

# FACULTY SENATE MINUTES SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

October 7, 2010

## Members Present:

Tracy Bilsing (CHSS), Len Breen (CoE), Donald Bumpass (CoBA), Rebecca Bustamente (CoE), Erin Cassidy (NGL), Jeff Crane (CHSS), Donna Desforges (CHSS), Mark Frank (CoBA), Debbi Hatton (CHSS), Drew Lopenzina (CHSS), Joyce Mc Cauley (CoE), Ling Ren (CoCJ), Sheryl Serres (CoE), Tracy Steele (CHSS), Doug Ullrich (CoAS).

## Members Not Present:

Carl Brewer (CoBA), Chad Hargrave (CoAS), Hee-Jong Joo (CoCJ), Renee James (CoAS), Bill Jasper (CoAS), Gerald Kohers (CoBA), Paul Loeffler (CoAS), Sheryl Murphy-Manley (CoAS), Dwayne Pavelock (CoAS), Ricky White (CoAS).

## Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 by Senate Chair Frank.

## Minutes Approved:

Motion approved to approve minutes from September 23, 2010 passed unanimously.

## Chair's Report:

*Meeting with Associate Provost Dick Eglsaer –*

1. Dr. Eglsaer would like the Senate's input on the AASCU Red Balloon Project (attachment 1). Currently he does not have a set opinion whether we should bring introduce the program to the SHSU campus but would like to the faculty to take a look at the program and provide feedback. Senators voiced concerns stemming from the project's goals such as "educate with fewer resources" and "increase number of students." Additionally the faculty felt that there are organizations on campus (ADP and Delta) that are already doing many of the benefits identified on the hand-out. The faculty appreciated that the administration was concerned with faculty needs but could not support implementing this program on campus.
2. Dr. Eglsaer shared the most recent version of UEAC 4.16.10 Proposed Core Objectives (attachment 2) with Chair Frank. Copies of the document were distributed to the Senate for informative purposes. The Senate found it interesting that the document listed Social Responsibility as optional criteria for courses in the Communication area. The core curriculum hour break-down indicates that SHSU's current core is pretty much in alignment with the new prescribed core. Differences do occur in Component Area IV-Cultural Studies

(SHSU-3hrs / UEAC-0 hrs) and Component Area VI-Institutional Option (SHSU-1hr / UEAC-6 hrs). The Senate appreciated Dr. Egslaer sharing the information.

*Meeting with Provost David Payne-*

1. Chair Frank and Chair-elect Hatton visited with the Provost on Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>. The Provost shared the search committee members for Vice-President for Finance and Dean of CFAMC. Senators voiced concern that faculty was not represented on the VP-Finance committee. Chair Frank will discuss this with the Provost at the Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. (Attachment #3)
2. There are changes coming to the Correspondence Division including moving the division under DELTA which will predicate adding the distance education fee to the current fee structure. Senators voiced concern correspondence courses fill a unique need on campus including scheduling and instructional method. The concerns will be discussed with the Provost.
3. The Nursing degree package is out for review. No one is expecting objections to the addition to the program on campus. The anticipated start date is January 2011.
4. The College of Fine Arts and Mass Communication (CFAMC) is also out for review. Should have a final decision by November 1<sup>st</sup>. CFAMC will begin come into existence on January 1, 2011. The dean's search committee has been meeting to review application packets. An acting dean will be appointed to begin establishing policies while the committee searches.
5. Two colleges, CHSS and COAS, are already using summer monies. A new budget policy has been drawn up and in effect. In the past, the Provost had a discretionary fund balance to use to but the new budget does not include this provision.
6. President Gibson, like President Gaertner, would like to see class sizes up to 20:1. Currently the average class size is 18.6:1.
7. Finally, the campus has received its initial response from SAC which is "WOW!" Specifics will be distributed after further review.
8. The Provost felt that the Senate should examine the parking problem on campus but reminded us that there are always open spots at the stadium.
9. The CAD will discuss changes to IDEA including placing the form on-line.

*Academic Policy Council*

APC did not meet.

**New Business**

- A. Texas Faculty Senate Council will meet in Austin on October 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Chair Frank will not be able to attend due to a conference commitment. SHSU pays for two members to attend so any one who is interested and is available on the dates should contact Mark. Doug Ullrich (CoAS) volunteered to represent the university.
- B. Senator Tracey Steele (CHSS) presented concerns from the University Center. 1) It seems Dena Flores' cell-phone was cut from the budget. This is causing hardships for

faculty members going to the UC to teach because this was their point of contact if delayed in traffic, etc. The issue will be discussed with the Provost.

2) There are also problems with SHSU's academic calendar being different from that of Lone Star College. The different start dates caused confusion for the students enrolled in both institutions this semester. 3) Additional concern stems from different hours for student support offices.

- C. It was brought to the Senate's attention that faculty are being asked to access a student's level of patriotism when completing the recommendation form. The Senate assumed this was due to a common form being used for all scholarships including those for Military Science. There are MANY problems with Scholar X in addition to that of evaluating patriotism. Academic Affairs will be charged with reviewing the program.

### **Committee Reports**

*Faculty Affairs – Presented by committee chair Desforges*

*The committee meets on Wednesday at 3:00.*

1. The committee reported its findings on salaries. (Attachment # 5) The committee began by correlating the salaries from 20 institutions in Texas. The information was gathered from the Chronicle of Higher Education & AAUP. The committee limited its data set to schools in Texas to control variable. UTSA represented the highest means in the data and UTD & Sul Ross was the lowest. Salaries at SHSU seem to be in the average. It was noted that there is a discrepancy within the genders at SHSU. Discussion evolved on reasons including discipline discrepancies (i.e. Math vs. English).
2. The committee asked for guidance on how to approach its change on evaluating market adjustments. The topic has been examined by past Senates and the committee wanted to know the history of that research. CHSS and COBA both have formulas for determining market adjustments. The committee will gather information on how all the colleges make determinations.
3. The committee also inquired about how to proceed with reviewing tenure denials. Dr. Payne will address the Senate at a later date and questions on this topic can be posed at that time.
4. The Civic Engagement committee is currently accepting proposals for ACE designations on courses. A representative has been selected for each college. Those representatives are:
  - CHSS – Lee Miller- Sociology
  - CoBA – Sanjay Mehta – Management/Marketing
  - CoCJ – Raymond Teske
  - CoAS – Sergio Ruiz – Music
  - CoE – Joyce McCauley – Education (Chair of ACE committee)

Depending on the state of Banner, the ACE designation should appear beginning with the fall semester. Each college has been encouraged to consider the FES weighing matrix in order to help weight civic engagement. (Attachment #6)

*University Affairs – Presented by Mark Frank.*

*The committee meets on Wednesday at 2pm in Java City on the 1st floor of the NGL.*

The committee has gathered information on the cost of parking from other institutions. (Attachment #4) SHSU seems to be in alignment with other schools in Texas for parking in unreserved surface lots and parking garages. It does seem to be low on cost for reserve-numbered surface lot parking. Members of the Senate liked the sliding scale for parking used at SFA. They also would like to inquire who is paying \$35 for a spot at SHSU. The report will be presented to Provost Payne.

*Academic Affairs*

*The committee meets on “Senate Thursdays” at 11am.*

- No Report

*Committee on Committees*

*The committee meets on Thursday prior to Senate meetings.*

- No Report

### **Old Business**

No old business was presented.

### **Meeting Closed:**

The Senate was called to a close 5:01 pm.

The next Senate meeting will be held on October 21, 2010 in Austin Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbi Hatton, Chair-Elect

Approved, Oct 21, 2010

### ***Appendix –***

Attachment #1-Memo from Muriel A. Howard on Red Balloon Project

Attachment #2 –UAEC 4.16.10 Proposed Core Objectives

Attachment #3 – Search Committee Members

Attachment #4 – Faculty Parking Rate Comparison Chart

Attachment #5 – Faculty Affairs Report on Salaries

Attachment #6 – Levels of Civic Engagement in Teaching, Scholarly Activities and Service