

Faculty Senate

Meeting Minutes

October 6, 2020 /Zoom / 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Present: see attached sign in sheets

Next meeting: November 4, 2020 /Zoom /1:00-3:00 p.m.

Call to Order – Dr. Beavers

1:01

Approval of Faculty Senate minutes – Dr. Beavers

Minutes were approved as written.

Guest Announcements

President’s Big Question Series - Dr. Kevin Wooten,

Dr. Wooten provided a brief overview of the Big Questions Series. The series will kick off 10/30/20. “The Big Questions initiative will be used to raise consciousness on campus and in our community involving serious issues and contemporary opportunities that will shape our collective future.” It will be used to elevate and promote UHCL faculty while promoting UHCL as a thought leader university. After his presentation the floor was open to questions and concerns. An invitation will be sent to everyone.

Student’s Affairs: 4 Pillars – Dr. Kevin Hart

Dr. Hart presented on the 4 pillars of student engagement initiatives. The four pillars include Community Engagement, Career and Professional Development, Social Responsibility and Advocacy, and Scholarship and Academic Achievement. He stated the initiatives are not new but the execution of the initiatives will be changed. He recognized and thanked the faculty for completing the bulk of student development and cocurricular for the past 45 years. He recognized the work the faculty on campus has historically completed. The concept initiative is not new but the implementation will change to provide high level, “tangible co-curricular learning opportunities and create pathways for our students to develop the academic preprofessional and personal skills necessary to be successful in an ever-changing, global society”. The goal is to ensure students are successful in the workplace place with peers and colleagues. Learning outcomes align with the Impact 2020 strategic plan, UHCL core values, Division of student Affairs core competencies. Students who complete the various programs will be celebrated for completing all four pillars.

IHAPS – Ms. Evelyn Miralles

Ms. Miralles provided a brief overview of IHAPS (Institute for Human and Planetary Sustainability), the mission, what it means to UHCL and how it aligns with the core values. She also demonstrated the institute website <https://www.uhcl.edu/sustainability/> More information will be sent to campus when it is available.

Director of Accessibility Support Center - Dr. Tim Richardson

J’Naudia Hunter-Phillips was introduced to everyone as the new Director of Accessibility Support Center. She believes faculty are imperative in the work that she does and is looking forward to

working with everyone on campus. She encourages faculty to contact her if they have questions and concerns.

Provost's Office Report – Dr. Steven Berberich

Dr. Berberich began by thanking Dr. Beavers for her continued support on the Provost communications.

Enrollment – As of today the numbers are flat from this time last year.

QEP – 3 topics were presented at the town hall yesterday. There will be an opportunity for everyone to cast a vote. He encouraged everyone to review the submissions.

SACS fellow – There is a faculty opportunity to apply. Deadline is October 15th. An announcement will be shared in a few months on the faculty that will assist with the campus accreditation process.

Promotion and Tenure – The process is being completed through Digital Measures. There have been a few hiccups but they have been addressed and the committees are still on target. The PRC committees are completing their reviews. The Department Chairs will begin their review process on October 23rd.

Faculty Development Leave - There were a good number of applications last year. Three faculty were awarded FDL even with the pandemic. The schedule will remain the same for the next batch of applications. Colleges will receive information to distribute to faculty.

Announcements – UHCL will be an early voting site for national voting from 10/13 – end of October in the Garden Room. Election day voting will be in the Rec and Wellness building. | Free COVID-19 testing is on campus until 10/10 in the Delta parking lot | UHCL Teach received \$250,000 from the Greater Texas Foundation. He thanked all of the teams for their collaborate work. He also thanked Dr. Dubrovskiy and Dr. Peters, the co-directors, for all of the work they completed with faculty putting the program together.

[Committee Reports are attached. There was discussion about the committee reports as follows:](#)

Senate Committee Report – Governance – Dr. Kanenberg

Substantive change policy is being reviewed by the committee. The curriculum committee has also reviewed the policy and has provided feedback. The goal is to present the policy to the senate next month for a vote. Senate will receive the policy before the meeting to review and provide feedback before it is presented for a vote.

Senate Committee Report – Budget & Facilities – Dr. Stephens

The committee met last month to discuss the agenda. They have invited Mr. Denney and Provost Berberich to discuss the final FY21 budget and final initiatives, upcoming legislative session and UHCL funding requests, equity pay, and FY22 budget process. No questions were asked.

Senate Committee Report – Curriculum – Dr. Huss-Keeler

Dr. Huss-Keeler presented three items for approval.

Study Abroad

Bianca Schonberg from the International Office was present to answer the questions from the senators.

Vote: 27 Yea; 0 Nay; 0 Abstain – passed

EDCI Dissertation Hours
No questions were asked.

Vote: 24 Yea; 0 Nay; 0 Abstain – passed

Test Optional Policy
Clarification questions were asked by the senators.

Vote: 24 Yea; 0 Nay; 0 Abstain – passed

Senate Committee Report – Faculty Life – Dr. Raymond

The committee is working on the office hours policy. They are hoping to bring it to senate in November.

Senate Committee Report – Teaching & Research – Dr. Xu

The committee presented the draft of the diversity and inclusion statement to the senators and encouraging input before their next meeting on October 13. The committee is hoping to submit a final revision in the November meeting.

Shared Governance Reports – Dr. Ward, Michael, & Walther

- Facilities & Support Services – Dr. Ward

The committee will meet tomorrow. No questions were asked.

- Planning and Budget – Dr. Michael

Review of a Campus Open Forum was discussed. The document has been added to the Teams site. Dr. Michael requested senators announce the open forum and collect questions from their colleges for Mr. Denney. Mr. Denney will use those questions to prepare his presentation for Faculty Assembly. Any questions not addressed during assembly will be posted on the web page. He encouraged everyone to attend the next committee meeting on 10/20 at 10:30

- University Life – Dr. Walther

The committee will be meeting on Friday. They will be looking at the Diversity and Inclusion, System level policy. No questions were asked.

Center for Faculty Development – Dr. Bartsch

Center for Engagement, Teaching and Learning (CETL) will have a virtual opening on 10/28 immediately following Faculty Assembly.

CETL includes – Center for Faculty Development, Faculty Senate, and Instructional Designers. Everyone will maintain their current reporting levels.

24 faculty have signed up for the October writing challenge

4 faculty communities have been created –After ACUE, Diversity and Inclusion, Getting it Published, and Practical Online Pedagogy.

Announcements

Faculty Senate will be sending out a monthly newsletter with information from the committee reports and reinforcing numerous initiatives that will be happening.

Faculty Senate will be holding office hours (face-to-face and virtual) will be Tuesday's at 2:00 p.m. The intent is to allow all faculty to have conversations, discuss ideas, seek clarity, and share concerns with Faculty Senate.

State of the University will be Tuesday 10/27 followed by Mr. Denney's Open Forum on Budget.

Fall Faculty Assembly is scheduled for 10/28 from 11:30-12:30.

President Big Question series is scheduled for 10/30.

FSEC met with SGA to expand the dialogue with aligning priorities. SGA will be holding a Town Hall on Friday, October 16 – faculty are encouraged to attend.

SGA survey – The survey covers the PD, relations and feeling safe on campus. Faculty and staff are able to complete the survey

Call for Adjournment – Dr. Beavers

2:56

UHCL Faculty Senate
Committee Reports ~ October 2020

Faculty Senate Committees

Budget & Facilities Committee – Brian Stephens, Chair

- The Budget committee is continuing to monitor the **budget priorities process**.
- Mr. Denney will be attending our next meeting: topics will include:
 - Pay increases, equity, timing and an update CUPA data
 - Legislative Budget Cycle

Faculty Life Committee – Roberta Raymond, Chair

- Continued work from last year on the **OFFICE HOURS POLICY**: the committee will bring to Faculty Senate for discussion in November
- Continued work on **FACULTY WORKLOAD**

Teaching & Research Committee – Randall Xu, Chair

- **Diversity and Inclusion Statement for Syllabi and Academic Programs**: The committee will review and vote on the draft statement. Presenting initially to FS for comment. Once approved in committee, it will be brought to the Senate for approval possibly November meeting.
- **ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY**: The committee is revising the policy in areas that need more details and clarification.
- **Student Evaluations**: The final university-wide questions are in place. The additional question suggested by SGA is pending.
- **UNIVERSITY-WIDE DOCTORAL PROGRAM POLICY**: Discussion are in progress.

Curriculum Committee – Becky Huss-Keeler, Chair

The Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee met via Zoom from 12:30-2:10 on Tuesday Sept. 14, 2020. Four proposals were considered:

- **EDCI 6 hours of dissertation credit from COE** presented by Dr. Kent Divoll. These credit hours were approved in 2014, however it never made it completely through shared governance. It was listed in the catalog incorrectly as 12 credits. The proposal actually applied to both EDCI and EDLS in COE. After clarification, the proposal was voted on and passed.
- **Geo/Tech Minor from CSE**- presented by Dr. Cindy Howard. This proposal was found to be quite similar to a current minor in HSH, the GIS/Geospatial Minor. The committee decided it needed CSE to clarify the differences and then resubmit the proposal. It supported the two colleges working together on these minors
- **Education Abroad changes**- Ms. Bianca Schonberg-International Initiatives Office- The office is attempting to institute specific procedures for Study Abroad which can go in the catalog and be clear to students and faculty. Both faculty led study abroad and Third Party study abroad initiatives would fall under this new policy. After additional clarification and provision of a form students must fill out to demonstrate that students have spoken with their faculty or academic advisor to ascertain the course taken abroad will fit within their degree plan, the measure passed.
- **Extension of the TEMPORARY TEST OPTIONAL POLICY**- Our UHCL Test Option Policy only extended to August 10, 2021, unlike the other UH System Campuses which extended to 2022 due to limited availability of SAT and other qualifying exams due to COVID. The committee passed the proposal and recommended that the August 10 date stand, but that it be extended to August 10, 2022.

Still in the AVPAA office:

B.S. Interdisciplinary Studies with EC-3 Certification

Next Meeting: Monday October 12 from 12:30-2:00 PM on Zoom.

Governance Committee – Heather Kanenberg, Chair

- The committee is now complete, with the election of the missing senator out of CoE, welcome Sheila Baker to Senate and the Governance Committee;
 - We are currently reviewing and updating the "**SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE**" policy. This is a policy required by SACSCOC and the UHCL policy was last updated in 2016. The policy relates to: Substantive change as a significant modification or expansion of the nature and scope of an accredited institution. There are federal regulations which outline what types of changes constitute a substantive change; and
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- We anticipate bringing the Substantive Change Policy to Faculty Senate in November for review and approval. If anyone would like to review the document or share any feedback, please reach out to the Governance Committee Members: Sheila Baker, Sandra Watson, Faiza Zalila, V. Eric Mays, or Heather Kanenberg.
- The Governance Committee will meet on the second Thursday of each month from 10am-11am.

Shared Governance Committees

At the UC Kick-off in September, the following individuals were elected as co-chairs:

The University Life Committee - Christine Walther, Co-Chair

Facilities & Support Services Committee – Chris Ward, Co-Chair

Planning & Budget Committee – Tim Michael, Co-Chair

Other Important Updates

- Fall Faculty Assembly will be Wednesday, October 28 from 11:30-12:30 via Zoom
 - Faculty Senate Drop in Hours: Tuesdays at 2:00 Zoom link will be provided next week in FS Newsletter
 - Please watch for University Announcements on several upcoming events
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| Senators | | |
|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Present | First | Last |
| ✓ | Elizabeth | Beavers |
| ✓ | Sheila | Baker |
| ✓ | Sarah | Costello |
| ✓ | Thomas | Cothorn |
| ✓ | Maria | Curtis |
| ✓ | RJ | Davis |
| ✓ | Anton | Dubrovskiy |
| ✓ | Kathleen | Garland |
| ✓ | Leslie | Gauna-Gago |
| ✓ | Vicky | Gu |
| ✓ | Youssef | Hamidi |
| ✓ | Khondker S. | Hasan |
| ✓ | Rebecca | Huss-Keeler |
| ✓ | Heather | Kanenberg |
| ✓ | Angela | Kelling |
| ✓ | Anna | Klyueva |
| | Van | Mayes |
| ✓ | Joseph | McCormack |
| ✓ | Timothy | Michael |
| ✓ | Jordan | Mitchell |
| ✓ | Alfredo | Perez-Davila |
| ✓ | Roberta | Raymond |
| ✓ | Wanalee | Romero |
| ✓ | Randy | Seevers |
| ✓ | Haeyoung | Shin |
| ✓ | Brian | Stephens |
| ✓ | Walter | Thompson |
| ✓ | Christine | Walther |
| ✓ | Christopher | Ward |
| ✓ | Sandy | Watson |
| ✓ | Sharon | White (Andrews) |
| ✓ | Paul | Withey |
| ✓ | Dawit | Woldu |
| ✓ | Zhaohui | Xu |
| ✓ | Faiza | Zalila |

| Administration | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Present | First | Last |
| ✓ | Robert | Bartsch |
| ✓ | Steven | Berberich |
| | Ira | Blake |
| ✓ | Mark | Denney |
| ✓ | David | Garrison |
| ✓ | Samuel | Gladden |
| | Miguel | Gonzalez |
| | Kara Marie | Hadley-Shakya |
| ✓ | Aaron | Hart |
| | Dorothy | Kirkman |
| ✓ | Kathryn | Matthew |
| | Vivienne | McClendon |
| ✓ | Joan | Pedro |
| | Scott | Richardson |
| ✓ | Timothy | Richardson |
| ✓ | Christal | Seahorn |
| | Felix | Simieou |
| ✓ | Charlotte | Tullos |
| | Edward | Waller |

| Guest | | |
|----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Present | First | Last |
| ✓ | J'Naudia | Hunter-Phillips |
| ✓ | Evelyn | Miralles |
| ✓ | Bianca | Schonberg |
| ✓ | Kevin | Wooten |