

**FACULTY SENATE AGENDA
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY**

3 October 2019

3:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Austin Hall Building

Present: Yuan Zhao (COM); Stephen Rapp (CHSS); Nick Lantz (CHSS); Maria Botero (CHSS); Siham Bouamer (CHSS); Benjamin Park (CHSS); Natalie Baker (COCJ); Bobby LaRue (COCJ); Vlad Radoias (COBA); Donald Bumpass (COBA); Mary Petró (COE); Susan Skidmore (COE); Jaime Durán (COE); Kevin Randall (COHS); Valencia Browning-Keen (COHS); Marianne Moore (COHS); Dwayne Pavelock (COSET); Kyle Stutts (COSET); Damon Hay (COSET); Samuel Adu-Prah (COSET); Debbi Hatton (CAM); Kevin Clifton (CAM); John Lane (CAM); Michael Hanson (Library); Lee Miller (CHSS).

Absent: Nancy Stockall (COE), Daphne Johnson (COE), Carolyn Moore (CAM), Brandy Doleshal (COSET), Jan Taylor Morris (COBA).

Call to Order: 3:33pm

Approval of Minutes for September 5

Motion to approve by LaRue. Petró seconded.

Minutes approved.

Committee Reports

APS 021120 – Academic Affairs Committee – Damon Hay, Chair reports that the committee reviewed Procedures for Online Education and proposes the following changes:

- Change “PProcedures” to “Procedures” in the header on page 1.
- In 2.04a. Change “Subchapter” to “Subchapter P”. Similar changes to 2.03, 2.04b and 2.04c;
- In 3.05e Change “official university LMS” to “official university learning management system (LMS).” References to follow in the policy may be “official university LMS.”
- 4.01b. Change both occurrences of “Blackboard” to “the official university LMS.”
- 4.03b Change “Section 11.3” to “Section 11.2.”

Faculty disliked the part of the document that talks about co-ownership of materials developed for an online course. TSUS policy indicates co-ownership of materials and SHSU policy refers to it.

There seems to be some department level protection from misuse of online course content in that each department decides who teaches courses for the department. Anecdotally, SHSU Online has made course content developed by one faculty available to other faculty asked to teach the course, but only at the request of the department.

2.04 references hybrid courses. COE has designated hybrid courses. Other faculty have been told that hybrid courses are not allowed.

Move to accept revisions to policy by Hay. Motion seconded by LaRue.
Changes approved.

APS 810814 – Tenets for Faculty Status for Academic Librarians – Maria Botero, Chair reports on committee’s work. Consulted with academic librarians for input. Took into account their concerns. Section 2 under Recruitment and Appointment, remove recruiting people with MLS specifically, broadened the language there, more inclusive language.

Section 4, periodic evaluation, clarification on evaluation process. Academic librarians are subject to the same type of evaluation, but the documentation is different from teaching faculty; Section 4 establishes that each librarian will complete an annual report and that there will be an annual meeting with Exec Dir regarding evaluation.

Motion to approve: Petrón
Seconded by: LaRue
Policy revisions approved.

Chair’s Report

Provost Report

University Unit Reorganization – handout of slides from Faculty and Admin Forum.

Discussion of Title changes

Comments from Senators: COE Forum with Dean Edmonson, Operational Efficiencies may conflict with accreditation requirements; Nursing is similar; EPAF consolidation or centralization was mentioned as a concern as well; EPAFs already take a long time to process, the worry is that they will take a lot longer; what happens to admin positions who do that?; Discussion about demographic changes: the projected dip in high school grads is not true for our area; claim is that other states are poaching; we should recognize that the growth in high school grads is due to LatinX students and these students will not go out of state; CJ is worried about keeping administrative staff; CJ advisors will be centralized; Hotel will be moved out of CJ; Consolidation will make it more difficult to see where the money is; We are told that COM will not affect operating budget at all; So, how does it affect other budgets?; Financial people in each Dean’s office have been moved under Finance and Operations; now they have a different reporting structure and different allegiance; Feeling is that this reflects diminishing power of the colleges; **Finances are not transparent**; Differences in funding streams may affect sustainability of positions/staffing.

Do we have the Fall 2019 enrollment numbers? Institutional Effectiveness has not posted fall 2019 numbers. **Senate would like to see the numbers.**

Questions: Is it true that any faculty lines that are not filled, may be moved or disappear? It is not automatic that replacements will happen. Can lines be shifted to other colleges? How are lines funded? What about DLF-funded lines of tenure-track positions?

Lots of talk of scheduling: rooms will be automatically assigned by centralized office as early as spring. Chairs would still have control over who teaches what, for now. Concern that centralized scheduling will lack flexibility and does not take into account the nuances of people’s

multiple commitments as faculty. **What is the appeals process?** Senate would like to invite someone to come explain how this will work.

Special Assistant to the President – data analytics person, position is posted, internal search

What is going on with the positions in the Provost office? Positions have changed. Why? No external searches? More transparency is needed in hiring. **Diversity guidelines?** Statements about diversity? Required range of applicants? Look at the demographics of the administration. Have someone come explain. Ask for demographics.

Why reorg now? What is the ultimate goal?

Ask about **minutes from Forum**. Why don't they **stream these meetings**? Why wasn't the staff invited? Where is the promised email announcing the reorganization with the information for everyone to see?

IT conversation – Creation of advisory committee, Mark Adams is supportive of this idea. We are studying how best to create the committee and recruit people to serve; communication is key.

SHSU Online – Distance education committee is scheduled to meet. One faculty and one administrator from each college, and two faculty Senators serve on this committee.

COE has 75% of all graduate programs at SHSU. The colleges look very different. Representatives from grad program, should be included. People with online experience.

Coffee with the Provost – grouped by colleges. Doodle poll from Julie Schwab. Please try to show up and participate.

Old Business

Perception survey – statistics are all available online. Comments are available in Michael, Brandy and Lee's offices.

Action suggestions: Exec Summary and info graphics to make data more accessible and highlight most important points.

Action suggestions: Establish mechanism to follow up on the perception survey. What actions have been taken to address concerns?

Suggestion: Some sort of presentation of perception survey and stats results out to faculty. Make sure all data remain anonymous.

Reminder: Please communicate with your college. Each college caucus to solicit feedback, input from conversations with faculty and administrators. We may incorporate periodic reports from the colleges into future Senate meetings.

Call for new items of concern for **24 October**.

New business: Concern about the status of international faculty and employment authorization rules. There seem to be informal expectations of international faculty that contribute to the uncertainty of their employment status with the university.

Reminder: Photos for Senate webpage, immediately following meeting.

LaRue moves to adjourn; Durán seconds.

Adjournment: 4:58 PM