***Faculty Assembly Meeting Minutes***

***Tuesday, March 11, 3:30-5 pm***

***3:30 – 5:00 PM***

* The meeting was called to order by Dr. Eric Busby at 3:40 pm with 47 in attendance and 5 counted toward quorum.
* Guest Speakers

**Provost Dr. Bernie Canteñs**: The faculty handbook sections that are being worked on jointly between administration and faculty assembly is making great progress. The provost shared that they are working to reinstate faculty leave for research. A question was asked regarding the policy for undergraduates for walking at graduation with 6 hours or less in May. It was shared that students will be allowed to walk if they are registered for summer and lack 6 hours or less.

* **Minutes:** There was a motion made by Dr. Jessica Velasco and seconded by Dr. Thomas Matula to accept the Feb. 2025 minutes as presented. The motion passed.
* **Vice President Report:** Dr. Jessica Velasco shared information about the Academic Excellence in Coaching and SAC’s selection with faculty. In addition, Dr. Jessica Velasco requested that faculty begin to send council and committee slate requests this month with the goal of sharing a complete slate for the 2025-2026 academic year at the end of the academic year. Faculty can request to serve on a council or committee, and Jessica shared that the EC tries to fulfil all requests but that a balance of college and department representation is considered. Faculty were asked to send requests this month to Information from the March TCFS was shared with faculty. It was shared that the EC does attend each semester. Any request can always be emailed to [facultyassembly@sulross.edu](mailto:facultyassembly@sulross.edu). Jessica finally shared a few updates being considered on higher education legislative bills to include SB 1489, SB 530, HB1705, SB 530. Finally, anyone interested in serving on a special policy work group was asked to email facultyassembly@sulross.edu , which will work on reviewing policies being considered from the APM.
* **President’s Report:** Eric shared an update regarding the 2025 Academic Excellence in Coaching award. A vote was presented with the winner selected by the faculty during the meeting. It was decided that a plaque will be ordered and presented before the conclusion of the spring semester.
* **Secretary Report:** Dr. Jennifer Miller-Ray shared that she is working with the Office of Institutional Effectiveness to improve our web postings, with the goal to have a complete and updated website is April 1st. Jennifer shared that university committees will be housed by the Office of Intuitional Effectiveness but that FA will continue to house council and FA business. The websites for reference were shared with FA. [University Committees – University Committees](https://srinfo.sulross.edu/university-governance/university-committees-and-teams/) and [Faculty Assembly – Just another SRINFO Sites site](https://srinfo.sulross.edu/faculty-assembly/)
* **Committee and Council Reports**

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* 1. TCFS Meeting Update was shared with information regarding research designation changes, shared governance, administrative turnovers, workload, AI, SB 17 impacts, SB 1489, and other information.
  2. FAR Report: Dr. Jessica Velasco reminded faculty that grade checks were coming up.
  3. IRB Committee: Dr. Jennifer Miller-Ray shared that processes regarding IRB review continue to be improved with recent updates shared.
  4. The Budget Oversight Council met on Feb. 17th. Dr. Joey Velasco shared that faculty salary increases will continue. They are looking into the course load policy.
  5. Academic Integrity: Dr. Jessica Velasco shared a new reporting form to faculty at [Academic Integrity Reporting Form](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?SulRossStateUniv&layout_id=50). Only 8 reported violations have occurred this academic year.
  6. Sustainability Council: Dr. Kevin Urbanczyk shared that they are working on a schedule to meet.
  7. Library and Information Technologies: Dr. Jesse Kelsch reaffirmed her role and that they are searching for a student to join to serve.
  8. ADA Council: Working on an awareness campaign.
  9. Curriculum Council: It was shared that they are working to improve Curiculog to make it more efficient.
  10. Tenure and Promotion Council: Dr. Chris Ritzi shared that they will be sending notes and throughout the levels within the process and that they are posted in Interfolio.
* **Old Business**
  1. **Workload policy:** An update regarding faculty workload was shared.
* **New Business:** 
  1. APM Update was shared.
  2. Faculty Handbook policy proposals were discussed.
* **Announcements:** Participation in a wellness survey was requested.
* Adjournment: A motion was made by Dr. Joey Velasco and seconded by Dr. Juliana Dean to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 4:39 pm.