

Minutes
Faculty Assembly Meeting
Monday, April 10, 2017
Espino Conference Center Rooms A & B, 3:30 pm

I. Call to Order

Joseph Velasco called the meeting to order at 3:42 pm.

Present: Rosemary Briseno, Angela Brown, Christopher Estepp, Betsy Evans, Theron Francis, Eric Funasaki, William Green, Christopher Herrera, Sharon Hileman, Ken Laviers, David Leaver, Ryan Luna, Ryan O'Shaughnessy, Jeanne Qvarnstrom, Billy Jack Ray, Lorie Rubenser, Joseph Velasco, and Filemon Zamora.

Absent, but counted in the quorum: April Aultman Becker, Steve Bennack, Avrum Dumitrescu, Donald Freed, Thea Glenn, Bibiana Gutierrez, Robert Hunter, Kristofer Jorgenson, Marina Kimball, Cynthia McAlister, Jeffery Meyer, Mark Rubin, Mark Saka, Rebecca Schlosser, Gregory Schwab, Bret Scott, Marjorie Scott, Rebecca Splan, Kathy Stein, Mary-Elizabeth Thompson, Liza Ware, Bonnie Warnock, Scott Wassermann, Mazie Will, and Paul Will.

II. SGA Report (Danielle Lucero)

There was a good turnout to help replace the desk on Hancock Hill. A bill was passed to have clubs adopt a spot on-campus to keep clean. Donations for Red Out have been collected and 500 shirts will be passed out at the April 21 baseball game. The SGA banquet is May 3 at 6 pm in the Fishbowl. SGA executive position nominations for next year end Monday at 5 pm.

III. Guest Speakers

A. Jeanne Qvarnstrom (SACSCOC update)

The annual National Survey of Student Engagement for freshmen and seniors had a 20% return rate in 2017, up from 12% in 2016. Dr. John Hardt, a vice president for SACSCOC, will be visiting Sul Ross on June 6. He wants to talk to different groups on campus about the upcoming SACSCOC review. The 2016-17 academic assessment reports are being fast tracked so that they will be available for Dr. Hardt to review. Jeanne Qvarnstrom went to the College of Charleston to observe a SACSCOC review. One problem was with their faculty roster; so please make sure to revise your syllabi and CV if asked by your chair. Lastly, a faculty sponsor is needed for a NASA program for education students from June 11-16. If interested or know of someone who might be interested, let Jeanne Qvarnstrom know as soon as possible.

IV. Approval of Minutes (3/6/17)

Ryan Luna moved to approve the minutes from March 6 as presented and Ryan O'Shaughnessy seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

V. President's Report (Joseph Velasco)

A. "Starving the Beast" screening

Joseph Velasco spoke with Dr. Kibler about having a screening on campus. Dr. Kibler wants to see the film and suggested having an afternoon screening as well as an evening screening. Thus, the film will be shown at 2 pm on April 27 and at 6:30 pm on May 2. Both screenings will be in the Espino Conference Center and have a discussion afterwards. SGA was asked to co-sponsor the screenings, but they have no money left. SGA will help with advertising and in other ways.

B. Revised Student Grievance Policy

The revised policy was given out. Dr. Case wants to present the revised policy to the President's Executive Committee soon. Joseph Velasco went over the revised policy along with the new form that students have to fill out. A question was brought up about places for the faculty member's signature and dean's signature on the form to confirm that discussions took place. Another question was about the form becoming part of the faculty member's file and the student's file whether the grievance is found to be legitimate or not. Send thoughts and comments to Joseph Velasco.

C. Revised Promotion and Tenure Policy

The revised policy was handed out. The revised policy addresses departments that do not have enough tenured or ranked faculty to form a departmental tenure and promotion committee. The revised policy outlines a process for selecting tenured or ranked faculty from other departments. There were questions on how many faculty from other departments can be rejected by the applicant or department chair as well as who would be choosing the faculty from other departments.

VI. Vice President's Report (Kathy Stein)

A. Present 2017-18 Committees and Councils slate

Joseph Velasco distributed the slate and noted the changes that were made to fill certain committees and councils. A vote was taken to decide who would fill the Executive Council's Arts and Sciences At Large position; David Leaver won the vote. Lorie Rubenser moved to accept the nominees for the three Executive Council At Large positions and Christopher Estep seconded. Christopher Herrera, David Leaver, and Ryan Luna were unanimously approved for the three Executive Council At Large positions.

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

VIII. Parliamentarian's Report (Bonnie Warnock)

IX. Old Business

A. Plaque for University Ranch resolution

Joseph Velasco is working on the design of the plaque with Rob Kinucan.

X. New Business

A. Outstanding Teacher Award

A ballot was passed out and collected. The names of the top three vote getters will be sent to Rob Kinucan (who is in charge of the selection committee) and Dr. Case.

B. Academic Excellence in Coaching Award

This award recognizes coaches who really care about student/athletes academic success and encourage academics first. A discussion lead to four coaches being nominated. A vote was taken and C.J. Richardson was selected for the award.

XI. Committee Reports

XII. Council Reports

A. Faculty Affairs Council (Lorie Rubenser)

The council met to review tenure and promotion dossiers. A big debate the council had was over incomplete dossiers which are hard to judge, especially when the council does not know the person and their accomplishments. Thus, the tenure and promotion process may need to be improved to address the creation of dossiers, perhaps through the mentoring of young faculty. Also, tenure and promotion applications have been moved to the Provost's office.

XIII. Announcements

A. College of Arts and Sciences Spring Lecture (Joseph Velasco)

Chris Ritzi will be giving the College of Arts and Sciences Spring Lecture on April 20.

XIV. Adjourn

David Leaver moved to adjourn and Filemon Zamora seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:18 pm.