FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Minutes
December 10, 2007
3:15 p.m., 601 Rudder Tower
http://www.tamu.edu/faculty_senate


Watson (Dean of Faculties)


Call to Order:
The meeting was called to order at 3:15 by Speaker Angie Hill Price.

Speaker Comments:
Speaker Price opened the meeting by welcoming guests and Senators. One senator from Galveston and two senators from Qatar were present via videoconferencing. The Speaker then went on with the meeting stating:

As you know, we have a new sole finalist for the Presidency of TAMU, Dr. Elsa Murano, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Our Board of Regents apparently disregarded the faculty and shared governance when they deliberately chose not to allow her to go through the same process as the other candidates. In doing so, they apparently ignored Imperative 10 of Vision 2020 to which they should have been committed, and they needlessly placed an undeserved burden on their choice for president. They chose to name the finalist at a time when fully 1/3 of the response period of 21 days would be when the University is closed for the holidays. Instead of allowing the candidate to receive the unbiased feedback that a search advisory committee can provide before a decision is made,
they prevented her from easily learning the true opinions of her future constituents about the state of affairs at this university. How very unfair to Dr. Murano to place her in this position – to no purpose.

Chairman Jones said “It was never the board’s intent to exclude any group from the process. However, the individuals that were considered for this position are all highly placed and currently employed. Confidentiality was imperative and moving forward deliberately yet efficiently was important.” The Search Advisory Committee had done their work confidentially with highly placed and employed individuals for over eight months. I cannot imagine that any other candidates would have been treated differently, and I am sorry that anything less was implied. I wish to thank them and especially Doug Slack, our former speaker, who worked tirelessly on this search, talking with the Board even Thursday to gain their support for the process.

I am concerned that faculty will take these actions as a sign that shared governance is not deeply entrenched here at TAMU. Well, it may be at the system level, but not at this University. Under our next president, I have no reason to believe that that will change. I suggest that we work very hard with Dr. Murano to improve this University and to continue Bob Gates’ vision to institutionalize shared governance and take the Chancellor up on his offer at our last meeting to improve shared governance at the system.

Speaker Price then introduced our guest speaker, Dr. Valerie Balester, Executive Director of the University Writing Center to come up and speak. Dr. Valerie Balester presented a proposal to change the W-course requirement by allowing a department to use a C-course in place of a W-course, where a C-course is one certified as meeting communication requirements. After giving the rationale for the proposal and requesting feedback, Dr. Balester responded to a few questions and comments.

The November 12, 2007 Minutes were approved as corrected by Senators Daugherity and Greenwald. 

Consent Agenda
As an editorial comment, Senator Daugherity pointed out that the course prefixes for courses from the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department have been changed from ELEN to ECEN. The Consent Agenda was approved with this change.

Graduate Council

**New Courses** – November 1, 2007  
Motion Passed F.S.25.74

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Prefix</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AGEC 606</td>
<td>Water Resource Economics</td>
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<td>AGRO 657</td>
<td>Environmental Soil Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>ALEC 622</td>
<td>Data Collection, Analysis, &amp; Interpretation in Research in Agricultural Leadership, Education, &amp; Communications</td>
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<td>ANTH 609</td>
<td>Culture and Evolution</td>
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<td>Course Code</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 638</td>
<td>Proposal Writing in Anthropology</td>
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<td>BIOL 627</td>
<td>Principles of Neuroscience I</td>
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<td>BIOL 628</td>
<td>Principles of Neuroscience II</td>
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<td>BMEN 652</td>
<td>Cell Mechanobiology</td>
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<td>BUSH 638</td>
<td>Health Economics and Policy</td>
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<td>CEHD 603</td>
<td>Writing for Publication in Education &amp; Human Development Research</td>
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<td>ECEN 621</td>
<td>Mobile Wireless Networks</td>
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<td>EHRD 634</td>
<td>Introduction to Gender and Education</td>
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<td>EHRD 649</td>
<td>Feminist Pedagogy</td>
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<td>EHRD 650</td>
<td>Gender and International Education</td>
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<td>ECEN 619</td>
<td>Internet Protocols and Modeling</td>
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<td>EPSY 626</td>
<td>At-Risk Hispanic Families &amp; Their Young Children</td>
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<td>ESSM 675</td>
<td>International Sustainable Community Development</td>
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<td>FSTC 629</td>
<td>Microbiology of Food Irradiation</td>
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<td>KINE 642</td>
<td>Self-organization in Motor Neuroscience</td>
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<td>MARS 683</td>
<td>Field Practicum in Marine Sciences</td>
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<td>MEPS 620</td>
<td>Plant Cell Structure and Function</td>
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<td>POSC 628</td>
<td>Advanced Poultry Meat Processing</td>
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<td>POSC 629</td>
<td>Microbiology of Food Irradiation</td>
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<td>AGEC 684</td>
<td>Professional Internship</td>
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<td>EHRD 627</td>
<td>Research &amp; Development in Educational Human Resource Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>EHRD 630</td>
<td>Adult Learning</td>
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</table>
EHRD 631. Foundations of Adult Education
EHRD 670 Women in Education
EHRD 683 Practicum in Educational Human Resource Development
KINE 606 Psychological Aspects of Sport & Physical Activity
KINE 640 Motor Skill Learning and Performance
KINE 625 Disabling Conditions and Health Impairments

Revised New Courses – September FS Meeting
SENG 660 Quantitative Risk Analysis

University Curriculum Committee
Motion Passed F.S.25.77

New Courses – November 9, 2007
BICH 464 Bacteriophage and Genomics
CLAS 322 Advanced Latin Poetry
CVEN 424 Civil Engineering Professional Practice
EURO 406 Propaganda and Dissidence
HIST 280 The Historian’s Craft
HIST 308 History of Native Peoples in the U.S. South
JAPN 110 Functional Japanese: History and Culture
SPMT 482 Seminar
SPMT 483 Practicum in Sport Management

Change in Courses – November 9, 2007
CLAS 321 Advanced Latin Readings
CVEN 307 Transportation Engineering
CVEN 446 Structural Steel Design
KINE 217 Foundations of Sport Management
KINE 333 Sport Management
KINE 336 Diversity in Sport Organizations
KINE 337 International Sport Business
KINE 402 Pre Internship Field Experiences
KINE 420 Sports Facility Planning
KINE 421 Legal Aspects of Sport
KINE 422 Financing Sport Operations
KINE 423 Marketing Aspects of Sport
POSC 381 Seminar
WFSC 201 Wildlife Conservation and Management
WFSC 409 Integrating Natural Resources for Classroom Use

W Courses
Certification:
Motion Passed F.S.25.78

BUSN 289 Integrated Worklife Competencies
COMM 447 Communication, Group Processes, and Collaboration
ECON 312    Poverty, Inequality, and Social Policy
FREN 336    Contemporary France
HIST 280    The Historian’s Craft
PHIL 413    Modern Philosophy
RPTS 460    Development and Management of Protected Areas
WFSC 410    Principles of Fisheries Management

Recertification:
ATMO 463    Air Pollution Meteorology
COMM 458    Global Media
COMM 470    Communication in Health Contexts
COMM 480    Religious Communication
RDNG 302    Teaching Reading through Children’s Literature
RDNG 371    Multicultural & Interdisciplinary Literature for the Middle Grades

Committee Reports

Graduate Council

Special Consideration – November 1, 2007
Bush School of Government and Public Service
Change in Course Prefixes and Major Prefix Code

Amended from November 20, 2007:
New Courses
ANTH 643    Australopithecine Paleoecology
EDCI 676    Evaluation and Implementation of Electronic Learning Materials
EPSY 635    Educational Statistics
SOCL 661    Sociology of Gender

Special Items
Special Consideration – November 20, 2007
Collaborative effort of TAMU Libraries, College of Liberal Arts, College of Engineering, & College of Education & Human Development
Digital Humanities Certificate

Special Consideration – November 20, 2007
Collaborative effort of Departments of Nutrition & Food Science, Kinesiology & Nuclear Engineering
Certificate in Space Life Sciences

University Curriculum Committee

Special Consideration (curriculum change) – November 9, 2007
Dwight Look College of Engineering
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
B.S. in Electrical Engineering
Special Consideration (curriculum change) – November 9, 2007

College of Liberal Arts
Department of Performance Studies
B.A. in Music
B.A. in Theatre Arts

Special Consideration – November 9, 2007

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Department of Entomology
Minor in Entomology - changes

Special Consideration (curriculum change) – November 9, 2007

Texas A&M University at Qatar
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
B.S. in Electrical Engineering

Special Consideration (curriculum change) – November 9, 2007

Texas A&M University at Qatar
Department of Chemical Engineering
B.S. in Chemical Engineering

Special Consideration (curriculum change) – November 9, 2007

Texas A&M University at Qatar
Department of Mechanical Engineering
B.S. in Mechanical Engineering

Special Consideration (curriculum change) – November 9, 2007

Texas A&M University at Qatar
Department of Petroleum Engineering
B.S. in Petroleum Engineering

Core Curriculum Council
3 December 2007 Approved Courses

Executive Committee
Senate Resolution - Presidential Search

Senator Greenwald moved that the resolution be amended by adding the phrase "and a stated commitment to shared governance" after the words "academic credentials" in the fourth line of the final paragraph. The motion to amend was seconded and passed unanimously. During the discussion of the resolution, Former Speaker Strawser indicated support for the resolution and indicated that he would be asking the Faculty Senate to consider three additional resolutions. The motion to accept the amended resolution was then passed unanimously.

Old Business

Committee of the Whole
a. After the resolution was approved, Former Speaker Strawser requested that the Executive Committee draft three more resolutions dealing with the following topics:

(i) Thanks to Dr. Eddie Joe Davis for his dedicated and excellent service as Interim President, support of the Faculty Senate and for embracing the concept of shared governance.

(ii) Congratulations to our new President, Dr. Elsa Murano. We look forward to working with you.

(iii) In order to emphasize our primary role as an Institution focused on teaching, service and research, the Faculty Senate recommends to our Board of Regents that they establish and implement a policy of compensating TAMU Presidents at an amount equal to or in excess of the compensation of any other TAMU employee.

b. Senator Fackler expressed concern that there be faculty input on the key councils being recommended to the Chancellor for research administration. Senator Fackler requested that the Executive Committee consider drafting a resolution to the Chancellor from the Faculty Senate recommending that (1) the proposed Executive Council for Research Administration include representatives of the Faculty Senate, the Council of Principal Investigators, the chair of the Operating Council, and a faculty member of the Research Environment Council and (2) the proposed Operating Council include two members of the Executive Council.

c. Speaker Price indicated that Former Speaker Carlson could not attend today's Faculty Senate meeting and had asked her to read a statement from him to the senators. His statement expressed concern regarding the presidential search process but indicated that now we need to support the new president.

d. Former Speaker Slack indicated that there may be a window of opportunity with the new president to make progress in advancing the concepts of shared governance with the Board of Regents and the System.

e. Senator Bednarz expressed support for resolutions dealing with the research environment. He also pointed out that university rules are sometimes more restrictive than state law.

f. Former Speaker Strawser indicated support for moving fast on trying to institutionalize shared governance and pointed out the importance of having a precise definition of what we mean by shared governance. Senator Strawser also expressed a desire that there should be more transparency in future presidential searches, specifically the final three candidates should have been willing to participate in campus interviews or be disqualified.

g. Senator Blasingame agreed with the need to explicitly define shared governance. He also expressed sorrow at the passing away of Professor Ewing and suggested that an appropriate tribute to him would be to name the new Life Sciences Building after him.

h. Dean of Faculties Watson expressed that need to support Professor Ewing's family and indicated that expressions of support from the Faculty Senate would be appreciated by his family.