

Minutes
Faculty Assembly Meeting
Monday April 11, 2016
Espino Conference Center Rooms A & B, 3:30 pm

I. Call to Order

Joseph Velasco called the meeting to order at 3:41 pm.

Present: Rafael Azuaje, Angela Brown, Avram Dumitrescu, Christopher Estep, Theron Francis, Eric Funasaki, Christopher Herrera, Sharon Hileman, David Howard, Rob Kinucan, Ken Laviers, David Leaver, Ryan Luna, Jeanne Qvarnstrom, Francine Richter, Mark Rubin, Joseph Velasco, Bonnie Warnock, Scott Wassermann, Mazie Will, Paul Will, and Filemon Zamora.

Absent, but counted in the quorum: Steve Bennack, Carol Fairlie, Karrin Ford, William Green, Bibiana Gutierrez, Robert Hunter, Kristofer Jorgenson, Jeffery Meyer, Chris Ritzi, Dona Roman, Lorie Rubenser, Esther Rumsey, Mark Saka, Rebecca Schlosser, Gregory Schwab, Russell Scown, Kathy Stein, Andrew Tegarden, Gregory Tegarden, and Liza Ware.

II. SGA Report

SGA President Derek Stratton thanked Faculty Assembly for the opportunity to inform it about SGA activities. SGA will hold its Physical Plant appreciation cookout on April 15. Red Out will be Saturday, April 16 at the Sul Ross baseball game and 550 shirts will be handed out. The SGA banquet is on May 4 at which SGA senators and representatives will be honored as well as SGA election results announced.

III. Guest Speaker

A. Jeanne Qvarnstrom (SACS)

Jeanne Qvarnstrom thanked Faculty Assembly for allowing her time at each meeting to give updates about SACS. The SACS committee is very close to selecting a QEP theme from the 3 presentations that were given on March 24. Videos, PowerPoints, and a survey regarding the 3 possible QEP themes are posted on the Institutional Effectiveness website. There have been 148 responses so far. A decision will be made at the SACS committee's next meeting on April 21. Also, data for the 2015-16 academic assessment reports are currently being inputted. Contact Jeanne Qvarnstrom with any questions or suggestions regarding this.

IV. Approval of Minutes (3/7/2016)

Mark Rubin moved to approve the minutes from March 7 as presented and Paul Will seconded. The minutes as presented were approved unanimously.

V. President's Report

A. Course Evaluations

Course evaluations for Spring 2016 are currently open to students. Joseph Velasco will e-mail the results from the faculty survey on best practices for soliciting student participation on course evaluations. Mark Rubin asked if there was a way to see how many students in a course had completed the course evaluations. Joseph Velasco said he would check with Sandy Bogus to see if this is possible.

B. University Budget

The budget process for the 2016-17 academic year is underway and the budget will be really tight. SACS needs to see the financial viability of Sul Ross. This has not been the case during the past 6 years as Sul Ross has dipped into its reserves every year. Dr. Kibler wants to have at least one full year of a balanced budget starting Fall 2016. Consequently, some budget requests will not be funded and grant funded programs whose grants are ending may not get university funding to continue.

C. Faculty and Staff Raises

The balanced budget will not affect raises. There will be a 2% across the board raise in October. Assistant professors and the lowest paid staff members will get a larger raise.

D. Man and Woman of the Year

Dr. Case has assembled a committee to determine the man and woman of the year. There were not a lot of nominations from the faculty. Dr. Case wants more response from the faculty next year.

E. Search for VP of Enrollment Services

This search is just getting started. Both internal and external candidates will be considered. The search should be done by summer.

F. Search for Director of Residential Living

This search is underway. Brandy Synder is serving as the interim director.

G. Termination and Grievance Policies

TSUS has created new system policies. Dr. Case has revised the current Sul Ross policies to reflect these new TSUS policies. Talk to Joseph Velasco if you want more details.

H. Future Plans for Faculty Assembly

Joseph Velasco articulated his future plans if re-elected as Faculty Assembly President. They include participation on the strategic planning committee; staying involved in the SACS process; involvement in the centennial planning process; pushing for more faculty recognition for teaching, scholarship, and community work; and listening to and serving faculty members.

VI. Vice-President's Report

Joseph Velasco presented the Committee and Council slate for the 2016-17 academic year that was prepared by Kathy Stein. This slate will be voted on

at the September meeting. The ballot for Executive Council was passed out and nominations were invited from the floor (none were made). Bonnie Warnock took separate motions and seconds from the floor to elect Joseph Velasco as president, Kathy Stein as vice-president, Eric Funasaki as secretary/treasurer, and Theron Francis as an at-large member. All four motions were approved unanimously.

VII. Secretary/Treasurer's Report

VIII. Parliamentarian's Report

IX. Old Business

A. Outstanding Teacher Award

Jay Downing will chair the selection committee that meets this month to choose the recipient of this award. SGA nominated one faculty member. Faculty Assembly nominated Avram Dumitrescu, Chris Estep, and Scott Wassermann.

B. Academic Excellence in Coaching Award

CJ Richardson was nominated by SGA. Clif Carroll, Bobby Mesker, and Marquis Muse were nominated from the floor. After a discussion on the four nominees, a vote was taken and Bobby Mesker was selected for this award.

C. Faculty Assembly donation in memory of Josef Schlosser

Some members voiced their concern that Faculty Assembly funds could not be used to make a donation. Joseph Velasco decided that a collection from members would be taken after the meeting instead.

X. New Business

A. Lapel Pins

Faculty Assembly has purchased 200 bar-SR-bar faculty lapel pins. They will be given free to all faculty members.

XI. Committee Reports

XII. Council Reports

A. Curriculum Council

Mark Rubin announced that Dr. Case has mandated the council run all year long. Also, new proposals will be considered next week for inclusion in the fall catalog.

B. Teaching Council

Chris Estep reminded the faculty to submit applications for teaching development awards.

XIII. Announcements

A. Sul Ross Ultimate Frisbee

Sul Ross defeated the Midland club team last weekend. Further, a scholarship fund is being established.

B. Amanda Gomez

Education librarian Amanda Gomez will be leaving Sul Ross.

C. Retirement

Paul Wright is retiring from Sul Ross.

XIV. Adjourn

Bonnie Warnock moved to adjourn and Mark Rubin seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 pm.