

I. Call to Order

- a. Time: 3:00pm
- b. Attendance: 33 Members

II. Review of the Minutes: Approved as presented.

III. Reports from Committees

a. Constitution Review Committee

- i. Motion: To approve the constitution as updated by the committee.
- ii. Discussion: No Discussion
- iii. Vote: 22 approved | 1 oppose
- iv. Motion passes.

b. Faculty Senate President's Emergency Fund: Karen reported that we still have \$1,100 remaining in this fund.

- i. A question was asked about if the money goes away at a certain time, which Karen clarified that we have it until we spend it all but it was a one-time funding amount.

c. Clarification of the Cheating policies: Karen was asked at the Faculty Senate Board meeting to clarify the updated policy about tracking repetitive cheaters. There is going to be a form to be filled out and submitted to Dr. McGee for approval and then given to Dr. Chavez, who will keep these records. If you wish to ask if a specific student is on the list, you may ask Dr. Chavez. You cannot ask to see the "list" but you may ask if a student you are concerned about is a student who has been reported.

IV. Unfinished Business

- a. **Faculty Resource Center:** Karen reported that we are now waiting to hire the Director/Coordinator. Karen expressed importance of hiring one now, so Dr. Riley found money and is appropriating money from another position. Once approved by HR, the hiring will begin. Karen has asked FS for feedback on how the advisory board will be formed. It was suggested that a call for volunteers is made and if more than one person per area/division is interested, it should be a discussion with the dean.

V. New Business

a. Lockers & Cell Phone Policy at the Testing Center

- ii. **Motion:** We should ask that there be lockers at the Testing Center and students should not be allowed to bring in cell phones when taking tests.
 - 1. Motion was seconded
- iii. **Discussion:** There was discussion over how to facilitate this given budget/space constraints, but the general consensus was that there used

to be lockers and there used to be a no cellphone policy, and we would like for it to be reinstated.

iv. Vote: 31 approved | 0 opposed

v. **Motion passes**

- b. **Need to replace NASH Adjunct Senator:** Karen announced that due to the former NASH Adjunct Senator not teaching this semester, we need to find a replacement.
- c. **D2L Survey results here at Lone Star College-Montgomery:** A survey was conducted to gain information about how faculty feel regarding D2L. Below is a report on the overall results. Overall, the most comments about keeping D2L were only against changing because faculty do not want to learn a new system. Melissa Jackson was on the committee, they looked at all the available programs, at the time D2L was the best of the best. They showed the committee and focus groups a “fancier” version of D2L but we didn’t get all of the “bells and whistles” we were shown. It was shared that if the issues are with performance, it might not be D2L’s fault; might be issues on our end (server space, etc.). It was also shared that V-TAC is not very helpful and tends to treat issues as the instructor’s fault. We need to hold V-TAC accountable for addressing our issues. Additionally, it was expressed that the V-TAC chat box should have an alternative so you can call someone directly, as having someone on the phone might be more helpful. It was shared that we need to hold administration accountable for the fact that we were shown the fancier version but when it came down to the version we got, it was lacking a lot of the things we were shown. If that is a “decision maker” issue, changing systems won’t change the issue. It was shared that we have Chris Duffy in the B120 Adjunct Space every Thursday, which is a resource people don’t know about. Karen will share this information with SO.
- vi. Keep D2L: 109
- vii. Explore New System: 79
- viii. Improve or Fix D2L: 23
- ix. Other, Don’t Care: 8
- d. **H.R. 711-Equal Treatment of Public Servants Act 2015:** Linda Woodward shared some information regarding this act. It is a petition regarding issues with Social Security benefits, which some faculty might not be aware of. You should google: sumofus.org for more information. It was also expressed that HR doesn’t provide clear information on our benefits or properly explain our choices, so they should maybe revamp the process.
- e. **Library Database and Films on Demand:** Brittany Miller and Sarah Palacios-Wilhelm shared information about the issue LSC has on a system level with their budget and the costs of film databases. These databases are purchased on a system level and are currently under review. Specifically, Films On Demand has increased in cost (\$20,000 over the past 4 years) and overall is not being utilized

a whole lot. This cost is keeping them from exploring new databases or expanding databases. Information was provided on a handout (attached with minutes). What the librarians need to know from us to make sure they are representing LSCM faculty at these system meetings are:

- x. What video titles are you using?
- xi. What do you think of the alternatives?
- xii. Do you have alternatives to suggest?

Please e-mail any of the librarians your answers to these questions.

- f. **Adjunct Survey, Fall 2015:** Karen shared that a survey was sent to Adjuncts across the system in the Fall. 162 faculty responded and some campuses have some unhappy adjuncts but LSCM's responses were mostly positive. Karen will share concerns raised by survey with administration.
- g. **CFTIG:** Karen shared that she attended a meeting to discuss the timeline for this grant (Chancellor's Faculty Technology Innovation Grant) as the current process isn't working well. One issues is that recipients only have ½ year to spend funds, which means if anything has to go through legal, the timeline is almost impossible. It was shared that another conversation about the grant should be the fact that its focus on technology disregards innovation that is not technology based, which there needs to be more funding opportunities for.
- h. **Review Purpose of Faculty Senate:** "The purpose of the Lone Star College-Montgomery Faculty Senate shall be to provide a formal organization to promote the welfare of the faculty; to foster and encourage effective communication among the faculty and between faculty and administration; to promote unity and coherence among faculty; to provide a forum for raising, discussing and promoting resolution of faculty issues; to foster and encourage a learning environment based on integrity, trust, dignity and respect; and to promote academic excellence and success in the classroom, college and community."
 - xiii. Karen shared this to clarify the role of FS.
 - xiv. Sometimes people bring issues to Karen that don't come to Senate

VI. Announcements

- a. Reminder: We have new Grievance and Change in Contract Status Policies
- b. Salary Compression Update: Meeting will be Feb. 5 at 2:30 and e-mails went out today about Salary Compression. Those impacted should be receiving meeting requests soon from HR.
- c. Campus Writing Award: William Morgan and Craig Livingston talked to Dr. Riley to create a campus writing award. An e-mail was sent out with more information.
- d. International Education Conference: Romana shared that we are hosting this conference this year, on April 22nd 2016 and we are in need of more presenters.

The topic is: The Environment: It's in Your Hands. If you are interested, please speak with Romana Cortese.

VII. Adjournment

- a. Motion: There was a motion to adjourn.
- b. Motion passed; meeting adjourned at 3:52pm.

Lone Star College – Montgomery Faculty Senate 2015 – 2016

Officers: President: Karen Buckman | Vice President: Habib Far | Secretary: Michele Richey

BASS Senators: Amy Curry | Craig Livingston | Phil McCue / Matt Nelson

BELS Senators: Tony Fuller | Martina Kusi-Mensah | Mark Whitten / Roxie Richards

NASH Senators: Janeau Houston | John Kleist /Maddie McCowen / Daniel Sundarsingh

TEAM Senators: Rob Kreps | Carlos Landa | Chase Waites / Omatoyo Adebola

Counselor Senator: Neil Phillips

Librarian Senator: Angela Colmenares

For information on the Lone Star College - Montgomery Faculty Senate, visit our website at:

<http://www.lonestar.edu/25364.htm>