

Faculty Senate Meeting - Minutes September 24, 2015, 3:00pm | G102

- I. **Call to Order**
 - a. Time: 3:00pm
 - b. Attendance: 25 Members
- II. **Review of the Minutes:** Minutes Approved
- III. **Committee Reports**
 - a. **Faculty Senate Reception Report:** Janeau Houston is the chair of the reception committee, but Karen Buckman gave the report. We are having a reception for new faculty and administration on 10/22/2015 from 2:00pm - 3:00pm (following which is our October FS Meeting from 3:00pm - 4:00pm). There will be ice cream treats. Please encourage new faculty to come!
 - b. **Faculty Senate Constitution Review:** Michele Richey is the chair of the constitution review committee. Mark Whitten and Molly Lasco volunteered to serve on the committee. The general assembly was asked for suggestions and both how to address openings with Senators mid-year as well as adding info about our new positions of division adjunct representatives were given.
 - c. **Cheating Issues:** Karen Buckman reported on progress made in this area based on her meetings with Dr. Riley, Dr. McGee and Dr. Chavez. Dr. McGee would like to sit down with Dr. Chavez to discuss what was suggested by the FS committee. It is on their agenda and is being worked on.
 - d. **Compression Issues:** Karen Buckman reported that the most recent information from Dr. Head is that the process of reviewing this issue is far more complicated than originally thought (1/4 of employees are impacted), so they are bringing in another law firm to help assess and fix the issue of salary compression. At this point, if you are owed \$2,500 or less, you will receive it all at once; if it is more than \$2,500, it will be split over two years. The first disbursement was supposed to occur on 10/1, but that deadline is probably not going to be met. Hopefully it will happen soon, and when it does, those impacted will receive a letter. Everyone will receive an e-mail about the issue once figured out. Since this involves salaries, individual cases or a list of who is impacted cannot be released. Clarification was asked on why this is so if we are state employees and our salaries are public information; Karen Buckman explained that our previous year's salaries are provided to the public, but not the current year salary.
 - e. **Adjunct Representatives:** We have three new Division Adjunct Faculty Representatives. We still need one from BASS.
 - a. BELS: Roxanne Richards
 - b. NASH: D. Sundarsingh Daniel
 - c. TEAM: Adebola Omotajo
 - f. **Student Activities Advisor Committee:** Carlos Lands volunteered to serve as FS rep on this committee.
- IV. **New Business**
 - a. **Craig Livingston History Project:** Was not at meeting to report.

- b. **Michael Devoley Maverick Guides & Maverick Mentors:** Mike is still looking for a group of faculty experts to advise transferring students. The Maverick Guides are problematic in that they pick electives for students, instead of providing a list of options. This hurts students who are unaware of options and enrollments for classes that are not listed as the class on the guides. Karen Buckman brought this issue up to Wendell Williams, who said they were not complete; however, we are already using them. Registration begins 11/11 and he is looking for faculty who are interested in brushing up on policies and receiving a cohort of students to help support as they move forward in their education. Mike also meeting with David Pyle (EDUC) to talk about 2nd year experience continuation of first year experience. In the meantime, Mike stated that if you do informal advising, you should keep track as there is a discussion happening at SO about compensation.
- c. **Full-time Faculty teaching Online ONLY Discussion:** Karen Buckman brought up the topic of having full-time faculty who only teach online. There is some talk by Dr. Head that we might be headed in the direction of having some full-time, online professors. They would be categorized as 70% so they would not have to do institutional service. Issues with this previously expressed include not wanting an online college and the worry over who would hire the online full-time faculty, as if they aren't chosen by the campuses and departments, there is concern over the quality of the faculty. It was asked what the benefits of having these positions, and it was shared that some current FT faculty have asked about the option. It was also expressed that we have fully online degree programs, so it makes sense to have fully online faculty. Karen stated that she would be at a meeting discussing the issue next Thursday so if you have further feedback to let her know before then. It was also expressed that we are grateful to be asked for feedback. Below are some other points made during the discussion:
- i. Recommendations: Each campus should hire these faculty; no central SO process. Also, this faculty should only be hired from current FT faculty, who already has connections to the campus. It was also brought up as a good option for a semester based on need/potential application process, but not as an "always" option.
 - ii. Advantages: This would potentially save money for the college and provide another opportunity for adjuncts to move up and earn more money (plus benefits). It would also guarantee that FT Lone Star people would teach online classes.
 - iii. Disadvantages: We do not want to be an online college. This group of instructors would be another group we have difficulty connecting with and reaching out to. We fear the potential of replacing full-time faculty with this cheaper option. Also, not all courses can and/or should be taught online. There are rumors that some schools won't accept math credits if they know the class was taken online (Karen will look into this rumor). Labs and speech classes have difficulty going to fully online so this may not be an option for everyone. Online FT faculty, if not required

to work from offices on the campuses, are not guaranteed to live in the community, which is one of the strengths of community colleges. In addition, there is less ability to collaborate and groom new faculty members. There is also worry that this will decrease the community's willingness to pass bonds for new buildings, as there is already some sentiment about just teaching more classes online instead of building.

b. Other New Business:

- i. **Creekside:** A question was posed over the potential impact of the new Creekside Center. It was explained that it is being "sponsored" by Tomball and that we will be impacted based on its location, which they are tracking, but until it actually opens it is hard to tell how much it will impact us.
- ii. **Call Boxes:** A question was posed about the potential of putting call boxes in the parking lots for safety purposes. Karen is going to bring it up with the administration.

I. Announcements

- a. Reception: 10/22 @ 2:00pm (please let Janeau know if we have missed any new faculty on the flyer)
- b. Michael Devoley: Thank our 3 adjunct faculty for coming.
- c. Food Pantry is open! We have been open for 5 days and have helped, 7 people. It is located in C101.
- d. Sara Lynch: Mission is doing another 5K run to raise money for building an orphanage in Nepal and India. They need another \$50,000 and have someone who will match us \$ to \$. Please promote the program!

II. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 3:50pm

Next Meeting:

- Officers & Senators: 10/15/2015 @ 2:30pm | G 112
- Faculty Senate: 10/22/2015 @ 2:30pm | G 102

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

BELS Senators: Simone Andrade | Martina Kusi-Mensah | Mark Whitten | Roxanne Richards (Adjunct Rep.)

NASH Senators: Janeau Houston | John Kleist | D. Sundarsingh Daniel (Adjunct Rep.)

TEAM Senators: Rob Kreps | Carlos Landa | Chase Waites | Adebola Omotajo (Adjunct Rep.)

Counselor Senator: Neil Phillips

Librarian Senator: Angela Colmenares

Open Position(s): NASH Senator (1)

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

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