

# Faculty Senate Meeting September 1, 2015

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Senators Present :

- f* Core Curriculum has been updated with the approval of four courses effective immediately.
- f* Dr. Gardiner gave an update on the Strategic Plan. He reported that some senators participated in a two-day retreat in the spring to develop a strategic plan. This plan was then sent out and was open for feedback. Dr. Gardiner received around 100 comments that were productive. A response committee was formed and modified the plan based on comments given. A new mission statement, vision, goals and priorities were developed and sent to the President for his approval. Departments are now charged with developing goals and visions due September 11<sup>th</sup> for the new Provost.
- f* Dr. Gardiner stated that the President is aware of the needs of senior faculty. A committee has been formed, a survey has gone out, and the president is committed to address the needs of senior faculty.
- f* Dr. Gardiner mentioned the President is not ready to go forward with changes to the Faculty Handbook regarding staff teaching for additional pay. The President mentioned that the language on this needs to be clearer.
- f* Dr. Gardiner stated that faculty has already been told big news such as new budget, raises and buildings at the General Faculty Meeting.
- f* Dr. Gardiner solicited questions, but none were asked.
  - $\frac{3}{4}$  Dr. Verma extended an open invitation to the President, Dr. Anderson and Dr. Gardiner to attend future Faculty Senate Meetings.

<sup>TM</sup> Report on Ad Astra :

$\frac{3}{4}$  Melissa Guajardo was available to answer questions on Ad Astra.

- f* Mrs. Guajardo opened the floor for questions from senators, mentioning that Fall 2015 is our first time using Ad Astra and Spring 2016 semester will be rolling soon.
  - $\frac{3}{4}$  Dr. Rajab Challoo stated a concern about having back-to-back courses scheduled far across campus.
    - f* Mrs. Guajardo said that Ad Astra can adjust for those with back-to-back courses but it is difficult to accommodate preferences during peak times.
  - $\frac{3}{4}$  Dr. Kathleen Rees noted a need for posted information on how to use AV technology in various classrooms around campus and who to contact if the technology is not working.
    - f* Mrs. Guajardo stated that Ad Astra takes an inventory of the equipment that is in the room but does not keep track of what is working and what is not.
    - f* Dr. Gardiner stated that the issue was brought up with Dr. Terisa Riley and there is an initiative being started to write instructions on how to use the technology.
    - f* There are issues with projector bulbs not being replaced because no one can decide who should pay. This will soon be resolved with the bulbs purchased from a centralized account.
  - $\frac{3}{4}$  One senator stated that the labs/courses are not being scheduled in correct rooms needing software or equipment.

*f* Mrs. Guajardo asked if the individual had turned in a preference sheet. She suggested if the faculty had not submitted a preference sheet to go ahead and do that,

™ Report for Information Technology – Dr. Michelle Duran :

¾ Dr. Michelle Duran did a presentation on updates to iTech on behalf of Mr. Bob Paulson who was unable to attend the meeting.

*f* Dr. Duran reminded faculty of the network update that is happening to the following buildings: Art, BESB, CYC, Conner, Cousins, Hill, Human Sciences, Nierman and Seale. Notification will go out when the network will be down. If there is a conflict, let iTech know and they can try and redirect the network for you. Printers and any device connected through the network will need to be reconfigured. When the network is up, representatives from iTech will be available to setup afterwards.

*f* iTech is aware that JNET is not favorable but they are hoping to improve with the implementation of JNET 2.0 and are asking for faculty input.

¾ One suggestion was a searchable option instead of having to use a content map and “dig” for items.

¾ A faculty focus group will be setup. Contact Mr. Paulson or Dr. Duran if( or)6.9( D)6.

are subject to open records as well as any correspondence that is work related, even if it is on a personal account or device.

*f* With no further questions, Dr. Verma thanked Dr. Duran for her presentation.

<sup>TM</sup> Report of Officers :

$\frac{3}{4}$  Dr. Verma asked for an update from the various standing committees' work, if any, during the summer months.

*f* Election Committee – Dr. McLauchlan

$\frac{3}{4}$  Nothing to report.

*f* Committee on Committee – Dr. Chatelain-Jardon

$\frac{3}{4}$  The committee worked this summer to fill upcoming vacancies. She asked senators to look at the Faculty Senate webpage to see who is serving on what committee.

*f* Resolution and By-laws Committee – Dr. Huff

$\frac{3}{4}$  Nothing to report.

*f* Piper Award Committee – Dr. Hong Zhou

$\frac{3}{4}$  Nothing to report.

*f* Annual Faculty Lecture Committee – Dr. Reinhuber

$\frac{3}{4}$  Dr. Reinhuber stated that the committee had selected him as the Annual Faculty Lecturer for this upcoming year.

*f* Administrator Evaluation Committee – Dr. Chatelain-Jardon

$\frac{3}{4}$  Dr. Chatelain-Jardon stated that the committee had nothing to report as this committee will be working in Spring.

*f* Faculty Count (Special Task Committee)

$\frac{3}{4}$  Dr. Verma stated that the committee had nothing to report but will be working to develop an accurate faculty count.

*f* Strategic Plan Response Committee – Dr. Sherman

$\frac{3}{4}$  Dr. Sherman stated that the committee met over the summer to work on the responses that were received pertaining to the proposed strategic plan, which was not well received. The committee met and formulated new mission, vision, goals and priorities that were approved by the President.

*f* Undergraduate Program Review Committee – Dr. Huff

$\frac{3}{4}$  Nothing to report.

*f* Faculty Evaluation Committee – Dr. Miller

¾ Dr. Miller reported that the committee worked last spring and has a report that will be ready by Monday that can then come to the Senate.

*f* SRI Committee – Dr. Janzen

¾ Nothing to report.

*f* Title IX Working Group – Dr. Huskin

¾ Dr. Huskin stated the committee did meet with Karen Royal to understand policies related to faculty and the obligation of the university. The committee is looking at curriculum in UNIV to discuss security and safety. This committee also is looking to adapt an app called Rave Guardian. We have purchased the program and will be rename something related to JavGuard. The app will be downloaded and turns your phone into the equivalent of the Campus Blue Phones. Phone's GPS will be turned on to find location and be sent to both Kingsville PD and University PD. The committee will be meeting again next week.

*f* Senior Faculty Reinvestment Program Committee – Dr. Miller

¾ Dr. Miller stated that the committee met last spring semester. There were nine possible initiatives identified. Now that the faculty has returned, the committee has surveyed for input. Data will be compiled and revealed soon. A rating system was established and the committee will focus on the top five ranked initiatives for development. A full proposal will be forthcoming.

*f* Dr. Verma stated that he is glad the President and Provost approved of this committee.

¾ Dr. Miller asked for any questions. There were none.

*f* Dr. Verma announced that Dr. Bart Ballard will be the Faculty Senate Representative on the SB 11 committee implementing the new state law on guns on campus. The Committee has not met yet and will be chaired by Mr. Randy Hughes, Chief of Staff.

™ Old Business :

¾ Dr. Verma opened the floor for old business. Since committees had already given updates, Dr. Verma moved to new business.

™ New Business:

¾ Dr. Verma opened discussion on new business.

*f* Dr. Verma stated that over the summer a new reaffirmation statement was added to the Faculty Handbook and published online.

™ Announcements /Discussion :

¾ Dr. Verma opened the floor for any announcements or discussion items.

