

**FACULTY SENATE MINUTES  
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY**

March 29, 2018  
3:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.  
Smith-Hutson Building

**Members Present (20).**

Donald Albert (COSET), Maria Botero (CHSS), Jonathan Breazeale (COBA), Brandy Doleshal (COSET), Diane Dowdey (CHSS), Andrea Foster (COE), Randall Garner (CJ), Donovan Haines (COSET), Michael Hanson (NGL), Renee James (COSET), William Jasper (COSET), Santosh Kumar (COBA), Bobby LaRue (CJ), Karen Miller (FAMC), Melinda Miller (COE), Vlad Radoias (COBA), Stephen Rapp (CHSS), D.T. Ratnapradia (COHS), Nancy Stockall (COE), Anthony Watkins (FAMC)

**Members Not Present (10).**

William Carroll (CHSS), James Crosby (CHSS), Kenneth McIntyre (CHSS), Donald Bumpass (COBA), Burcu Ates (COE), Helen Berg (COE), Ryan Zapalac (COHS), Madhusudan Choudhary (COSET), Eric Marsh (FAMC), Kevin Clifton (FAMC)

**Called to Order.**

3:33 PM, Smith-Hutson Building room 300 by Chair Jonathan Breazeale.

**Approval of Minutes.**

The March 8 minutes were approved with two abstentions.

**Chair's Report.**

Topics discussed by the senate chair included:

- Academic Affairs communication
- Policies on FES and Post-Tenure Review
- Academic Forum - April 4
- Sick leave reporting
- Faculty Perception Survey

There seems to be a breakdown in communication from the administration to the faculty. There have been several instances over the past few months where initiatives and guidance from the provost's office have not been effectively or completely delivered to the faculty. At times these problems result in last minute announcements and rushed implementation of initiatives.

CAD will be looking at policies on FES and post-tenure review, therefore the senate will wait to resume work on the tenure, probation and reappointment policy. Additionally, the Provost is interested in finding a way to solicit faculty wide feedback on policy revisions. The senate engaged in discussion and several senators expressed the sentiment that it is the role of the elected senate to provide such guidance. A senator suggested that tenure review guidelines and post tenure review guidelines are currently different and need to be more unified, with some departments currently using university standards and others using their own guidelines.

Brandy Doleshal will represent the Faculty Senate at the upcoming April 4 Academic Forum hosted by Dr. Eglsaer.

The administration is concerned about sick leave reporting, the appearance of non-adherence to state law, and the possibility of an official audit reflecting poorly on the university. There was discussion about such reporting and the possible repercussions of a rigid enforcement of such. Many senators expressed frustration about the extra time faculty routinely commit to university work well beyond regularly scheduled work hours which are not accounted for.

Michael Hanson briefed the senate on the status of the upcoming faculty perception survey. In addition, the Committee on Committees will attempt to complete senate voting earlier this semester, preferably before finals.

Finally, the provost is interested in once again asking a group of senators to review and revise policies during summer 2018 and will offer a stipend for the effort.

### **Old Business.**

Policy Review: 100728 - Use of Telephones and Text Messages in Classrooms.

The senate still has concerns about the complete removal of this policy, most specifically regarding academic dishonesty.

### **Committee Reports.**

UA: 910312 - Academic Probation and Suspension.

Academic Affairs Committee Chair Ken McIntyre delivered the following recommended additions to the policy which were presented by Chair Breazeale.

10.e. If a student is successful in his or her appeal, that student will be re-instated to the program. However, the 'Cs' or 'F' will remain on the student's transcript and will continue to be used in calculating the student's GPA, whether or not the student re-takes the course and receives an adequate grade (i.e. 'A' or 'B') on the re-take.

10.f. If a student who has been reinstated into a graduate program after successfully appealing termination receives another 'C' or another 'F', the student will be terminated from the program. The student will retain the right to appeal this termination.

A motion was made to approve the policy with the recommended additions. The motion was seconded, and the policy was unanimously approved.

AA: 930226 - Required Developmental Education

A motion was made to approve the policy as is. The motion was seconded, and the policy was unanimously approved.

FA: 800301 - Faculty Leave Policy

Maria Botero delivered recommendations to improve maternity leave, parental leave and university support for faculty. Faculty Affairs recommends creating a unique type of leave and the senate engaged in discussion about if the best location for such a leave is APS 8000301 or a Human Resources policy. The senate will continue to research options before making a final policy recommendation.

### **Adjournment:**

5:02 PM