**FACULTY SENATE**

**MARCH 02, 2016**

**MINUTES (Approved)**

**PRESENT**: Rob Bartsch, Elizabeth Beavers, Sandra Browning, Stephen Cotten, Caroline Crawford, Kent Divoll, Tom Fox, Jennifer Fritz, David Garrison, Lisa Gossett, Amanda Johnston, Rebecca Huss­Keeler, Heather Kanenberg, Christine Kovic, Van Mayes, Pat McCormack, Scott McIntyre, Tim Michael, Keith Parsons, Bazlur Rashid, Mohammad Rob, Leroy Robinson, Randy Seevers, Debra Shulsky, Brian Stephens, Alix Valenti, Radu Vlas, Paul Wagner, Chris Ward, Jeff Whitworth, Paul Withey, Lei Wu, Faiza Zalila.

**ABSENT**: Lisa Lacher, Ishaq Unwala.

**OTHERS PRESENT**: Yvette Bendeck, Darlene Biggers, Zbigniew Czajkiewicz, Glen Houston, Mark Shermis, Mrinal Mugdh Varma, Rick Short, Samuel Gladden.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the February 03, 2016 meeting were approved with one amendment – change Kay Ley to Kathryn Ley.

**Texas Council of Faculty Senates Update**

Dr. Garrison stated he and Dr. Gossett attended the Texas Council of Faculty Senates (TCFS) meeting in Austin. TCFS discussed Campus Carry and how various campuses were handling the rule. Also, there was considerable discussion on the 60x30 Texas plan implemented by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB). The plan proposes that by year 2030, sixty per cent of Texans ages 24-34 should have some higher level education (degree or certificate). The TCFS is concerned that the “present description of the plan is self-contradictory and likely to undermine its intended beneficial results”. Thus, the council is considering a resolution to ask the THECB to alter the language in the plan to articulate what higher education actually is and why it is valued. There seems to be a difference between how the THECB and faculty members view higher education. Dr. Parsons asked what accounts for that difference. Dr. Bendeck responded that the THECB did a 60x30 study of academics and industry. She believes that the report is driven by the intersection of academics and industry and future job growth. TCFS also discussed the SB15 Bill considered last session by the House of Representatives. The bill removes power from the Board of Regents (BOR) and gives it to the Chancellor. TCFS is considering supporting such legislation next session as the Chancellor is more familiar with what is happening in academia than the BOR.

**SENATE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Research Committee**: Dr. Shulsky said the committee is working on updating the faculty research webpage which should be rolled out by the end of the semester. The Research Committee is considering a suggestion to have a spotlight researcher on the webpage. Each school will nominate researchers on a quarterly basis to be highlighted on the webpage. Another element of the page is to include OSP grant winners. In addition, the committee is updating the research center listing and making sure the page will be a one-stop shop for faculty researchers. There will be a link to the research database which is open to all UHCL faculty. Dr. Garrison stated that many faculty members are unaware of the research webpage. He suggested increased efforts to promote the page among faculty. Dr. Shulsky said the committee plans to request that the research webpage be linked to the UHCL home page and that it is prominent online.

**Curriculum & Teaching Committee (C&T)**: Dr. Stephens said C&T approved several items at the last meeting. The first item, the Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Care and Education (BS ECCE) is similar to the current BAS. The proposed degree will be open to freshman and sophomore students. The program proposal was presented for Senate approval. On a motion and second the degree was unanimously approved. A Minor in Africana Studies and another in Geology were presented for Senate approval. The Senate approved both Minors. The Requirements for Minors policy was introduced. Dr. Stephens indicated C&T had made a few editorial changes as well as removing the requirement that students had to declare before their senior year. Following a motion and second, the Senate approved the policy as amended. The Early Reinstatement from Suspension policies for undergraduate and graduate students were presented. C&T changes to the policy for undergraduate students include adding collaboration with academic advising, removing “school” in the final sentence paragraph one and adding decisions made by the SVP Academic Affairs and Provost or Designee are final. The Senate unanimously approved the amended Undergraduate Early Reinstatement Policy and accepted the Graduate Policy as presented. Next, the Senate approved the Undergraduate and Graduate Academic Probation Counseling Policies as written.

Dr. Garrison commented that instances of the word “school” will need to be changed in all policies in the Faculty Handbook. Dr. Ward reminded there had been discussion to have one motion and vote to approve those edits to the handbook and catalogs.

**Faculty Life Committee**: Dr. Kanenberg presented the 3.4 Non-Tenure Track Academic Appointments. Following discussion, there was a motion and second to approve the policy as revised by Faculty Life Committee. The Senate approved the policy as written. Next the Senate addressed 5.3 UHCL Promotion and Tenure Policy. Following discussion, there were a few amendments to the policy. There was a motion to change 3.2.3 *“graduate theses*” to *“dissertations, or other capstone activities*”. There was a second; and the amendment was accepted by the Senate. Next, the Senate amended 4.3.5 *“and or service” to “and/or service”.* The amendment was accepted. On a motion and second, the Senate unanimously approved the Promotion and Tenure policy as revised.

**Budget Committee**: Dr. Scott McIntyre said Dr. Glen Houston attended the last meeting to talk about equity analysis. The committee is looking at the impact of program accreditation on faculty salaries.

**SHARED GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Facilities & Support Services Committee (FSSC)**: Dr. Valenti said committee discussion focused on the various ongoing and proposed construction projects.

**University Life Committee (ULC):** Dr. Bartsch reported ULC heard a report on data analysis of Child Care Survey conducted last year. The committee will gather all available information on child care into one report to present to University Council.

**Planning & Budgeting Committee (PBC)**: Dr. Michael reported they reviewed and voted on the Funding Request Priorities. PBC did not rearrange or delete any of the priorities. He briefly reviewed the priorities and referred to the Priority 8-Center for Faculty Development. Dr. Michael stated comments were received that faculty had not heard much about the center. It was a priority to be funded at $180,818. Dr. Garrison provided some history on the center. A committee with representation from each school was formed to research and select a model to replace TLEC. The proposal was completed in December and presented at the last Faculty Senate meeting. Dr. Gossett added that the initiative to create the center came from the Faculty Climate Survey and the Faculty Retreat because of overwhelming requests for more faculty development opportunities. The center will be faculty led (Director will have faculty qualifications) and faculty driven with Advisory Board and Faculty Fellows. Dr. Caroline Crawford asked what kind of faculty input was sought to contribute to this funding request of $180,818. She pointed out that there was one presentation by Dr. Kat Ley to the Senate about the Center. She continued, there was no discussion in the schools or with the faculty-at-large.

Dr. Garrison replied that faculty focus groups were held. He added significant time was spent researching and looking at various models across the country. There was a request for a faculty-at-large forum to receive input on the Center for Faculty Development.

Dr. Garrison suggested using the upcoming Faculty Assembly to share information. There was a suggestion for presentations at school faculty meetings.

**ADHOC COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Faculty Workload Committee: Dr. Michael stated the committee is reviewing for consistency of language and other things such as credits in the policy. Labs will be reviewed next. Online Proctoring Committee: The Committee will be reviewing demo recording of new services. The final draft of the revised Faculty Senate Constitution is completed and may be submitted to the Senate shortly.

**QEP REPORT**

Dr. Browning announced Cohort 4 workshop which focuses on learning outcomes and critical thinking skills will be held March 04.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dr. Garrison announced that Michelle Dotter will meet with Faculty Senate Executive Committee on March 09. He asked members to email items to him for discussion with Ms. Dotter. On March 23, FSEC will meet with President Staples.

Faculty Assembly will convene on March 30. Agenda items - Center for Faculty Development and Senate president-elect elections/nominations.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.