

**Minutes**  
**Faculty Assembly Meeting**  
**Tuesday, November 7, 2017**  
**Gallego Center Room 129, 3:30 pm**

I. Call to Order

*Joseph Velasco called the meeting to order at 3:39 pm.*

*Present: Anirban Bhattacharjee, Rosemary Briseno, Christopher Estepp, Betsy Evans, Theron Francis, Eric Funasaki, Bibiana Gutierrez, Jim Hector, Christopher Herrera, Rob Kinucan, David Leaver, Ryan Luna, Ryan O'Shaughnessy, Jeanne Qvarnstrom, Francine Richter, Hamin Shabazz, Alicia Trotman, Joseph Velasco, Tiffany Vincent, and Filemon Zamora.*

*Absent, but counted in the quorum: April Aultman Becker, Steve Bennack, Jamie Boyd, Angela Brown, Sandra Chambers, Jay Downing, Avram Dumitrescu, Karrin Ford, Donald Freed, Thea Glenn, Ilda Gonzalez, William Green, Kristofer Jorgenson, Marina Kimball, Ken Laviers, Cynthia McAlister, Jennifer McCormack, Jeffery Meyer, Lorie Rubenser, Mark Saka, Gregory Schwab, Kathy Stein, Barbara Tucker, Kevin Urbanczyk, and Bonnie Warnock.*

II. SGA Report (Vince Apodaca)

*SGA leadership will be attending the Board of Regents meeting next week in Huntsville. Planning for Red Out has started and letters are being sent to sponsors next week.*

III. Guest Speakers

A. Jeanne Qvarnstrom (SACSCOC update)

*Satisfaction surveys on the library, facilities, and distance education have been sent out. The results from these surveys need to be collected every year. SACSCOC is currently reviewing Sul Ross' compliance report. Sul Ross receives the results of the review in December 2017. Preparations for the April 2018 on-site visit have begun. A SACSCOC committee of 12 members from around the country is scheduled to visit RGC for one day and Alpine for three days. The committee's report is then submitted to the SACSCOC coordinating board whose final decision will be announced in December 2018. Joseph Velasco mentioned that help is needed with the on-site visit, in particular, with driving committee members around. Please contact Jeanne Qvarnstrom if you want to help with the on-site visit.*

IV. Approval of Minutes (10/11/17)

*Rob Kinucan moved to approve the minutes from October 11 with one correction and Bibiana Gutierrez seconded. The minutes with one correction were approved unanimously.*

V. President's Report (Joseph Velasco)

A. Resolution on Deans on Executive Committee

*The Deans' Council reviewed the resolution and was in favor of it. The resolution is in the President's Office awaiting final approval.*

B. Texas State University System Faculty Senate Meeting

*The meeting was attended by 15 to 16 faculty members from TSUS institutions, the TSUS Chancellor, and 5 of 6 TSUS Vice Chancellors. The Chancellor distributed a 10 year progress report on each TSUS institution. Fernando Gomez (TSUS Vice Chancellor and General Council) gave a presentation on free speech and assembly. He covered topics such as speech that is limited on-campus and who has the right to assemble on-campus.*

C. Texas Council of Faculty Senates Meeting

*The meeting was attended by 50 to 60 Faculty Assembly and Faculty Senate members from public and private universities across Texas. There were a number of sessions and panel discussions. Joseph Velasco encouraged faculty to attend one of these meetings. AAUP went over the role of faculty in shared governance. Michael O'Quinn (Texas A&M University System Vice President for Governmental Relations) talked about the current legislative climate and the cut to special item funding. State Representative John Raney spoke for 20 minutes and then opened the floor for discussion. He was shocked by the gravity of the situation in Texas higher education.*

D. SRSU Employment Update: New Duties and Salaries

*Dr. Kibler sent out a memo on the reorganization of the Advancement Office. Joseph Velasco wants to know about all salary changes, especially considering the current budget situation, but he has not heard back from Dr. Kibler on this. Betsy Evans asked about the new Director of Communications position. Specifically, have faculty been consulted during the development of the position. Joseph Velasco did not know if any faculty had been involved, but stated that faculty needs to be a part of the process.*

VI. Vice President's Report (Kathy Stein)

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

A. Rooms for 2/12/18 and 3/5/18 Faculty Assembly Meetings

*These two meetings need to be moved from Gallego Center Room 129 (The Fishbowl) as ARAMARK charges a \$30 delivery fee. Please send any ideas for alternative rooms to Eric Funasaki.*

VIII. Parliamentarian's Report (Bonnie Warnock)

IX. Old Business

A. Effects of HB 2223 (Kathy Stein)

*This state mandate and its impact on Sul Ross was brought up in the Academic Planning Committee meeting.*

X. New Business

A. Border County Doctoral Loan Repayment Program (Joseph Velasco)

*Some Behavioral and Social Sciences faculty had asked Joseph Velasco about the status of the program. Dr. Velasco e-mailed Sean Cunningham (TSUS Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations) about the program. Dr. Cunningham's reply was that funds for the program were probably cut out completely during the last legislative session. However, he will continue looking into the matter and get back when he has more information.*

B. Class Scheduling (Joseph Velasco)

*The Executive Council is exploring the possibility of not having classes on Fridays and wants input from Faculty Assembly members. A discussion ensued with some members in favor of the idea and others against it.*

C. Faculty Development Funds (Hamin Shabazz)

*Hamin Shabazz brought up the issue of funds for faculty development. There was a discussion on this issue which will be continued at the next Faculty Assembly meeting.*

XI. Committee Reports

XII. Council Reports

A. Teaching Council (Francine Richter)

*The Teaching Council awarded 5 faculty members \$6370 and is now out of money for academic year 2017-18.*

XIII. Announcements

A. Library Collection (Betsy Evans)

*The Library continues to work on developing its collection. Department Chairs should be getting cards with new titles that could be added to the collection.*

B. Sul Ross Ultimate (Joseph Velasco)

*The Sul Ross Ultimate team won at Angelo State.*

XIV. Adjourn

*Alicia Trotman moved to adjourn and Filemon Zamora seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:11 pm.*