

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 29 via TEAMS
4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Nathan England, Sylvia Flores, Mehrzad Mahmoudian-Geller, Richard Smith, Ana M. Riojas, Nadia Carreon, Louis Lee, Jesus Munoz, Wendi J.W. Williams, Nihan Kayaardi, Rolando Longoria, Pooja Rishi, Mark R. Murray, Javier Reyes, Reynaldo Jasso, Jose Molina, Brittany Leckey, Jaclyn Miller, Aaron Wilson, Micah Bailey, Rainlilly Elizondo, Annette Wingard, Nora Martinez, Sharon Rice

Members Absent: Joana Cordoba, Tim Weber, Jorge Martinez, Robert Vela, Lee Basham, Gabriel Pena, Ruben Flores

Also present: Rene C. Rios, Auristela Lung, Richard Coronado, Mayra Garcia, Daniel A. Montes, Joel Rodriguez, Johanna Rios, Jorge L. Botello, Marisa Taylor

Meeting called to order by Nathan England at 4:03 pm

Old Business

- Approval of Minutes from FS Retreat
 - Mehrzad Mahmoudian-Geller asked for revision of minutes to include that COVID-19 Committee completed its Mission Statement and is on Teams.
 - Mark Murray made motion to approve meeting notes with revision and was seconded by Sylvia Flores.
 - Motion passed unanimously. Minutes will be posted to Blackboard shell and sent to VPAA

- Re-Branding Office Hours
 - Wendi J.W. Williams gave summary of blog article shared during Retreat. She would like to make the rebranding of office hours more formal and bring up to administration's attention.
 - Nathan England asked Wendi to type up a blurb and send out to senate before October meeting so Senate can vote on whether to take forward to administration.

- Committee Updates – Committee Chairs
 - **Salary and Benefits Committee:** Nathan England emailed Bruce Griffiths about data and information, but has not received a response yet. Issue of hiring/rehiring lecturers may be added for committee's consideration.
 - **Synchronous vs. Asynchronous Online Committee:** Aaron Wilson and Rainlilly Elizondo shared details about the committee's meeting with Dr. Sale (Distance Learning), Ms. Cavazos (Student Center), and Ms. Blanco (Registrar's Office).
 - Aaron and Rainlilly also shared information from discussion with Matt about RAS survey format and results. Edits were sent. Survey to be ready by mid-October.
 - Committee made recommendation to Faculty Senate to recommend the creation of attribution code for synchronous online courses for Spring 2021.
 - Further discussion was had among senators before putting motion to vote.
 - Rolando Longoria made the motion to wait for research results before continuing discussion. Sylvia Flores seconded the motion.
 - Roll call vote taken: 12 ayes to 10 nays. Motion carries to wait for research results before moving forward.
 - **Constitution Committee:** Richard Smith asked for five members; current at three. Nathan England (Liberal Arts) and Jesus Munoz (Math and Science) volunteered. Issue of having members from same division was brought up. Mark Murray made argument that FS President can serve on any committee with understanding that he/she cannot vote unless there is tie. Nathan will work with committee on possible membership.
 - **Elections Committee:** Mark Murray reported they had not met yet.
 - **COVID-19:** Mehrzad Mahmoudian-Geller reported committee meeting Thursday at 4:30
 - **Academic Classification:** Mehrzad Mahmoudian-Geller reported they are in process of scheduling first meeting for next week.

New Business

- Policy 3803 – Conditions of Employment for Full-Time Faculty Teaching During Summer
 - Nathan England asked that Senate look at the policy in more detail before next meeting. He brought up issue of faculty working and completing trainings during summer when faculty is not on contract. Would like to revisit issue at next meeting.
- Course release or stipend for LMS course development or course re-design
 - Nathan England asked Senate to consider before next meeting
- Scheduling of “Purely Online Sections” for Spring 2021 – Possible Issues with Policy 3030
 - Nathan England gave opinion that if faculty member wishes to teach a hybrid course, they should be able to. Stipend should not be the deciding factor. Under Policy 3030, Number 7, individual instructors have responsibility to choose the methodology for teaching their classes. If a faculty member is forced into modality of online teaching, many methods are not available to instructor on how to teach that class. Will need to keep an ear out on whether individuals requesting hybrid courses are being denied.
- Timing of switch to BB Ultra
 - Mark Murray reported that all faculty will be required to use Blackboard Ultra by Fall 2021. There are potential bugs and problems in transition from Original View to Ultra View. Issues may not be fixed by Fall 2021 transition.
- Other Business
 - Academic Council supplementary materials/agenda will be shared by Nathan England in OneDrive
 - Division Common Assignments: Nathan England reported that a task force is being assembled that will consist of 2 faculty members from each division. Unknown who is making these nominations/ recommendations. Since Nathan represents Faculty Senate on these task forces, he asked for feedback and input from Senate.

- Nominations needed by Math and Science senators to replace open senate position that was recently vacated
- Jaclyn Miller requested update of Faculty Senate listings on college website

Jaclyn Miller made motion to adjourn meeting. Wendi Williams seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 5:44 pm