**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO**

**DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY**

**SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE**

**FACULTY SENATE MEETING**

**Of November 11, 2021**

The regular monthly meeting of the Faculty Senate for the 2020-2021 academic year was held November 11, 2021 at 3:30 p.m. in Zoom (online meeting) with Dr. Chad Mahood, Chair of the Faculty Senate, presiding.

1. Call to order and taking of attendance.

Present: Chad Mahood, Chris Packham, Brian Davies, Victor DeOliveira, Richard LeBaron, Alex Godet, John Alexander, John Wald, Felicia Castro-Villarreal, Gabriela Romero Uribe, Andrew Lloyd, Rene Zenteno, Marcus Hamilton, Drew Johnson, Matthias Hofferberth, Joshua Thurow, John Prevost, Whitney Chappell, Richard Gretz, Ginny Garcia, Rajendra Boppana, Becky Huang, Kimberly Fonzo, Jurgen Engelberth, Sylvia Mansour, Lorenzo Brancaleon, Humberto Saenz, August Allo, Dan Hollas, Mahmut, Sonmez, Zhechao Liu, Manuel, David Hansen, Maria Arreguin, Nicole Beebe, Lauren Riojas-Fitzpatrick, Hector Aguilar, Gina Amatangelo, Michael Doyle, Branco Ponomariov, Huy Le, Kiran Bhaganagar

Absent: not available

Guests: Kimberly Espy, Heather Shipley, Sheri Hardison, Veronica Mendez, Alberto Cordova, Myron Anderson, Robert Rico, Kerry Sinanan, Kirstin Wilsey, Debra Del Toro

Total members present: 57 Total members absent: not available

1. Consent Calendar

* Approval of minutes – October 14, 2021
* No one objected to Consent Agenda

1. Reports

**Academic Affairs Updates –** Provost Espy & Heather Shipley

- see PowerPoint slides

- Update on Bold Promise program

- Update on COVID-19 Progress Indicators (SAMH)

- Season of Thanks Celebration; Academic Affairs tumblers available.

**University Leadership Updates:**

Sheri Hardison, Sr. Assoc. VP for Financial Affairs - IRM Model (see PowerPoint)

Myron Anderson, Vice President for Inclusive Excellence & Robert Rico, Director of Restorative Justice: part of inclusive excellence ecosystem plan for the institution to have a welcoming and inclusive environment. Restorative Justice is a relational approach to building community, creating a space where people can come together and have a conversation with honest dialogue. Universities are very diverse, and these practices lessen tension between different populations by providing faculty, students, and staff a safe place to voice their opinions in a respectful manner.

* 1. **Chair’s Report: Chad Mahood**

**-** see Chair’s Report PowerPoint

**-** Presentations to full Senate to not exceed 15 minutes each.

- Presentation slide decks be provided at least 24 hours in advance (draft versions are understandable and acceptable).

- As Faculty Senators you are required to update your Department on Faculty Senate meetings (method of communication is up to you, but forwarding the Faculty Senate Newsletter is encouraged).

**FS Meeting Poll:**

*Question 1:* Should we start hybrid F2F / Zoom meetings in Spring Semester 2022?

**Yes: 71% No: 29%**

*Question 2*: Would you attend F2F in January? **Yes: 55% No: 45%**

* 1. **Secretary of the General Faculty: Chris Packham**

-The COVID-19 responses are very different between UT System campuses; talking to campus leaders Climate Audit (weather and emissions).

* 1. **Curriculum Committee** – **Andy Lloyd**

**-** Curriculum Committee had questions about the definition of a Health Worker and about the proposal; Dr. Lynn Cossman answered the questions and Heather Shipley delivered the responses.

*Curriculum Proposal:*

HCaP- Community Health Worker Certificate

***The Faculty Senate voted as follows:* Yes: 26; No: 2; Abstain: 1**

* 1. **Graduate Council Chair –** no report
  2. **Academic Freedom, Evaluation and Merit Committee –** no report
  3. **Budget Committee** – no report
  4. **HOP Committee** – Matthias Hofferberth

**-** UIS (information technology) is looking to add a policy to the HOP

- Reach out to the HOP committee if you have any questions.

* 1. **Research Committee –** no report

Completed the RSC document (available in SharePoint) with a series of feedback for Dr. Saygin and VPREDKE. The Research Committee will be submitting that document to them in the coming days.

1. **Unfinished Business***:* Kim Fonzo (Faculty Senator from the English Department) introduced Kerry Sinanan and Jocelyn Moody from the English Department for public comment regarding how the Curriculum Committee discussed a degree proposal at the last meeting. An apology was requested. The following comment was read aloud at the meeting:

**Statement From: Joycelyn Moody**

**To: Faculty Senate**

*I understand that in a recent meeting, a Faculty Senator whose identity remains protected made a disparaging assessment of the English Dept with respect to our depts. race relations and about our capacity to teach about race and racism issues.*

*We all know by now that race is social construction. It was created by 17thC Europeans to validate their barbaric treatment of people of African descent and indigenous peoples in the Americas.*

*We know racial categories exist to serve racist and white supremacist ideologies.*

*Contemporary claims of colorblindness are not possible nor are they useful.*

*What I want the Faculty Senator (who remains anonymous) to know is you have illuminated the great necessity of the English Dept’s certificate in Black, Indigenous, and Latinx literatures and cultures.*

*You have made plain the need for all faculty to listen to your racialized and minoritized colleagues rather than presume to judge the validity of our views.*

*You have shone the light on the urgent need as well for fall faculty to become more informed and more thoughtful about the role of white racialization, of whiteness, and about the legacies of white supremacy intrinsic to every academic discipline and context.*

*While the English Dept is certainly due an apology, I personally don’t need or seek one from this protected Senator or this body so much as you need to attend to the exigencies your disparagement has exposed.*

1. **Open discussion:**

John Wald: climate survey conversation; shared Governance not working very well; create a statement about changes in governance that will be helpful to UTSA.

1. **New Business:**
2. **Adjournment:**

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously passed at 5:10 PM.