

Faculty Senate Minutes
December 7, 2018
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Room: Madla 134

In Attendance: Rebekah Piper, Claire Nolasco, Robert Vinaja, Joseph Simpson, Caroline O’Quinn, Jeremy Zuni, Scott Peters, Alan Daniel, Matthew Mangum, Mike O’Brien, Rodolfo Valdez, Young Rae Kim, James Finley, Jimena Guerra

Virtual Attendance: Kevin Barton

Guests In Attendance: Deirdre McDonald, Scott Gage, Tim Gritten, Corina Ross, Katherine Bridgeman, Amy Porter, Sandra Lara, Muhammad Abdel-Rahman

Meeting called to order: 11:30 AM

Approval of Minutes:

Matthew Mangum made a motion to approve the minutes
Caroline O’Quinn seconded the motion to approve the minutes

Administrative Updates:

Dr. O’Brien detailed Academic Updates:

- Sean Kearney has decided to go back to his role as Faculty in the College of Education and Human Development.
- Suzy Mudge will serve as Interim Dean until approximately February 1, 2019.
- Carl Sheperis has accepted the position as Dean for the College of Education and Human Development.
- Dean Hurly is moving to a special assignment.
- Kathy Voges will serve as acting dean for the time being.
- Tenure and Promotion Guidelines have been accepted and Dr. O’Brien is going through them to move them to general counsel.
- Search for Director for the Cisneros Center for Emerging Leadership – Amy Porter is chairing the search committee.
- Dr. Matson now has all Tenure and Promotion letters for the 2018 – 2019 Academic Year.

Dr. Matson detailed Campus Reports:

- Dr. O’Brien and the taskforce has provided Dr. Matson with a report on Admission Standards.
- We have adopted an approach on equity mindedness and the intent is to partner with high schools and Alamo Colleges to support student success.

- This process will go through the Regents in January. It is intended to be approved in the Spring. The campus will update the catalog and will potentially go into place in 2020.
- We are building on recruitment strategies for potential students.
- Dr. O'Brien addressed the option of co-enrollment for students who may be "at risk" in partnership with Alamo Colleges.
- Dr. Matson encouraged all to discuss this topic further with department chair, dean, and provost if necessary.

Executive Update:

- The Tenure and Promotion Guidelines have been approved by Dr. O'Brien and are in the final review.

Old Business:

Amendments of Faculty Senate Constitution:

- Process for breaking ties
- Course reassignment for Senate President

Scott Peters motioned to approve
Joseph Simpson seconded

Adaption of Guidelines for Career Advancement and Paths to Promotion of Non-Tenure Track Faculty:

- Draft of guidelines to send to faculty by February meeting.
- Dr. Matson suggested Scott Gage and Committee meet with John LoCurto to discuss policy regarding lecturers and professional track faculty.

National Student Honor Society:

- Joseph Simpson and Claire Nolasco spoke to Drs. O'Brien and Matson regarding the Honor Society and are working on a proposal to submit on behalf of our institution. Joseph will be working on this during the beginning of the spring semester.

Spousal Hire Policy:

- Andrew Sanders introduced this item during the November meeting. Andrew suggests that Faculty Senate draft a policy to submit to the Provost to be reviewed by John LoCurto.
- The committee will work on drafting a policy for the February Faculty Senate Meeting.

Institutional Repository for Faculty Research:

- Tim Gritten has been working on Digital Commons.

- Tim presented on the Digital Commons platform which provided insight on how the platform advances scholarship.
- Journals, books, research centers, manage conferences, etc. are able to utilize this platform.
- The library is going to acquire this platform, ASAP and will be working with faculty to place the work in the repository.

Joseph Simpson made a motion for faculty senate to vote for the addition of the platform and that an ad-hoc committee be formed to discuss policy, oversight, and the process of how this platform will be used.

Scott Peters seconded that motion.

Vote:

Favor: 12

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 1

Committee Members:

James Finley

Scott Peters

Matthew Mangum

Distinguished Faculty Awards:

- Rebekah Piper provided updates on the work that the committee completed over the Fall semester. The items included adding the option for a “Rising Scholar” for the distinguished faculty awards and the addition of a detailed rubric.
- Rodolfo and Joseph asked about the monetary award – Rebekah will clarify with Dr. O’Brien regarding the timeline for payment

Matthew Mangum made a motion to approve the updated guidelines.

Scott Peters seconded the motion.

Vote:

Favor: 13

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

New Business:

Deletion of Provost’s List from Honor Lists

- The removal of the Provost List from the academic catalog has been suggested.

Alan made a motion to retain Dean’s list and remove the provost list.

Rodolfo Valdez seconded the motion.

Vote:

Favor: 12

Opposed:0

Abstain: 1

Robert Vinaja made a motion to change the GPA of 3.7 to 3.6 for the Dean's list.

Rodolfo Valdez asked for further research and discussion to be completed prior to the vote on this change.

Workload Policy & Post Tenure Review Policies:

- The Dean's and Chairs would like faculty senate to review the two policies further.
- Claire Nolasco appointed the Faculty Development and Research Committee to review these two policies and propose revisions to be presented during the February Faculty Senate Meeting.

Booking Large Rooms for Events:

- Andrew Sanders proposed updates to the process of booking large rooms.
- Dr. Matson asked Faculty Senate to email concerns and feedback regarding this process.

Printer and IT Update Timeline:

- Computers have not been delivered or updated.
- It is likely that this process will not happen until around the holiday break.

Visitors on Campus and First Amendment Rights:

- Two visits from Right for Life organization causing concern for campus.
- Andrew has suggested two possible solutions:
 - 1. ...that all invited groups be announced. This would both encourage attendance from students who might be interested in the activities of such groups, and draw the attention to students who would like to avoid these groups.
 - 2. ...that we consider delegating a location on campus for future protest groups, so that they do not disrupt campus activities. UPD can advise on suitable locations.
- Rodolfo Valdez suggested to define "relocate the space".
- Matthew Mangum suggested "Designated Free Speech Zones".
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Loading and Unloading:

- Rebekah Piper detailed the need for 1-2 loading/unloading parking spaces in Lot 1.
- Claire Nolasco will follow up with administration regarding this process.

Other Comments:

Joseph Simpson suggested that the Deans and Chairs evaluations need to be reviewed.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:59 PM