Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 3:18pm.

Guest Speaker

Speaker Comments
Speaker Strawser announced that he had met with most committees, and asked the members to come up with specific issues that the Senate could discuss. He asked the committees to present the issues to Kelly, who will place them before the EC for consideration at future meetings. Speaker Strawser would like the Senate to focus on a couple of specific issues at each meeting.

Speaker Strawser announced that Representative Flores would be meeting with the Legislative Affairs committee and EC on Wednesday, October 14, 2015.

The Vice Provost made a presentation on the Task Force dealing with Faculty Evaluations and Post Tenure Review. Vice Provost Benedik is chairing the committee, which is broad based, and is reviewing the Post Tenure Review (PTR) policies from the University’s perspective. The committee is examining PTR policies at other institutions with respect to Texas Law, and reviewing the PTR guidelines as instituted across campus. The committee could be happy with the current rule, or recommend revisions with central guidance to make the PTR more uniform across the University. The committee will also assess what criteria is evaluated, and how good teaching in determined. Any recommendations for change will have to go through a number of channels including the Faculty Senate before implementation. Vice Provost Benedik indicated that the process is in month two of a one to two year timeline.
Two students from the Memorial Student Center (MSC) leadership gave a preliminary presentation on future programs that would help students create faculty relationships outside of the classroom through events sponsored at the MSC.

Approval of September 14, 2015 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
The minutes of the August meeting were approved as submitted.

Consent Agenda
GRADUATE COUNCIL – GC REPORT
September 3, 2015

New Course
BICH 679       Building Scientific Relationships
BMEN 637       Pathologic Basis of Implantable Devices
ECEN 767       Harnessing Solar Energy: Optics, Photovoltaics and Thermal Systems
MEEN 660       Corrosion Engineering
MEEN 669       Alternative Energy Conversion
MGMT 674       Building Scientific Relationships
SCSC 628       Soil Mineralogy Lab
SOCI 683       Professional Writing and Publication

Attachment B
FS.33.72
Motion Passed

Change Course Request
CVEN 666       Foundation Structures
ECON 630       Microeconomic Theory II
HISP 602       Spanish Applied Linguistics
PSYC 684       Professional Internship
SCSC 626       Soil Mineralogy

Attachment C
FS.33.73
Motion Passed

Special Consideration Item
Texas A&M University Law School
THECB SCH Change in Semester Credit Hours
Master of Jurisprudence

Attachment D
FS.33.74
Motion Passed

Special Consideration Item
Texas A&M University Law School
THECB SCH Change in Semester Credit Hours
Master of Jurisprudence in Intellectual Property

Attachment E
FS.33.75
Motion Passed
UNDEGRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – UCC REPORT

New Courses – September 4, 2015
AGEC 324  Agribusiness Entrepreneurship – Budgeting
ANSC 211  Equine Industry and Career Preparation
ANTH 436  Ancient Egypt
ENTO 321  Beekeeping
ESSM 324  Forest Measurements
FILM 445  Rhetoric of Television and Film
MEEN 439  Solar Energy Engineering
MEEN 469  Alternative Energy Conversion
PETE 337  Junior Student Paper Contest
PETE 437  Senior Student Paper Contest
RELS 436  Ancient Egypt

Attachment F
FS.33.76
Motion Passed

Withdrawal of Courses
ESSM 460  Spatial Data Acquisition with Field Methods

Attachment G
FS.33.77
Motion Passed

Change in Courses
COMM 435  Rhetoric of Television and Film
ENTO 291  Research
ENTO 484  Professional Internship
ENTO 491  Research
ESSM 415  Range Analysis and Management Planning
ESSM 430  Advanced Restoration Ecology
ESSM 459  Spatial Databases and Programming
ESSM 464  Spatial Project Management
FIVS 291  Research
FIVS 484  Professional Internship
FIVS 491  Research
NUTR 430  Community Nutrition
OCNG 410  Introduction to Physical Oceanography
OCNG 420  Introduction to Biological Oceanography
OCNG 430  Introduction to Geological Oceanography
OCNG 440  Introduction to Chemical Oceanography
PSYC 485  Directed Studies
PSYC 491  Research
RENR 410  Ecosystem Management

Attachment H
FS.33.78
Motion Passed

Change in Curriculum
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
    Department of Ecosystem Science and Management
        BS in Forestry
Attachment I
FS.33.79
Motion Passed

Change in Curriculum
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Department of Ecosystem Science and Management
Minor in Forestry

Attachment J
FS.33.80
Motion Passed

Change in Curriculum
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Department of Entomology
Minor in Entomology

Attachment K
FS.33.81
Motion Passed

TAMU Galveston
New Course
MARS 408  Estuarine and Coastal Hydrodynamics

Attachment L
FS.33.82
Motion Passed

TAMU Galveston
Change in Curriculum
Texas A&M University at Galveston
Department of Marine Biology
BS in Marine Biology

Attachment M
FS.33.83
Motion Passed

TAMU Galveston
Change in Curriculum
Texas A&M University at Galveston
Department of Maritime Biology
BS in Marine Fisheries

Attachment N
FS.33.84
Motion Passed

TAMU Galveston
Special Consideration Item
Texas A&M University at Galveston
Department of Liberal Studies
Minor in Maritime Studies
Request for a new minor
Attachment O
FS.33.85
Motion Passed

Special Consideration Item
College of Liberal Arts
Department of Performance Studies
Minor in Performance Studies
Request for a new minor

Attachment P
FS.33.86
Motion Passed

Special Consideration Item
College of Liberal Arts
Department of Performance Studies
Minor in Music
Minor in Theater Arts
Request to discontinue minors

Attachment O
FS.33.87
Motion Passed

Change in Curriculum (from August 2015 UCC Meeting)
Dwight Look College of Engineering
Department of Petroleum Engineering
BS in Petroleum Engineering

Attachment R
FS.33.88
Motion Passed

W-COURSES - Report September 11, 2015
Courses submitted for W recertification

ANSC 314 Wool and Mohair Evaluation
ANSC 414 Sheep and Goat Production
ATMO 463 Air Pollution Meteorology
BIOL 455 Introductory Immunology Laboratory
CHEM 234 Organic Synthesis
COSC 494 Professional Internship
ENGL 308 History of Literary
ESSM 405 Forest Resource Assessment and Management
ESSM 430 Advanced Restoration Ecology
INTS 403 Nations and Nationalisms
MARA 416 Port Operations, Administration and Economics
MARB 435 Marine Invertebrate Zoology
OCEN 410 Ocean Engineering Laboratory
PHIL 381 Ethical Theory
RPTS/RENR 460 Nature, Values and Protected Areas
SCSC 429 Turfgrass Management Systems
WFSC 403 Animal Ecology
WFSC 410 Principles of Fisheries Management
Courses submitted for C recertification
ARCH 305 Design Studio III
MART 410 Watchstanding: Bridge Resource Management
VIBS 489 Science in Cinema and Society
Attachment S
FS.33.89
Motion Passed

COMMITTEE REPORTS
Core Curriculum Council Report- October 5, 2015
Attachment T
FS.33.93
Motion Passed

Informational Review Items

Unfinished Business

Old Business
After much discussion, changes to Student Rules 49 and 50 passed. Student Rule 53 was not approved. Rule 57 was approved with editorial changes: in 57.5.2.3, and in 57.5.2.4, the phrase “or other pertinent information” was added after the phrase “first-hand knowledge”. This is in reference to witnesses who may speak about the case.

Proposed Revisions to Student Rule 49 (from September 2015)
Attachment U
FS.33.90
Motion Passed

Proposed Revisions to Student Rule 50 (from September 2015)
Attachment V
FS.33.91
Motion Passed

Proposed Revisions to Student Rule 53 (from September 2015)
Attachment W
Motion Failed

Proposed Revisions to Student Rule 57 (from September 2015)
Attachment X
FS.33.92
Motion Passed pending revisions

Proposed Revisions to Student Rule 59 (from September 2015)
Attachment Y
Motion Failed
**New Business**
Rules that were presented in new business were not approved, and will be taken up at the next meeting.

Proposed Revisions to Student Rule 1
*Attachment Z*
Motion Tabled until November

Proposed Revisions to Student Rule 5
*Attachment AA*
Motion Tabled until November

Proposed Revisions to Student Rule 8
*Attachment BB*
Motion Tabled until November

Proposed Revisions to Student Rule 10.5.2.2
*Attachment CC*
Motion Tabled until November

Proposed Revisions to Student Rule 10.14.4
*Attachment DD*
Motion Tabled until November

Proposed Revisions to Student Rule 17
*Attachment EE*
Motion Tabled until November

Approval of Faculty Senate Constitution Revisions
*Attachment FF*
No Action Taken - Pending Revisions
The changes to the Constitution were approved by the Senate and will be sent to the general faculty for a vote.

Senator Fernandez-Solis asked the Senate to think about changing the way the EC is formed in order to make sure that each college is represented on the EC. He suggested that the EC be made up of the caucus leaders. Senator Rice moved that the issue be referred to the bylaws committee and the EC, and request that these groups think about those alternatives of representation. Motion passed.

**Information Only**
Faculty Senate Bylaw Revisions
*Attachment GG*
No Action Taken

**Committee of the Whole**
Senator Morey represents the Senate on the Transition of Services Committee, which has been tasked with moving Sponsored Research Services from the system to TAMU. The goal is to make SRS truly service oriented, rather than an obstacle. He asked for emails with questions or concerns, to morey@tamu.edu.

Senator Jasperson brought up concerns about ecampus, and asked that IT should come to the Senate to address the issue.
Senator Cirillo noted that though we have rules about smoking on campus, there doesn’t seem to be any enforcement of those rules.

Senator Whiteacre brought up the elimination of the ENDG program by the College of Engineering. He said that it did not appear that the College had any discussion to help the 3 faculty impacted by this decision. Interim Dean of Faculties Lupiani noted that the funds from the college will be moved to the departments that need the courses, and the departments will hire faculty to teach the courses.

Senator Hill continued the discussion of the smoking rules and said that he felt like the University was not trying to enforce the rules at all.

Senator Klein said that there is no way for faculty to see a transcript of a graduate student and that access to Howdy was removed for faculty who are still advising. Vice Provost Benedik said that FERPA limits who has access, and that the college administrations and department heads have to make the request for faculty, so the determination on who has valid reasons for access will vary across departments.

Senator Akabani expressed concern about student safety near the Zachry construction area and that students should not be permitted to use skateboards there.

Senator Price suggested that the Senate host an open forum to discuss concealed carry on campus.

Adjourn
The meeting adjourned at 4:59 PM.
Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 3:18pm.

Guest Speaker

Speaker Comments
The Speaker asked Mr. Jim Snell to address concerns regarding ecampus. He provided an update on e-learning issues from beginning of semester; he recognized that ecampus is a mission critical operation, with very high priority, and that they spend large amounts of time making sure that system is up and running; they have 2 nodes with redundant databases etc. It is important to ITS that ecampus is up and running as they understand the importance it has for the students and faculty that use the system. In July there was an upgrade to our system; they used one that had been out for over 6 months with 2 patch systems, and felt it was a stable release. They engaged the vendor to do a performance review prior to the semester start- looked at settings and configurations, and they felt it was ready for Fall semester. After the semester started, it became obvious that there were problems. The first week is always busy, but they saw more problems than normal that first week. Random nodes, never necessarily the same, would spike with very high CPU usage causing people on those nodes to experience terrible response time or log-in error messages. If no another node, performance was adequate. They used current engagement with consultants for guidance to fix situation, but it became apparent that they were not getting anywhere. The situation was elevated to a tier 3 support issue with daily meetings with vendor, fulltime IT help, and TAMU provided them with data. They found that they had programming problems and provided TAMU with 3 specific patches to the software based on the problems they found with analysis of the data provided. The campus started seeing relief from high CPU processes, then started having network problems, and anyone on system would see problems. They began working with central IT to pinpoint root cause of communication issues. The vendor provided additional configuration settings and things got better. There have been 3 weeks with no performance calls or issues reported to help desk, except this morning a problem with infrastructure arose; their corrective actions from a component going down in one of the servers over the weekend caused issues with our system. This didn’t affect the entire system; only about 3 nodes were affected, but were back up and running in 30 minutes or so. They are trying to catch issues as soon as possible and alert the help desk as soon as possible so they can answer students. ITS is working closely with their colleagues in Central IT. ITS takes responsibility for the situation. He felt like they have addressed issues from early on in the semester, working to ensure that resources are as stable as possible, and that they
monitor these so real time can be collected from the nodes. He expressed confidence that they have addressed everything that they can up to this point, and doesn't expect issues for this rest of this semester and year. Senator Daughterly expressed concern about the distributed independent administrative structure. He inquired if ITS has a problem with networking and networking has problem with Provost IT Office, are the different directors/managers peers or is there a chief information officer to help coordinate? Mr. Snell replied that they all have a good working relationship, and are getting good cooperation. Senator Jimenez asked if Mr. Snell thought that it’s right to have this sitting aside other machines that are running less critical things that are interfering with the application. Mr. Snell agreed that this was a problem and that he is working on getting them separated.

Dr. Stephenson issued a plea for faculty to turn out for open campus forums for the Dean of Faculties candidates. These are held in Rudder 601, and if it cannot be attended in person, the sessions are being streamed. Any questions can be emailed to dofsearch@tamu.edu.

Approval of October 12, 2015 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Approval of October minutes tabled for December 2015 meeting.

Consent Agenda
GRADUATE COUNCIL – GC REPORT
October 1, 2015
New Course Request
PSYC 640   Personality Psychology
PSYC 696   Principles and Methods for Teaching in Psychology
Attachment B
FS.33.94
Motion Passed

Change Course Request
FREN 601   Introduction to Scientific French
GERM 603   Introduction to Scientific German
PHEO 601   Principles of Basic Medical Sciences
PHEO 605   Chemical Hazard Risk Assessment
PHEO 610   Basic Environmental Toxicology
PHPM 606   Health Systems Management
PHPM 614   Strategic Planning and Marketing
PHPM 616   Introduction to Management or Human Resources
PHPM 617   Health Care Quality Evaluation and Utilization Management
PHPM 620   Operations Management
PHPM 623   Health Care Financial Management I
PHPM 633   Health Law and Ethics
PHPM 640   Health Policy and Politics
PHPM 661   Introduction to Health Economics
PHPM 668   Applied Health Services Research
PHPM 680   Health Systems Leadership
PSYC 622   Emotions: Neuroscience, Cognitive, and Social Approaches
Attachment C
FS.33.95
Motion Passed

Change in Curriculum
School of Public Health
   Master of Health Administration
   Request for courses to have variable course credit hours
UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – UCC REPORT

New Courses – October 2, 2015

AFST 398  Africana Cinema
AGEC 223  Establishing Agribusiness Entrepreneurship Networks I
AGEC 423  Establishing Agribusiness Entrepreneurship Networks II
ANSC 215  Introduction to Livestock Evaluation
BAEN 431  Fundamentals in Bioseparations
BIOL 462  Amazon River Tropical Biology
CHEN 431  Fundamentals in Bioseparations
FILM 349  Documentary Cinema
FILM 398  Africana Cinema
HORT 416  Understanding Wine: From Vines to Wines and Beyond
PHLT 432  Human Factors and Ergonomic Health and Safety
PHLT 433  Industrial Inspections and Audit Techniques
PHLT 434  Project Cost Benefit and Economics
WFSC 462  Amazon River Tropical Biology

Change in Courses

AGSC 425  Learner Centered Instruction in Agricultural Science
AGSC 436  Professional Teaching Internship in AGSC
AGSC 481  Seminar
AGSC 484  Field Experience
HORT 306  Woody Ornamental Plants
HORT 308  Landscape Plant Materials
OCNG 252  Oceanography Laboratory
NRSC 311  Comparative Psychology
PSYC 311  Comparative Psychology

Change in Curriculum

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication
BS in Agricultural Sciences – Teaching Option

Change in Curriculum

Mays Business School
All undergraduate degree programs
Change in Curriculum
College of Liberal Arts
Department of International Studies
BA in International Studies
International Communication and Media Track
Attachment I
FS.33.101
Motion Passed

Change in Curriculum
College of Liberal Arts
Department of International Studies
BA in International Studies
Environmental Studies Track
Attachment J
FS.33.102
Motion Passed

Change in Curriculum
College of Liberal Arts
Department of International Studies
BA in International Studies
International Geographic Information System Track
Attachment K
FS.33.103
Motion Passed

Change in Curriculum
College of Liberal Arts
Department of International Studies
Minor in Arabic Studies
Attachment L
FS.33.104
Motion Passed

Special Consideration Item
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Department of Agricultural Economics
Minor in Agribusiness Entrepreneurship
Request for a new minor
Attachment M
FS.33.105
Motion Passed

New Courses (from September 2015 UCC Meeting)
ESSM 461 Spatial Databases for Data Storage, Manipulation and Analysis
Attachment N
FS.33.106
Motion Passed

Change in Curriculum (from September 2015 UCC Meeting)
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Department of Ecosystem Science and Management
BS in Spatial Sciences

Attachment O
FS.33.107
Motion Passed

Change in Curriculum (from September 2015 UCC Meeting)
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Department of Ecosystem Science and Management
Minor in Spatial Sciences

Attachment P
FS.33.108
Motion Passed

W-COURSES  -  Report October 7, 2015
Courses submitted for W certification
RELS 491  Research
RPTS 401  Tourism and Recreation Enterprises
WFSC 481  Seminar in Wildlife & Fisheries Science

Courses submitted for C certification
NUTR/FTSC 491  Undergraduate Research and Communication

Courses submitted for W recertification
DCED 301  Dance History
DCED 401  Dance Pedagogy
FREN 336  Contemporary France
GEOL 311  Principles in Geologic Writing
KNFB 416  Middle & Secondary School Kinesiology
MAST 425  Thesis and Technical Writing
MUSC 312  Music in Modern Western Culture
SOCI/RPTS 404  Sociology of Community
SOCI 230  Classical Sociological Theory
WFSC 484  Internship

Attachment Q
FS.33.109
Motion Passed

__________________________________End of Consent Agenda__________________________________

COMMITTEE REPORTS
Attachment R
FS.33.110
Motion Passed

Core Curriculum Council Report- November 2, 2015
Attachment S
FS.33.111
Motion Passed
SEBAC Committee Report: Senator Daugherity provided a brief overview of the more recent SEBAC Committee meeting. Enrollment in Dental PPO has increased while HMO decreased. Vision coverage has also increased. For fiscal report for last academic year (through August), expense of about 2 million dollars out of our premiums to go to ACA, but this should go down. A&M is self-insured, but Blue Cross is just an administrator which is paid administrative fees. A&M used $ 10 million to keep premiums going up. The year ended 2.7% in the black, which is good. Life insurance and accidental death & dismemberment outgoing payments exceeded premiums. Fluctuation from year to year is normal, but at some point premiums will likely go up. Compared to national average, the premiums still went up 7.9%, almost double national average, although at a much lower point when considering overall dollar amount. The state contribution helps cover most of it. The average premium for A&M on par with national average. The System is rolling out a new cell phone app, giving the ability to check my wellness incentive status.

**Informational Review Items**

**Unfinished Business**
BIOL 645 from Attachment B- There are virology faculty who should have signed off on this particular course as they offer very similar courses. The senator asked that the committee get input from Virology faculty, and ask that the course be submitted correctly as well (i.e. minimum syllabus requirements). Motion to send back to committee by Senator Daugherity, seconded by Senator Parnell, approved by vote of the Senate.

PHEB 617 from Attachment B- Senator Daugherity noted the same issue with the way course description starts. He wanted to remind the Graduate Council to do it right the first time. He moved to send it back, and Senator Parnell seconded. The motion was approved.

**Old Business**
Proposed Revisions to Student Rule 1
Attachment T
FS.33.112
Motion Passed

Proposed Revisions to Student Rule 5
Attachment U
FS.33.113
Motion Passed

Proposed Revisions to Student Rule 8
Attachment V
FS.33.114
Motion Passed

Proposed Revisions to Student Rule 10.5.2.2
Attachment W
FS.33.115
Motion Passed

Proposed Revisions to Student Rule 10.14.4
Attachment X
FS.33.116
Motion Passed

Proposed Revisions to Student Rule 17
Attachment Y
FS.33.117
Motion Passed
New Business
Posthumous Degree Candidate- CONFIDENTIAL
Attachment Z
FS.33.118
Motion Passed

Information Only

Speaker Comments
Speaker Strawser welcomed Senator Katz and Senator Stallone as newly elected members of the Executive Committee.

Speaker Strawser reminded the Senate that he meets monthly with President Young and with Chancellor Sharp, and that he is seeking suggestions of topics that Senators would like him to bring up with them since they always ask what are the concerns of the Faculty Senate. Senator Parnell pointed out the difficulties with administrators at Missouri, and that in his opinion those administrators did not have experience with shared governance. He suggested that the Senate come up with a synopsis of what has been done related to shared governance. Speaker Strawser noted that the A&M administration does ask for, wants and does consider whatever issues the Speaker brings to them. He stated that it is his job as Speaker to argue for the faculty position on a topic, but once a decision is made, it is his and the Senate’s job to advocate for making whatever decisions they’ve made work (example: Guns on campus; it’s a state law and we need to do our best to work within the confines of this). Speaker Strawser wants to spend part of every meeting talking about what issues the Senate wants to have taken to the administration. Senator Parnell stated that more publicity regarding what is going on between Faculty Senate and administration is desirable in order to show that we DO have a shared governance position. Speaker Strawser also meets with the executive committees of the CPI and DPs to share ideas that way too for perspective and he can bring back to the Senate any issues there. One issue, which has the support of CPI, is a concern that researchers on campus with funded research are not valued in this respect and he can bring back to the Senate any issues there. One issue, which has the support of CPI, is a concern that researchers on campus with funded research are well represented via CPI, but there are groups that aren’t in funded research that need representation as well. Working with CPI and the Senate’s research committee, Senator Margaret Ezell is heading a task force to set up a parallel organization so that group can have access to administrators.

Senator Arroyave expressed an issue with the way the survey on guns on campus was implemented. He did not think that the committee will have a lot of actionable information because of way it was designed. Difficult to extract valuable information. Poorly designed and don’t think I’m the only one that thinks that as a bunch of faculty have shared similar opinions. Speaker Strawser replied that if anyone has specific suggestions, they should be sent to him or to Kelly Drake, the Senate assistant. Provost Watson expressed concern that qualitative research was not valued in this respect as there are some of the best qualitative researchers on this campus. A question was raised as to why the survey was done at all. Vice Provost Benedik, who is on the committee replied that the legislation requires that the university staff, faculty, and students must be asked certain questions, so the survey was specifically written to meet this requirement. He pointed out that there was no way to write the questions in a quantitative way without completely biasing the survey. The committee members, which include faculty, decided it was best to leave the survey open ended and let people provide whatever comments they want to give, and that the committee members would spend the time to analyze the responses. Dr. Stephenson addressed the Senate on this issue; he explained that quantitative wasn’t the way to go if the University wanted to meet specifications. There are researchers looking at the data from line to line and making sure that nothing is overlooked. They are on a tight timeline to get this done and working as fast as possible. They plan to get the information to the committee in December so they have time to consider it. Vice Provost Benedik noted that the law prohibits certain things. The survey was an attempt to gather opinions. Law does say how we can implement the law on campus by designating safe spaces. There is a broad committee with no pre-determined outcome at this point. Senator Daugherty announced that there was still until 1 minute before midnight to take survey. Senator Jimenez stated that maybe the president can make sure that the survey is designed using best practices, and could include statement of how survey was designed so that the participants can feel good about the survey they are taking.

Senator Jasperson initiated a discussion on transportation issues. He asked how to have access to Raymond Stotzer from the parking lot on west campus, which is creating traffic jams. With the apartments, some of streets not as wide as
it needs to be for bus traffic. There needs to be some examination of safety for buses swinging wide to make corner etc. Pedestrian and bicycle traffic is all over the place, partly because of construction but designated paths from the White Creek apartments to main campus could use improvement. He also pointed out that some faculty and staff have to get there in their cars. He is concerned that there is a huge potential for accidents, and hopes the transportation committee is monitoring the situation. A discussion followed regarding bicycles on sidewalks and crosswalks. He noted that there are a number of places on campus where safety is a concern. Several Senators expressed concern about the same issues, and Senator Hill noted that, though there are dismount zones on campus, they are not being enforced.

Speaker Strawser said that he will continue to ask for input in this forum throughout the year.

**Committee of the Whole**

Senator Daugherity, Engineering- Data breech of SSN- promptly filed affidavit of identity theft when suspected it was stolen, and then again when found out that it was stolen. He incurred a two cent fine because an IRS payment wasn’t accepted on time, but they agreed to waive the fee. Some colleagues have not been so lucky, and when the IRS accepted a corrected return, it has huge late fees attached to it. Three Senators indicated that they are still having problems. Senator Hill- identity was stolen; he recommended using US Senator John Cornyn’s office to help, who had a more friendly way to file a claim; he was connected with rep to whom he could speak to on the phone from Taxpayer’s Assistance Division, and she cut through paperwork and got problem solved which included two different estimates of what he owed, but was able to work with her and get it eventually solved. Senator John Cornyn’s website has a link for you to fill out.

Senator Hill revisited the question about who is in charge of landscaping for the integrity of trees and plants. Through some digging, communicated with Bill Cox and he didn’t know the answer at first, but came back with 2 answers. Senator Hill advised the Senate members if they see an issue where grounds problems appear to arise that is because of staff of the SSC, they should communicate with University’s outsourcing office- outsourcing@tamu.edu, an email that everyone in the office reads. Other issues, like vehicles parking under trees, contact transportation services. There is a parking enforcement dispatch phone number. It was his experience that the caller must convince the dispatcher that someone is doing something wrong, and then they respond quickly. There is a remaining question about whether university should get recertified as tree campus, but that’s a different matter/conversation. Speaker Strawser noted that in his last conversation with President Young, the President made a specific reference to wanting to see more green space on campus.

Speaker Elect Bierman announced that in March 2016, the Senate would be holding the annual joint meeting with the UT Faculty Council, and they are coming here. He requested that if the Senators have any ideas or thoughts along those lines, please let him know. He wanted to make sure that the meeting is substantive, as it is an important collaboration between two flagship universities.

**Adjourn**
The meeting adjourned at 4:31pm.