

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING OF November 13, 2008

The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate for the academic year 2008-2009 was held October 9, 2008 at 3:30 p.m. in the Assembly Room (JPL 4.03.08) with Robert Renthal conducting the beginning of the meeting on behalf of Dr. Mansour El-Kikhia, Chairman of the Faculty Senate.

I. Call to order and taking of attendance

Present: Diane Abdo, Marian Aitches, Robert Ambrosino, Yoris Au, Ron Binks, Rena Bizios, Susan Bruenger, Aaron Cassill, William Cooke, Kim Cuero, Sara DeTurk, Beth Durodoye, Mansour El-Kikhia, Juanita Firestone, Mary Ellen Garcia, Rhonda Gonzales, Robert Hard, Judith Haschenburger, Victor Heller, Amy Jaspersen, Zlatko Koinov (substitute), William McCrary, Jolyn Mikow, Sandy Norman, Branco Ponomariov, Robert Renthal, Cherylon Robinson, John Simonis, Ted Skekel, Howard Smith (Peter Sawyer), Raydel Tullous, John Wald, Carola Wenk, Karen Williams

Absent: Steve Bach, Joel Christensen (excused), Betty Travis (excused), John Frederick (excused), Craig Jordan, Eugene John (excused), John McCray (excused), Sharon Nichols (excused), Darryl Ohlenbusch, Ben Olguin, Hazem Rashed-Ali, Michael Ryan, Nestor Sanchez, Hatim Sharif (excused), Alan Shoho, Mary Zey

Guests: Ashley Diaz, Bernadette Andrea

Total members present: 34 Total members absent: 16

II. Approval of minutes of October 9, 2008

The minutes were approved.

III. Reports

A. Chair Report- Dr. Mansour El-Kikhia

Dr. El-Kikhia reported on the Board of Regents' meeting at UT El Paso. The Board approved a resolution to lay off approximately 3,800 employees at UTMB (Galveston) due to a loss of \$40 million dollars monthly. Dr. El-Kikhia also reported that Dr. Geri Malandra, Vice Chancellor for Strategic Management, reported on the leadership and global programs. The regents intend to set up a pilot program consisting of three members from each UT component.

UT Arlington has just discovered a gas field on their property; the value is approximately \$100 million over the next ten years.

David Prior presented a slide show regarding programs on humanities. Dr. El-Kikhia will obtain a copy of the slides and forward it to the faculty senators. At the meeting, President Ricardo Romo also addressed the importance of humanities.

B. University Assembly Report- Sandy Norman

Dr. Norman briefly stated that there was nothing to report because there had not been a University Assembly meeting. The first University Assembly meeting is scheduled for November 25, 2008.

IV. Unfinished Business

A. HOP Section 2.34

Dr. Sandy Norman opened the discussion on the grievance policy. Some senators were concerned about transparency of the grievance process results. In addition, they wanted to retain some of the categories regarding what would be considered grievable. Senators wanted additional information on the appointment of a UTSA Ombudsperson.

Dr. Frederick has reported that the Faculty Senate is permitted to have an Ombudsperson. The senators wanted to know exactly what the Ombudsperson is required to do and also who could serve in this position (for example, a faculty member, staff member or and administrator). The HOP committee was charged with reviewing the proposed grievance policy and reporting to the Faculty Senate.

V. New Business – None

VI. Provost Report – Dr. John Frederick

There was no report made.

VII. Open Forum

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously accepted at 5:00 pm.