

**FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY**

March 30, 2017

3:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Lowman Student Center – Room 304

Members Present (19): Irfan Ahmed (COBA), Donald Albert (COSET), Burcu Ates (COE), Jonathan Breazeale (COBA), Madhusudan Choudhary (COSET), Donna Cox (COE), James Crosby (CHSS), Karla Eidson (COE), Andrea Foster (COE), Randall Garner (CJ), Donovan Haines (COSET), Michael Hanson (NGL), Renee James (COSET), William Jasper (COSET), Melinda Miller (COE), Karen Miller (FAMC), Stephen Rapp (CHSS), Stacy Ulbig (CHSS), Ryan Zapalac (COHS)

Members Not Present (8): Donald Bumpass (COBA), Jennifer Didier (COHS), Brandy Doleshal (COSET), John Domino (CHSS), Debbi Hatton (FAMC), Santosh Kumar (COBA), Eric Marsh (FAMC), Anthony Watkins (FAMC)

Called to Order: 3:34 PM in Austin Hall by Chair, Dr. Donna Cox

Approval of Minutes.

The February 23rd and March 9th meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Chair's Report

Report on the Spring Meeting of the Texas State University Council of Faculty Senates (TSUS CFS) and Texas Council of Faculty Senates (TCFS). Chair-elect, Dr. Breazeale, gave a report on the meetings – including capital expenditures, Hazelwood, legislative issues and issues pertinent to other universities in the system or the state as a whole.

Report on Provost One on One. Dr. Eglsaer will attend the senate meeting on April 27th. Dr. Eglsaer said that the processing of tenure packets was going well and as expected. He will provide data to the senate on his visit.

Dr. Eglsaer also told faculty to not to expect any merit pay in September.

Drs. Henley and McKernan will host a meeting with the faculty as a whole on April 18th and 19th to answer questions and hold discussion on the D.O. school. Several senators asked whether or not a better email could be circulated about the purpose and intent of the meeting. Dr. Cox said she would get with Julie Schwab in the Provost's office about getting a prettier product out to all faculty.

One senator asked about whether or not the Senate will provide Dr. Henley a letter of support or pass a resolution in support of the new college. Several senators suggested that the comments from the annual Senate survey may shed light on the level of support by the faculty as a whole. One senator was concerned that the D.O. school is being promoted or sold already as having faculty support when it, in fact, does not.

Committee Reports

University Affairs. APS 890228 (Use of Tobacco Products in Academic Classrooms and Facilities). Tony Watkins, chair of University Affairs, provided a report on the committee's evaluation of the policy and asked the discussion to proceed amongst the senate as a whole. One senator reiterated that the policy is intended to promote a healthier campus to reduce insurance costs and the policy is effectively unenforceable.

A motion was made to accept the changes to the policy as provided to faculty senate by academic affairs. A second was made. The motion carried unanimously.

Faculty Affairs. APS 890303 (Employment of Graduate Assistants). Ryan Zapalac, chair of Faculty Affairs suggested changes to the wording of the policy – with regard to the 18 required credit hours.

A motion was made to accept the changes recommended by Faculty Affairs. A second was made. The motion carried unanimously.

Academic Affairs. APS 860904 (Academic Credit for Work). The Academic Affairs committee recommended that an upper limit be placed on the number of credits to be claimed for work experience.

A motion was made to accept the change recommended by Academic Affairs. A second was made. The motion carried unanimously.

Committee on Committees. APS 810213 (Procedures in Cases of Academic Dishonesty). The committee recommended to the Senate that verbiage be added that preclude “self-plagiarism” when students use their own submissions in one course to meet the requirements of another course or the same course if taken again later.

One senator provided their department's policy on self-plagiarism. Dr. Cox asked the senator to pass the wording of the department policy to Committee on Committees to evaluate the wording. Discussion on this policy was pushed to the April 13 senate meeting.

Dr. Cox then assigned newly received policies to various committees and will follow up with an email to the entire senate on those assignments.

New Business

One senator asked about the decision to use or not use a search firm for the filling of vacant positions.

Meeting adjourned at 4:56 PM.