CHSS), Victoria Lantz (CAM) Sureni Mullegama (COM), Junkun Ma (COSET) , Audrey Murfin (CHSS), Mary Petrón (COE), Debbie Price (COE), Kevin Randall (COHS), Stephen Rapp (CHSS), Vlad Radoias (COBA), Karen Sherrill (COBA), Aneika Simmons (COBA), Kyle Stutts (COSET), Xiaobo Wang (CHSS), Anthony Watkins (CAM), Rebecca Wentworth (COE)

**Senators Not Present (1).**

Geraldine Monjardez (CJ)

**Called to Order**

3:30 PM

**Approval of Minutes**

September 16, 2021 minutes were approved.

**Senate Committee Reports**

**Academic Affairs Committee**

Senator Hatton (Chair of AA Committee) presented the review of APS 910312 *Academic Probation, Suspension, Dismissal, and Termination* on behalf of the AA committee. The members of the committee recommend accepting the proposed policy with the provision that definitions of the basic terms used included. Senator Petron moved to accept the recommendation of the AA committee and the motion was passed.

**Committee on Committees & Surveys**

Senator Lantz (member of the Committee on Committees and Surveys) presented the review of APS 930129 *Graduate Degree Enrollment and Completion Requirements* on behalf of the CC committee. The members of the committee reviewed similar policies used in other universities and requested further clarification. Dr. Ken Hendrickson, Dean of Graduate Students, will be invited to the next Faculty Senate session to clarify this proposed policy.

**Faculty Affairs Committee**

Senator Adu-Prah (Chair of the FA Committee) presented the review of APS 810701 *Instructional Overload Assignment* on behalf of the FA committee. The members of the committee recommend accepting the policy with the provision that it should include a clarification regarding the mechanism to be used in case there is need to request for an overload larger than the one specified in the policy.

**University Affairs Committee**

Senator Wang (Chair of the UA Committee) presented the review of APS 890303 *Employment of Graduate Assistants* on behalf of the UA committee. The members of the committee request further clarification regarding the changes made to the policy. The members of the committee recommend pausing the analysis of the policy until further clarification is provided. Dr. Ken Hendrickson, Dean of Graduate Students, will be invited to the next Faculty Senate session to clarify this proposed policy.

**Shared Governance Committee**

Senator Sherrill presented an update of the work done by the newly created SG committee. The members of the committee shared their work plan, including goals and dates.

**Other Reports**

Strategic Plan Steering Committee – Senator Cockerham provided an update regarding the work of the Strategic Plan Committee, most of this committee will be focused on to determining SHSU strategic goals, vision, and identity.

**Leadership Pipeline Development Committee (a University committee)** – Senator Simmons provided an update regarding the work of the Leadership Pipeline Development Committee. This committee is currently researching the steps that are conducive for moving from a faculty position to an administrative position.

**Chair’s Report**

The Chair provided an update on the following topics:

* Faculty senate representation in the Strategic Plan Steering Committee: There will be three representatives for Faculty Senate in this committee.
* Updates regarding the Chair and Chair-Elect meetings with the President: Chair and Chair-Elect discussed with the President recent measures adopted in response to the pandemic, and updates on the progress made in the Significant Life Events policy proposal, Pilot Program for an Ombudsperson office at SHSU, and Faculty Senate Shared Governance committee. This conversation included an explanation of the rationale behind the choice of the current Chair of the Strategic Plan Steering Committee.
* Updates regarding the Chair and Chair-Elect meetings with the Provost: Chair and Chair-Elect discussed with the Provost updates regarding the proposal for changes in ORP contributions, and the inclusion of Faculty Senate representation in the development of a Policy on Policies. Chair and Chair-Elect provided updates on the unfinished revision of policies done by Faculty Senate –the policy revision that was interrupted by the pandemic. The Provost provided clarification on how service credit is measured at SHSU, and finally, issues with the Bearkat Bundle were discussed. Several Senators expressed their concerns regarding the Bearkat Bundle, in particular, the way SHSU is measuring the benefits of this program to the students.

**Unfinished Business**

Update on the examination of APS 860211. Changes to the language of the policy were made, the recommendation is to eliminate section 2.04 and request further clarification regarding schedule and guidelines used.

**New Business**

Faculty Concerns brought to the attention of Faculty Senate:

* Withdrawn university funds for CHSS Diversity & Inclusion event
* IT Issue – Difficulties with newly issued Dell laptops.

**Announcements**

Next meeting is in three weeks because of Texas Council of Faculty Senates meeting

**Next Meeting**

October 21, 3:30 P.M.

**Adjournment:**

5:04 pm.