***Faculty Assembly Meeting Minutes***

***November 25, 2024***

***3:30 – 5:00 PM***

* The meeting was called to order by Dr. Eric Busby at 3:33 pm with 43 faculty members present and 6 requesting to be counted toward quorum. There were no guest speakers at the meeting.
* **Minutes:** There was a motion made by Dr. Billy Jack Ray and seconded by Dr. Jessica Velasco to accept the October 2024 minutes as presented. The motion passed.
* **President Report:** Dr Eric Busby shared an update on a revised marketing program, automatic or direct admissions process. He shared that Big Bend Hospital and the Permian Basin Foundation have both provided scholarship opportunities to SRSU future students. An update from the recent TSUS faculty senate was shared to include the following.
  + TSUS is working to develop a grievance hearing process. More to come.
  + TSUS has a new government relations program that will work to promote and improve relationships.
  + Hayek praised our work as a faculty assembly and encouraged us to continue to work with administration.
* **Vice President Report:** Dr. Jessica Velasco shared that the EC received an updated faculty handbook changes and reviewed changes to include updates to the 3 year review process and the tenure and promotion process. Updates from the FH special committee charged to work on workload policies in the FH was reviewed with faculty in attendance.
* **Secretary Report:** A reminder for councils and committees to send web updates was shared.
* **Council and Committee Reports**
  + **FAR Report:** Dr. Jessica Velasco shared updates with faculty to include the following.
    - Grade Check Reports
    - Update on the Dev. Ed numbers
    - Upcoming site visit by NCAA on January 30th
  + **Curriculum Council:** It was shared the council is meeting to review requests. The new system is easier to manage.
  + **Joint Budget Oversight:** Dr. Joey Velasco shared that they have met and set priorities to work on for the year.
  + **IRB Committee:** Dr. Jennifer Miller-Ray shared that they are working to update processes and are hoping to work with administration to create a IRB review calendar to share with faculty for the 2025-2026. More to come.
  + **Research Council:** It was shared that they are working to identify funds available to support. They will be sending out a call for proposals soon.
  + Subcommittee is working to review the first-year experience.
  + **Libraries & Research Technologies Council:** Dr. Jesse Kelsch shared that they will be delivering a survey to better identify instructional technology needs and requested that faculty provide input to the council. If there is a faculty member needing access to a particular journal or book, the library would like to hear from you. There is a survey that the council would appreciate faculty complete by December 5th, which is located at [LibWizard](https://sulross.libwizard.com/f/libraryfeedback25).

**Old Business**

* + **Coach of the Year Award:** Dr. Busby provided an update on the Coach of the Year award with a special presentation to be given on Dec. 3rd at 3 pm.
  + **Faculty Workload Faculty Workload (2.08) Special Committee:** The workload policy was shared with faculty with the committee bringing to FA as a motion to approve, Dr. Jesse Kelsch 2nd, with the majority voting to accept the workload recommendations as presented.

**New Business**

* **FA Bylaws:** It was presented by Dr. Jessica Velasco that we will need for the EC to update the FA bylaws to reflect changes of the Tenure and Promotion council members. A motion was made by Dr. Kendra Dehart and seconded by Dr. Joey Velasco to support updating the bylaws to reflect that 9 will serve on the Tenure and Promotion Committee. The EC will work to correct the bylaws and present these at our next meeting.
* ***Survey*:** Dr. Ismael Gunes presented an idea to create a Faculty Assembly survey tool similar to all other universities currently in the TSUS system. More will be shared in the spring regarding the survey with hopes that information could be used to improve our university as a whole.

**Announcements**

* Dr. Jeanne Qvarnstrom shared that faculty interested in joining Cohort 3 for the Connecting Students to Success Retention Program to reach out to her. Faculty receive a stipend as part of their participation into the program, which has shown great success.

Dr. Joey Velasco made a motion and Dr. Alicia Trotman seconding to adjourn the meeting at 5:09 pm.