**FACULTY SENATE**

**SEPTEMBER 3, 2014**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present**: M. Akladios, C. Carman, T. Barfield-Cottledge, J. Bechtold, S. Cotten,

C. Diepenbrock, K. Divoll, T. Fox, J. Fritz, D. Garrison, L. Gossett, B. Grigsby, B. Hentges,

A. Johnston, S. Lechago, P McCormack, S. McIntyre, T. Michael, I. Pavlova, A. Perez-Davila, R. Puzdrowski, M. Rob, L. Robinson, C. Sawyer, L. Shiau, M. Short, D. Shulsky, F. Simieou, J. Smith,

B. Stephens, A. Valenti, C. Ward, J. Willis, P. Withey, L. Wu

**Others Present**: D. Biggers, T. Cummings, Z. Czajkiewicz, S. Gladden, G. Houston, W. Staples, M. Shermis, C. Stockton, M. Varma, K. Wielhorski, R. Short

**Minutes of May 7, 2014 Meeting**

The minutes were approved as presented.

**President’s Comments**

Dr. Staples expressed appreciation to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee members and senators for service to the Senate and UHCL’s Shared Governance System. He presented a plaque of appreciation to past president, Dr. David Garrison. Dr. Staples stated that he was looking forward to discussing the outcome of the upcoming faculty retreat.

President Staples provided a brief update on the Four Year Initiative. The initial target of 400 students was achieved. However, a total of 586 students which includes freshman and sophomore students with transferred credit was achieved. There were more sophomores and full-time students than expected. Out of the 2560 applications received, 1079 were admitted. We are pleased that the average SAT scores of enrolled students is 1062. The most popular majors for freshman students are Biology, Psychology, and Computer Science.

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) awarded full authority for us to offer the RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing and the Doctor of Education in Curriculum & Instruction with a STEM emphasis. The BSN will be offered at the Pearland Campus. HSH is currently working on the PSYD proposal. Dr. Staples encouraged the development of the PSYD program as the graduate, undergraduate and related Psychology programs are strong academic programs.

There are changes in the legislature for the coming session. There will be a new governor, lieutenant governor and chairpersons of legislative committees. The major items for UHCL are formula funding, tuition revenue bonds for new facilities and funding for the Four-Year Initiative. Requests for supplemental appropriation for the previous biennium and operations support funding to continue into the subsequent biennium 2016-17 will be made. Legislative meetings will begin this Fall.

Dr. Staples encouraged senators to communicate senate activities to the school, and from the school to the senate. Good communication and increased participation of faculty in the activities of the university fosters success at UHCL. He continued, that he asked Provost Stockton to work with the deans and faculty to review the history of every academic program to evaluate program health. This review is necessary to determine allocation of new resources and reallocation of existing resources.

**Provost’s Report**

Dr. Stockton introduced the new dean of the School of Education, Dr. Mark Shermis and provided a brief summary of his professional background.

Provost Stockton expressed appreciation to the faculty teaching the freshman and sophomore students. He stated that he and his administrative team visited 5 freshman classes to welcome students. Provost acknowledged and thanked all for their service to the Senate and the university.

Enrollment figures as of September 2, 2014 were as follows:

* Headcount up 7%
* SCH up 9.4%

Preliminary numbers for freshman and sophomore enrollment

* 237 first time in college freshman
* 21 freshman transfers

Provost Stockton reiterated that there were more sophomore students within the 45-54-hour mark than expected. He stated that it will be positive if in addition to increased enrollment, we are awarded formula funding increases and start-up funding from the State.

Dr. Stockton announced that this summer, he testified to the THECB on behalf of universities offering the RN to BSN degrees. He explained that the THECB was charged by the legislature to conduct a study to examine whether community colleges should be awarded baccalaureate degree granting authority. The Rand Corporation, hired by the THECB to do the study, interviewed community colleges, universities and businesses. The Rand Corporation will make a recommendation to THECB and the THECB to the legislature this fall. Consequently, some doors may open for RN to BSN, BAS and BAT programs at community colleges. More information will be shared as it becomes available.

Chancellor Khatur has called for a study on online programs in the UH-System to explore the feasibility of emulating a model similar to the University of Arizona Online. She has commissioned a committee to work on the project, “UH-Online”. Provost will convey more information at a later date.

Provost Stockton said that last spring, flash-talks on the Teaching & Learning Enhancement Center (TLEC) were held. He thanked subcommittee members for their participation. A meeting will be scheduled to determine the next steps for TLEC.

**Senate Committee Approval**

Dr. Ward presented the membership lists. On a motion and second, the lists were approved as presented.

**Budget**

SCE         Paul Withey

SCE         Magdy Akladios\*

SoE         Cheryl Sawyer

SoE         Jill Smith

HSH        Scott  McIntyre

HSH        Jennifer Fritz

BUS        Ivelina Pavlova

BUS        Leroy Robinson

**Curriculum & Teaching**

SCE         Tom Fox

SCE         Brian Stephens

SoE         Bettye Grigsby

SoE         Joy Moss

HSH        Mary Short\*

HSH        Chloe Diepenbrock

BUS        Mohammad Rob

BUS        Tim Michael

**Research**

SCE         Lei Wu

SCE         Rick Puzdrowski

SoE         Carol Carman\*

SoE         Debby Schulsky

HSH        Amanda Johnston

HSH        Sarah Lechago

BUS        Lisa Gossett

BUS        Pat McCormack

 \*Committee Chair

**Faculty Life**

SCE         LieJune Shiau

SCE         Alfredo Perez-Davila

SoE         Kent Divoll\*

SoE         Felix Simeou

HSH        Tiffiney Barfield-Cottledge

HSH        Beth Hentges

BUS        Stephen Cotton

BUS        Alix Valenti

Senate committee alternates will be elected at the first senate committee meeting.

**Shared Governance committee Approval**

The Senate approved membership as follows:

**Planning & Budgeting (6 members)**

Paul Withey, SCE

Carol Carman, SOE

Felix Simieou, SOE

Amanda Johnston, HSH

Tim Michael, BUS

Leroy Robinson, BUS

Alternates

Tiffiney Barfield-Cottledge

Pat McCormack

**University Life (6 members)**

Alfredo Perez-Davila, SCE

Magdy Akladios, SCE

Kent Divoll, SOE

Beth Hentges, HSH

Jennifer Fritz, HSH

Stephen Cotton, BUS

Alternates

Bettye Grigsby

Lei Wu

**Facilities & Support Services Committee (7 members)**

SCE         Tom Fox

SCE         Brian Stephens

SoE         Debby Schulsky

SoE         Joy Moss

HSH        Sarah Lechago

HSH        C. Diepenbrock

BUS        Alix Valenti

Alternates

LieJune Shiau

Jill Smith

**Senator-at-Large**

The Senate approved Drs. Lisa Gossett and Ivelina Pavlova as Senators-at-Large.

**Faculty Senate Executive Committee Alternates**

On a motion and second, Drs. Richard Puzdrowski and Rob Mohammad were approved as alternates for Faculty Senate Executive members on Academic and University Councils.

**Senate Committee Reports**

Budget: Dr. Akladios said the committee will meet monthly on the first Tuesday. The committee plans to continue research on summer pay data, base salary comparisons with similar institutions, merit raises and compression to current and past inflation rates.

Curriculum & Teaching: Dr. Mary Short indicated that C&T will consider the Accessibility Policy and revise the Online Policy to include the evaluation period.

Research: A meeting will be held following the Faculty Senate meeting.

Faculty Life: Dr. Divoll pointed out that Child Care Policy, Faculty Searches and TLEC are on the committee’s agenda for this year.

**Announcements**

* Shared Governance Kickoff meeting is scheduled for September 4, 2014. Senators are asked to attend.
* Faculty Retreat will be held on September 5, 2014 at 8:30-4:30 at San Jacinto College Central Campus. Following the retreat, a meeting will be held with Dr. Staples and the Administrative team to discuss the outcome of the retreat. Four working groups will present reports identifying solutions to barriers to effective teaching and successful research, academic honesty and integrity issues, shared governance and communication issues.

Dr. Ward presented the shared governance flowchart and pointed out that the Faculty Senate is represented outside of the flowchart. The main committees in the flowchart are University Council, Academic Council, Planning and Budgeting Committee, University Life Committee and Facilities and Support Services Committee. Therefore, Dr. Ward stressed the importance of senators actively engaging and participating in shared governance committees. Membership on these committees provides the avenue for the faculty and the senate to contribute to the university’s governance process.

The meeting adjourned at 2 p.m.