I. Call to Order

Joseph Velasco called the meeting to order at 3:40 pm.


Absent, but counted in the quorum: Steve Bennack, Jamie Boyd, Avram Dumitrescu, Donald Freed, William Green, Alex Hardison, Marina Kimball, Ken Laviers, Ryan Luna, Cynthia McAlister, Linda McAnally, Jeffery Meyer, Richard Mrozinski, Jeanne Qvarnstrom, Samuel Renfroe, Lorie Rubenser, Mark Saka, Lori Schreiber, Gregory Schwab, Liza Ware, and Bonnie Warnock.

II. SGA Report (Vince Apodaca)

Kadean Solis will be the next SGA President. Tomorrow will be the Physical Plant Appreciation Day as well as the last SGA meeting of the semester. The SGA banquet will be in May. Two weeks ago SGA clubs participated in community service by cleaning up trash around town. This Saturday is Red Out, 400 shirts will be passed out at the home baseball game.

III. Guest Speakers

A. Betsy Evans (Textbook Collection)

The Library wants to purchase textbooks for students to use as reserve items. Let Betsy Evans know what textbooks you would like the Library to purchase. However, due to limited funds the Library may have to prioritize which textbooks to purchase. A survey was distributed last week, Francine Richter was the first to fill it out, more faculty need to fill it out and return it by May 1.

B. Joseph Velasco for Jeanne Qvarnstrom (SACSCOC update)

The SACSCOC on-site review went well. The on-site review committee will be making 4 recommendations that Sul Ross will have to respond to by September 5. The recommendations include revising the QEP and making Sul Ross look like 1 institution and not 2. The latter includes having the same policies at both Alpine and RGC (e.g. for tenure and promotion), the same degree programs for degrees common to both Alpine and RGC, and having 1 faculty governance body instead of 2.
IV. Approval of Minutes (3/5/18)
Billy Jack Ray moved to approve the minutes from March 5 and Bibiana Gutierrez seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

V. President’s Report (Joseph Velasco)
A. Meeting with Dr. Kibler
Dr. Kibler is totally supportive of shared governance and recognizes the work Faculty Assembly has done in this regard. He wants to see more efforts to communicate with RGC’s Faculty Senate (due to the SACSCOC recommendation).

B. Meeting with Dr. Case
Dr. Case is looking at how the Faculty Affairs Councils here in Alpine and at RGC operate. There will need to be the same policies at both campuses (because of the SACSCOC recommendation) and possibly only one committee for tenure and promotion.

C. Farewell Address
Joseph Velasco thanked Faculty Assembly for allowing him to serve as Faculty Assembly President for the last 4 years. During these last 4 years Faculty Assembly has been involved in hiring a new President (Dr. Kibler), creating a new Strategic Plan, creating new Mission and Vision Statements, and working on SACSCOC accreditation. Also during these last 4 years, Faculty Assembly has passed 5 resolutions on fair pay, evaluation of faculty, limiting administration raises, including Deans on the Executive Committee, and thanking Dr. Kibler for protecting the University Ranch. Finally, while there has been more faculty oversight on issues and more information by the administration than in the past, there is still lots more to do.

VI. Vice President’s Report (Kathy Stein)
A. 2018-2019 Committees and Councils Slate
The 2018-2019 Committees and Councils slate was distributed. The only changes that may need to be made will be those openings caused by members that leave Sul Ross during the summer. The updated slate will be voted on during the September Faculty Assembly meeting.

B. Executive Council Vote
The ballot for the Faculty Assembly Executive Council was passed out, the vote was conducted, and David Leaver counted the votes. Kathy Stein will be President, Theron Francis will be Vice President, Betsy Evans will be Secretary/Treasurer, and Christopher Herrera will be the at large member for the College of Education and Professional Studies.

VII. Secretary/Treasurer’s Report (Eric Funasaki)

VIII. Parliamentarian’s Report (Bonnie Warnock)
IX. Old Business
   A. Sul Ross Legacy Plan
      Work is still being done and the Legacy Plan Committee is working on its report for Dr. Kibler. A discussion on the Legacy Plan took place.
   B. Academic Excellence in Coaching Award
      SGA nominated Antuan Washington and SAAC did not submit any nominations. Nominations from the floor were solicited and Troy Canaba, Marquis Muse, and John Pearce were nominated. A vote was taken and Troy Canaba was selected as the 2017-2018 recipient of the award.

X. New Business
   A. Recognition of Retiring Faculty
      Sharon Hileman was recognized for her 33 years of service to Sul Ross. Joseph Velasco thanked her for her service and wished her well. Esther Rumsey and Donald Freed, who were not present, were also recognized.

XI. Committee Reports

XII. Council Reports
   A. Honors Council (Kathy Stein)
      Decided on scholarships and awarded 10 scholarships.
   B. Sustainability Council (Bibiana Gutierrez)
      Working on improving recycling on campus.

XIII. Announcements
   A. Undergraduate and Graduate Student Research Symposia
      Sharon Hileman reminded faculty that the Undergraduate and Graduate Student Research Symposia will be on Monday, April 23 starting at noon. Undergraduate students will be presenting from 12 to 3 and graduate students will be presenting from 3 to 5.

XIV. Adjourn
   Somebody moved to adjourn and somebody else seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:56 pm.