

**FACULTY SENATE MINUTES  
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY**

April 25, 2024  
3:30 - 5:00 p.m.  
Austin Hall

**Senators Present (20)**

Samuel Adu-Prah (COSET), Diana Brown (COBA), Patrick Buzzini (CJ), Tamara Cook (COSET), Miltonette Craig (CJ), Magdalena Denham (CJ), Brandy Doleshal (COSET), Xiaoman Duan (COBA), Dustin Gross (COSET), Debbi Hatton (CAM), Owen Kelly (COM), Nick Lantz (CHSS), Victoria Lantz (CAM), Audrey Murfin (CHSS), Shyam Pandey (CHSS), Erica Pasquini (COHS), Karen Sherrill (COBA), Zachary Valdes (NGL), Rebecca Wentworth (COE), Darren Williams (COSET).

**Guests**

Volha Minich (COSET)

**Senators Not Present (9)**

Kevin Crouch (CAM), Daphne Johnson (COE), Kimberly LaPrairie (COE), Kenneth McIntyre (CHSS), Diana Nabors (COE), Todd Primm (COSET), Vlad Radoias (COBA), Zeinab Shuker (CHSS), Anthony Watkins (CAM).

**Called to Order**

3:30 p.m., by Chair, Samuel Adu-Prah.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes report for the April 11, 2024, meeting was approved.

**Senate Committee Reports**

**Academic Affairs Committee**

The Academic Affairs committee reported on its review of *APS 920808 - Misconduct in Academic Research and Scholarship*, noting multiple questions and suggestions related to sections 3 and 6 - 8. To enhance overall clarity, the AA committee also recommended that the policy be revised to include: a) additional details covering proper procedures associated with notifications involving multiple respondents; and b) a flowchart or timeline detailing pertinent RIO/DO Committee deadlines. The AA committee recommended that the policy be approved with its provided suggestions. Faculty Senate voted to approve the policy with the included suggestions.

**University Affairs Committee**

The University Affairs committee reported on its review of *APS 240401 - Determination of Semester Credit Hours*, noting several minor editorial revisions and a suggestion to add subdivisions within section 7.01 detailing the number of contact hours, or equivalent work, associated with each course format. The UA committee recommended that the policy be approved with the provided suggestions. Faculty Senate voted to approve the policy with the included suggestions.

### **Faculty Affairs Committee!**

The Faculty Affairs committee reported on its review of *APS 900420 - Reassigned Time for Faculty Members*, which was being considered for rescission. The FA committee agreed with rescission justification provided by the Division of Academic Affairs, and recommended that the policy be rescinded. Faculty Senate voted to rescind the policy.

### **Committee on Committees & Surveys**

The Committee on Committees & Surveys reported on the status of recent and ongoing Faculty Senate surveys. The CoC&S committee noted that the Faculty Committee Preference Survey is now closed, and that results are under review. Additionally, the CoC&S committee reported that the Faculty Perception Survey is currently live with a close date of May 10<sup>th</sup>; however, Sen. Rebecca Wentworth (COE, CoC&S Chair) noted that the initial participation numbers were lower than anticipated, and requested that senators reach out to faculty with a reminder.

### **Elections**

Faculty Senate Election for Chair-Elect

- Faculty Senate recognized nominees for consideration on the election of Chair-Elect. Following senate voting by anonymous ballot, Sen. Audrey Murfin (CHSS) was confirmed as the new Faculty Senate Chair-Elect.

### **New Business**

Policy Proposal: Spousal/Partner Hiring at SHSU

- The floor was opened to Sen. Audrey Murfin (CHSS) to discuss policy proposal, *Spousal/Partner Hiring*, authored by Dr. Michael Demson, Professor of English, SHSU. Following senate discussion, Faculty Senate voted to advance the policy proposal to the Division of Academic Affairs for consideration.

### **Chair's Report**

1. College Level Faculty Senators meeting with respective Deans
2. Merit 2024/2025 Academic year – President update
3. Fall 2024 enrolment – FAFSA delay and roll out update
4. Faculty Perception Survey – Update from Provost
5. Sen. Diana Nabors (COE) resigning from Faculty Senate

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.