

**FACULTY SENATE MINUTES  
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY**

March 3, 2022

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Remote via Zoom

**Senators Present (29)**

Samuel Adu-Prah (COSET), Mario Aschauer (CAM), Natalie Baker (CJ), María Botero (CHSS), Tim Brown (COE), Rhonda Callaway (CHSS), Mona Cockerham (COHS), Tamara Cook (COSET), Brandy Doleshal (COSET), Mandy Duan (COBA), Debbi Hatton (CAM), Damon Hay (COSET), Nick Lantz (CHSS), Victoria Lantz (CAM), Junkun Ma (COSET), Geraldine Monjardez (CJ), Sureni Mullegama (COM), Audrey Murfin (CHSS), Mary Petró (COE), Debbie Price (COE), Kevin Randall (COHS), Stephen Rapp (CHSS), Vlad Radoias (COBA), Karen Sherrill (COBA), Kyle Stutts (COSET), Zachary Valdes (NGL), Xiaobo Wang (CHSS), Anthony Watkins (CAM), Rebecca Wentworth (COE).

**Senators Not Present (2)**

Patrick Buzzini (CJ), Aneika Simmons (COBA)

**Called to Order**

3:30 p.m.

**Special Guests: Strategic Plan Steering Committee Facilitators**

Gen. David Glaser, Chief Strategy Officer

Dr. McCartney Johnson, Deputy to the President

The Strategic Plan Steering Committee Facilitators attended Faculty Senate with the aim of updating the senate on the development of SHSU's Strategic Plan. They described the four phases of this process, where the vision, values, and strategic priorities were identified to help define the Strategic Plan and construe the identity (present and future) of SHSU. They described how, once the priorities are identified, working groups will be formed to help the implementation of this plan. Finally, they answered questions regarding the Strategic Plan, including a request for clarification of the concept of culture of excellence, measurements of student success, and questions regarding how resources will be allocated to support this plan. Finally, they acknowledged that the creation of a strategic plan is an ongoing process that requires future revision of vision and priorities.

**Approval of Minutes**

February 17, 2022, Meeting minutes were approved.

**New Business**

1. **Faculty Committee Preference Survey.** Senator Wentworth (Chair of the Committee on Committees & Surveys committee) reported the results of the review of the Faculty Committee Preference Survey and presented the changes recommended by this committee. Members of this committee revised the current draft including eliminating outdated and incorrect information, correcting grammatical mistakes, and the addition of information

pertinent to the survey. Members of the committee recommended eliminating the question that requests self-disclosure of background when volunteering for a committee.

2. **Academic Freedom and Tenure.** Faculty have expressed a concern regarding recent challenges to academic freedom and tenure. As part of this concern, there was a request submitted to Faculty Senate to issue a resolution stating the importance of academic freedom and tenure. Members of Faculty Senate agreed that this is an important issue and discussed the historical context of these challenges. A group of faculty members will start working on this resolution and will present it to Faculty Senate; Senator Baker and Senator Price volunteered as representatives for Faculty Senate in this group.
3. **Initial Feedback and Discussion on revisions to policies on tenure & promotion, post-tenure review, FES, and merit.** Members of Faculty Senate provided feedback on the proposed revisions of the four policies currently under revision: APS 900417 Faculty Reappointment, Tenure, and Promotion, APS 820317 The Faculty Evaluation System, APS 800722 Merit Advances in Salary, APS 980204 Performance Evaluation of Tenured Faculty. This feedback will be sent to the committee who has been tasked with these revisions.

## **Announcements**

**Remaining Spring Faculty Senate Meeting Modality.** Based on the results of the Qualtrics survey sent to determine future meeting modality, it was determined that most faculty senate members would prefer to continue with a remote meeting modality.

## **Adjournment**

5:00 p.m.