

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes – February 5, 2019

Senators Present: Polly Allred, Apurba Bhattacharya, Marion Blake, Rudolf Bohm, Ulan Dakeev, Chen, David Cutton, Horacio Duarte, Christine Fiestas, Manuel Flores, Karen Furgerson, Michelle Garcia, Jeffrey Glick, Brent Hedquist, Elizabeth Janzen, Dongnyoung Kim, Veronica Lopez, Tanner Machado, Brian Menaker, Craig Meyer, Patrick Mills, Christine Radcliff, Hans Schumann, Ari Sherris, Jack Shorter, Tushar Sinha, Haibin Su, Dazhi Sun, Amit Verma, Fulden Wissinger, Pamela Wright, Hong Zhou

Senators Absent: Ambrose Anoruo, Jieming Chen, LaVonne Fedynich, Joseph Jones, Larry Knight, Lana McDonnell, Marsha Sowell, Benjamin Turner, Nuri Yilmazer, William Worek

I. Call to Order and Quorum Call.

At 3:31 p.m. President Janzen asked the secretary, Christine Radcliff, if enough members were present for a quorum. Senator Radcliff replied in the affirmative.

II. Approval of Minutes from December 2018 Faculty Senate Meeting.

President Janzen asked for approval of the previous meeting minutes. Senator Allred motioned, Senator Glick seconded. Minutes were approved.

III. Presentations

a. President Mark Hussey

President Hussey officially announced to the Senate that TAMUK is now a Carnegie Classified Doctoral University with High Research Potential.

f. **Faculty Benefits Committee**

- i. Committee is in the process of forming. The College of Arts & Sciences and College of Business currently are represented, waiting for names from the Colleges of Ag, Education, and Engineering.

IX. Task Force Reports

- a. **Online Elections** Narrowing down which software to use, will run a fake vote inside the current Senate in March as a test.
- b. **Shared Governance** –

- c. **Academic Calendar: Student's Rights for Religious Observance (Senator Sherris)** *(See handout titled Greater Transparency of Student Rights to Religious Observance)*

Senator Sherris motioned to have this statement be placed at the top of each TAMUK academic calendar. Motion seconded by Senator Duarte. Discussion included verifying if a statement like this already existst on the academic calendars. Senator Fiestas mentioned that the Provost had asked that this statement be added to all class syllabi. It was verified that a similar statement does exist in section H.3.I in the Faculty Handbook, and there is a link to the similar statement in section 16.1 of the Student Handbook. Quorum was lost at 5:05pm.

It was suggested to bring this to the Student Government Association to then take it as a joint recommendation to the Provost. Senator Sherris agreed, and he will take it to SGA.

- XI. **Announcements** – none
- XII. **Good of the Senate** (Informal discussion period)
- XIII. **Adjournment** At 5:09pm President Janzen informally adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Christine Radcliff
Faculty Senate Secretary, 2018-2019