

TAMU Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

August 12, 2019

3:15pm

Rudder 601

<http://facultysenate.tamu.edu>

CALL TO ORDER

Speaker Andrew Klein called the meeting to order at 3:15pm.

CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

Speaker Klein presented a certificate recognizing Fritz Kocher, an audio-visual specialist with the University Center Event staff, who contributes to making the Faculty Senate meetings successful each month.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Speaker Klein introduced Dr. Tim Scott, Associate Provost, Office for Student Success.

Dr. Scott began by introducing Jason Mastrogiovanni, new Executive Director of the Office for Student Success. He then directed the Senate's attention to the packet of information about the First Year Experience (FYE) that was distributed (see attachment at end of minutes).

- Overall, the number of available seats in FYE sections this fall is greater than expected as enrollments are lower than anticipated.
- Dr. Scott explained the need for more input from the Faculty Senate, as well as the Academic Affairs Committee, to move the program from pilot to mandatory for all incoming students.
- He addressed program assessment; the instrument is included in the packet.
- One concern at this time is how to track who has completed the FYE, as it can be different from college to college.
- He also spoke of the difficulty of marketing the zero credit FYE to new students and their parents while the program is not mandatory.

Dr. Scott then fielded questions from the following Senators:

Hank Walker, College of Engineering

Darlene McLaughlin, College of Medicine

Julie Harlin, College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

Dan Collins, College of Science

Jay Ramadoss, College of Veterinary Medicine & Biological Sciences

John Buchanan, College of Education & Human Development

Speaker Klein thanked Dr. Scott for speaking to the Senate.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements.

SPEAKER COMMENTS

Speaker Klein welcomed Senators, then introduced the University administrators who were present at the meeting including Mike Benedik, Vice Provost & Chief International Officer; and Steve Oberhelman, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs in Liberal Arts, both of whom were former Speakers. After recognizing Walter Daugherty, long-time faculty member, Senator, and former Speaker who will be retiring after 32 years, Speaker Klein highlighted items that the Senate has been working on over the summer.

- The Provost requested nominees for the following task forces: (1) Distinguished Professors Committee (2) Post-Tenure Review Committee (3) Academic Professional Track Faculty Evaluations and Academic Freedom, and (4) Faculty Code of Conduct.
- Senate Committee assignments would be sent out soon, and he reminded Senators that the committees need to convene in September to elect a chair and discuss topics of interest for the year. The Bylaws and Elections committees will be convened in the fall, and caucuses need to determine a designee for each.
- Speaker Klein and Senator Angie Hill Price represented the Faculty Senate at the summer graduations and shook the hand of all students crossing the stage.
- After encouraging requests for guest speakers from Senators, he thanked the outgoing Senators for their service and participation in shared governance.
- Speaker Klein announced that the Executive Committee discussed ways to ensure the monthly Senate does not run long, and voted to move the meeting time up to 3:00pm from 3:15pm beginning with the September 9 meeting. Whenever possible, guest speakers will be limited to one only.
- Speakers at the September 9 meeting will include President Michael K. Young and brief comments by Dean of Faculties Blanca Lupiani. Also, the Senate will welcome new Senators, and distance Senators who are able to be physically present. The annual fall reception at the University Club will directly follow the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The motion passed to approve the June 10, 2019 minutes as distributed. ***Attachment A – Passed***

CONSENT AGENDA

The motion passed to approve the Consent Agenda. ***Attachments B-L – Passed***

(Consent Agenda with FS #'s can be found below Adjournment.)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Student Rule 24.7 – Amnesty – *Attachment M*, which was tabled at the June Faculty Senate meeting, was re-introduced. After some discussion, Senator Matt Taylor moved to postpone the motion until the Academic Affairs Committee has considered proposed clarifications to the rule. The postponement was unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Core Curriculum Council Course Report – Attachment N (no course documents) – Passed – FS.37.026

The motion passed to approve the Core Curriculum Course Report. (Core Curriculum Course Report can be found after *Consent Agenda* below.)

Other Committee Reports

No other committee reports were heard.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was conducted.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Revisions to Student Rule

Rule 6 Non-Degree Seeking Students – Attachment O – Passed – FS.37.027

Attachment O – Student Rule 6 was approved.

Rule 13 Classification – Attachment P – Passed – FS.37.028

Attachment P – Student Rule 13 was approved.

Emergency Motion: Course Not on Consent Agenda – No Attachment – Passed – FS.37.029

Senator Dan Humphrey presented an emergency motion for immediate action to approve THAR 281. Motion was seconded and Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs in Liberal Arts, Steve Oberhelman, was invited to the podium for an explanation as to the need to approve this course promptly.

- The course is part of new initiative called *Aggie Achieve*, an Educational Psychology program for young adults with intellectual and developmental needs. The course is a zero credit offering.
- THAR 281 did not get to the Faculty Senate by the deadline, but needs to be available for these students to sign up at the start of the fall semester.

After questions, the motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation of August 2019 Degree Candidates

TOTAL – 2,189
TAMU-Main – 1,827
TAMU-Galveston – 71
TAMU-HSC – 154
TAMU-Law – 12
TAMU-Qatar – 5
TAMU-VMBS – 120

The motion to certify the August 2019 Degree Candidates was approved.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Speaker-Elect John Stallone convened the Committee of the Whole.

Jay Ramadoss, College of Veterinary Medicine and Biological Sciences

Senator Ramadoss requested to hear the status of the Deans and Department Heads rule worked on by the Senate over the previous academic year. Speaker Klein stated it is moving forward as the Senate approved it. Vice Provost Benedik added that it is at the University Rule level and in the open comment period. If no comments are received, it will go to the System for posting; if there are comments, they will need to be addressed.

Speaker Klein shared that Student Rule 7, approved by the Senate in the spring, will go into effect this month. It can be found on the Student Rules website.

Walter Daugherity, Parliamentarian, College of Engineering

Dr. Daugherity updated the pre-tax parking deduction developments. After his cautiously optimistic comments in the last meeting, he has learned that the University will not be offering pre-tax parking. The tax increase that faculty and staff will receive in September amounts to a pay decrease. UT Austin will continue to offer the pre-tax parking deductions, unlike Texas A&M University.

Michael Benedik, Vice Provost shared that he will, as usual, send out his annual welcome letter. He wanted to point out a new section concerning Title IX. As many faculty know, they are mandatory reporters when it comes to incidents of sexual violence. The Texas legislature has now made it a criminal offence requiring dismissal not to report such incidents to the Title IX Coordinator, whether or not the student wants the incident reported. This is critically important information for faculty to know, so that they can share it with students

Speaker-Elect Stallone turned the meeting back over to Speaker Klein.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 4:31pm.

ATTACHMENTS BELOW: Approved Consent Agenda, Core Curriculum Council Course Report, Dr. Tim Scott's handout on FYE

CONSENT AGENDA

GRADUATE COUNCIL

New Courses – Attachment B – Passed – FS.37.015

MSCI 650	Foundations of Clinical and Translational Research
MSCI 684	Professional Internship
STAT 600	Statistical Computations I
VPAT 667	Animal Research Laws and Regulations
VPAT 668	Animal Models

Change in Courses – Attachment C – Passed – FS.37.016

ALEC 615	Philosophy of Agricultural Education
ECEN 601	Mathematical Methods in Signal Processing
ECEN 635	Electromagnetic Theory

ECEN 667	Power System Stability
ECEN 669	Engineering Applications in Genomics
ECEN 750	Design and Analysis of Communication Networks
ECEN 766	Algorithms in Structural Bioinformatics
ICPE 631	Sustainability Considerations In Energy
INTA 635	Great Famines, War and Disaster Response
SPED 601	Assessment in School Settings
TCMT 610	Engineering Personal Leadership
TCMT 613	Technical Project Management
TCMT 623	Financial Decision Making
TCMT 624	Managing Technical Teams
TCMT 631	Capstone I
TCMT 643	Contract and Risk Management
VIBS 617	Cell Biology

Change in Courses – TAMU Galveston – *Attachment D – Passed – FS.37.017*

MARA 675	Leadership in the Maritime Industry
MARS 660	Environmental Conflict Resolution

UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

New Courses – *Attachment E – Passed – FS.37.018*

COMM 303	Communication Data Applications
COMM 310	Communication Intervention
KINE 334	Coaching in Personal Training
PSYC 389	Careers in Psychology
SOCI 213	Gender and Health

Change in Courses – *Attachment F – Passed – FS.37.019*

ACCT 410	Fraud Examination
AGLS 492	Cooperative Education in Agriculture
COMM 309	Research Method Projects
CSCE 120	Program Design and Concepts
EPFB 210	Family Involvement and Empowerment
INST 301	Educational Psychology
ISEN 320	Operations Research I
ISEN 355	System Simulation
PHLT 412	Health Advocacy and Policy
PSYC 411	Psychology of Self.
VTPB 410	Cell Mechanisms of Disease
VTPP 429	Introduction to Toxicology

Change in Courses – Inactivation Proposal – *Attachment G – Passed – FS.37.020*

College of Science

Department of Physics and Astronomy	
PHYS 208	Electricity and Optics

Change in Courses – Inactivation Proposal – *Attachment H – Passed – FS.37.021*

College of Science

Department of Physics and Astronomy	
PHYS 218	Mechanics

Change in Programs – *Attachment I – Passed – FS.37.022*

College of Public Health

School of Public Health	
BS-PHLT	Public Health - BS

Change in Programs – Attachment J – Passed – FS.37.023

College of Engineering

Department of Engineering

CERT-CU32 International Engineering - Certificate

Change in Programs–Inactivation Proposal – Attachment K – Passed – FS.37.024

Mays Business School

Department of Management

BBA-MGMT-NON Management - BBA, Nonprofit Management Track

W&C COURSES

Courses Submitted for W Certification – Attachment L – Passed – FS.37.025

AGSC 302-W	Teaching School-Based Agricultural Education & Clinical Professional Experience
BIOL 351-W	Fundamentals of Microbiology
COMM 425-W	Rhetoric of the Civil Rights Movement
CSCE 315-W	Programming Studio
INST 362-W	English as a Second Language Methods I
MATH 489-W	Special Topics in...
MSEN 380-W	Communicating Materials Science and Engineering
SCEN 489-W	Special Topics in...
WFSC 484-W	Internship

End of Consent Agenda

CORE CURRICULUM COUNCIL COURSE REPORT – Attachment N (no course documents) – FS.37.026

Courses Submitted for Recertification in Foundational Component Area: Lang, Phil, Culture – TAMU Galveston

ANTH 210 Introduction to Social and Cultural Anthropology

Dr. Tim Scott's FYE Handout