FACULTY SENATE MEETING  
Minutes  
October 9, 2006  

**Present:**  

**Absent:**  
Aune, Bazzi, Beskok, Blasingame, Collisson, Darby, Ellis, Gawande, Harris, Heilman, Hise, Ing, Klein, Linton, Luiselli, Mahapatra, McGeechin, McIntyre, Merrell, Moreira, Petersen, Reddy, Shandley, Sinova, Thornton, Toliyat, Vedlitz, Volkman, Ward, Winemiller, Woodman, Woosley  

**Call to Order**  
The meeting was called to order at 3:15 by Speaker Slack  

**Guest Speaker Comments**  
Guest speaker Dr. Tito Guererro III, the new Vice President and Associate Provost for Diversity mentioned that his introduction and commitment to the value of diversity originated with his undergraduate experiences at TAMU. Participation in SCONA, serving as a manager for the first integrated TAMU football team, and sailing on the Texas Clipper were among events that made him aware of the educational value of bringing together individuals with different ethnic, economic, social, political and national perspectives. He indicated that he is still busy identifying the areas where he can be of most service to TAMU, and suggested that assisting in active recruiting for individuals with the talents we are seeking will be one of those areas.  

**Recognition**  
The speaker recognized Nick Taunton, Student Body President, as a visitor to the meeting.  

**Minutes**  
Approval of September 11, 2006 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes. Attachment A  

Motion Passed F.S. 24.27  

Minutes of previous meeting: It was noted that the person speaking on behalf of Modern Languages was Dr. Konrad, rather than the department head. (The September minutes have been edited to show this change.)
Consent Agenda  
University Curriculum Committee (Recommended Approval)  

Motion Passed F.S. 24.28  

Attachment B  

New Courses  
AERO 440 Cockpit Systems and Displays  
AGSM 439 Management of Agricultural Systems I  
ANSC 402 Exploring Animal Industries  
ENDG 409 Professional Computer Animation  
ENTC 381 Introduction to Micro/Nano Manufacturing  
HORT 332 Horticulture Landscape Graphics  
HORT 442 Horticulture Landscape Design II  
HORT 454 Special Event Design and Production  
RLEM 430 Advanced Restoration Ecology  

Changes in Courses  
AGRO 304 Plant Breeding  
NUTR 405 Nutritional Treatment of Disease  
HORT 422 Citrus and Subtropical Fruits  

Anat Geva (Architecture) requested that HORT 332 and 442 be removed from the consent agenda. Matt Whiteacre (Engineering) requested that ENTC 381 be removed.  

The remaining items were accepted.  

Committee Reports (Passage of each report in turn was moved by the secretary)  

Executive Committee (Recommended Approval)  

12.99.99.M5 Faculty Participation in the Selection, Evaluation, and Retention of Deans  

Attachment C  
Current Version  
Motion Passed F.S. 24.29  

Deans rule debate:  

Editorial changes were made by Dr. Gunn, one of the authors, to substitute college for department members in section 2.2.  

After some debate on putting more specificity into requirements for what should be included in feedback to faculty from the search committee and Provost, either in hiring or retention review situations, several amendments were offered.  

Robin Smith (Liberal Arts) proposed amending section 2.7 by removing the second sentence, striking “and decisions” from the first sentence and ending it with “will be considered privileged and confidential to the extent permitted by Texas law.”
Amendment passed;
The section now reads:

2.7 All deliberations of the search committee will be considered privileged and confidential to the extent permitted by Texas law.

Richard Feldman (Engineering) proposed amending section 3.3 by adding “At a minimum a vote of a college’s faculty on whether the dean should continue in office must be collected. When the vote is conducted a faculty representative must be present and the results transmitted to the college faculty and Dean of Faculties.”

After discussion involving mutual trust between faculty and administration, a substitute amendment was offered by Martyn Gunn (COALS) to change the wording of 3.3 to replace “an opinion” with “a poll of faculty members of the college”.

The Senate voted to allow the substitute amendment to replace the original amendment.

The amendment also passed, making section 3.3 now read:

All reviews shall include an opportunity for college faculty members to present their views to the Provost including, but not limited to, a faculty poll of whether the Dean should continue in office. Individual expressions of opinion shall be made in confidence, subject to the limitations of the Public Information Act.

A follow up amendment was offered by Mike Benedik (Science) to insert “The poll results and written comments received by the provost be made available to the Faculty.” into section 3.3.

This amendment failed.

However, Tom Vogel (Science) later moved that the section be amended by including “The results of the poll shall be disseminated to the faculty”. and this amendment was approved.

Dean of Faculties Watson pointed out that the 2 year preliminary review described in section 3.2 does not specifically require faculty involvement. Martyn Gunn proposed amending section 3.3 to begin “All 4th year reviews” and Angie Hill Price (Engineering) proposed a substitute amendment in which “formal” would replace 4th.

A vote to accept the Price substitution to the amendment carried after a show of hands, but the motion as amended was defeated by voice vote.

Section 3.3 as amended now reads:
All reviews shall include an opportunity for college faculty members to present their views to the Provost, including, but not limited to, a faculty poll of whether the Dean should continue in office. The results of the poll shall be disseminated
to the faculty. Individual expressions of opinion shall be made in confidence, subject to the limitations of the Public Information Act.

The “Deans Rule, as amended, then passed without dissent.

12.99.99.M6 Faculty Participation in the Selection, Evaluation and Retention of Department Heads

Department Heads Rule
(Editorial change: October 2, 2006 should replace November 2006 as the date considered by the EC)

Martyn Gunn moved that section 2.7 and 3.3 be changed to match the revised wording of the same sections in the Deans Rule, with appropriate substitutions for the position. This amendment passed unanimously.

This means the sections will say:

2.7 All deliberations of the search committee will be considered privileged and confidential to the extent permitted by Texas law.

3.3 All reviews shall include an opportunity for department faculty members to present their views to the Dean, including, but not limited to, a faculty poll of whether the Department Head should continue in office. The results of the poll shall be disseminated to the faculty. Individual expressions of opinion shall be made in confidence, subject to the limitations of the Public Information Act.

Marty Louder (Mays Business College) moved to change section 2.8 so that the second sentence reads: “The Dean shall make the appointment of the department head from the list of finalists.” (removing the requirement to pass the recommended decision to the Provost from the rule).

This amendment passed, so that section 2.8 now reads:

The dean may take into consideration the entire spectrum of viewpoints from many stakeholders. The dean shall make the appointment of a new department head from the list of finalists.

Rich Feldman (Engineering) proposed amending the document to include a section 2.10, reading:

“If it is determined that a candidate is appointed to be department head in violation of this rule (i.e. without faculty being given an adequate opportunity to vote, or without being acceptable to a majority of the voting faculty and without the concurrence of the selection committee), then the Provost shall either nullify the appointment or, if the candidate has already started, declare the candidate an interim and reopen the department head search. An allegation that a department
head was appointed in violation of this rule must be made to the Dean of Faculties within one month of the date at which the department head begins in office. The Dean of Faculties must notify the Provost within one month of the allegation whether or not the appointment was made in violation of this rule.”

Dean of Faculties Watson suggested that it may be more appropriate to prepare a SAP detailing procedures that should be followed in these types of searches and reviews. Gunn and Louder pointed out that the rule already contains a statement for reporting violations of the “principles or spirit” of the recommended procedures to the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate, though no specific penalties are described.

This amendment failed.

The Main motion passed as amended.

W Courses
Request for Course Additions to the W Course Graduation Requirement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BICH 491</td>
<td>Undergraduate Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECON 426</td>
<td>Antitrust Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GENE 491</td>
<td>Undergraduate Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>MEEN 360</td>
<td>Materials and Manufacturing Selection in Design</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 209</td>
<td>Introduction to Political Science Research Methods</td>
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(August 21 Meeting)

Motion Passed F.S. 24.31

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<td>EPFB 428</td>
<td>Collaboration in School Settings</td>
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<tr>
<td>HLTH 482</td>
<td>Grant Writing in Health</td>
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(September 18 Meeting)

Graduate Council & University Curriculum Committee (Recommended Approval)
Nonsubstantive Change: Change in Name of College

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College Name</th>
<th>Change Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>College of Agriculture and Life Sciences</td>
<td>College of AgriLife Sciences</td>
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Motion Passed F.S. 24.32

University Curriculum Committee (Recommended Approval)

<table>
<thead>
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<th>College Name</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>College of Agriculture and Life Sciences</td>
<td>Minor in Animal Science</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Motion Passed F.S. 24.33

Graduate Council

The Graduate Operations Committee approved the proposed Academic Calendar for 2007-2008.

Motion Passed F.S. 24.34
Old Business
Anat Geva (Architecture) stated that her college had no problem with the HORT courses as listed, but that any programs or courses including the phrase “Landscape Design” would be challenged. Dr. Gene Nelson, Executive Dean of AgriLife Sciences said there are no plans to institute such a degree or program. The HORT courses were approved.

The ENTC course which seemed to have 2 numbers was returned to the UCC.

New Business
There was no new business brought before the Senate.

Committee of the Whole
Bob Strawser (Mays Business College) asked that the Academic Affairs Committee be charged with investigation the possibility of staggering class times between West and Main campus to cut down the number of early departures and late arrivals among students who must move between main and West campus.

Bob Bednarz (Geosciences) requested that the Faculty Senate EC be charged with developing an SAP for the Deans and Department Head rules

Tom Vogel (Science) reported that the issue of plus/minus grading has been put on hold until student government has a chance to survey student sentiment.

Martyn Gun (COALS) asked that the EC or Academic Affairs committee mandate that course syllabi include “learning objectives”.

Adjourn
The meeting was adjourned at 5:15pm.