APPROVED AND CORRECTED MINUTES

These minutes are disseminated to provide timely information to the Academic Senate. They have been approved by the body in question, and, therefore, they are the official minutes.

ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING
January 17, 2018


Absent: William Anderson, Thomas Brikowski, Jonas Bunte, Galia Cohen, Lev Gelb, M. Ali Hooshyar, Joe Izen, BPS Murthi, Tres Thompson, Murat Torlak, Habte Woldu,

Visitors: Naomi Emmet, Joanna Gentsch, Serenity King, Jennifer McDowell, Robert Pearson, Bill Pervin, Ben Porter, Amanda Rockow, Elizabeth Rugg, LaTicia Sabair,

1. Call to Order for the Academic Senate Meeting
President Benson called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM. Searches to fill critical positions are nearing conclusion. Two candidates remain for the Dean of Engineering position, and four candidates remain for the Vice President of Research position. President Benson announced that James Dockery has left the university. Administration will fill the position soon but they are reviewing the reporting structure of the department. President Benson opened the floor to questions. There were none.

2. Approval of the Agenda
Richard Scotch moved to approve the agenda with the following edits: 1) adding a legislative update by Amanda Rockow before the SACSCOC update, 2) considering editorial changes to committee charges, and 3) replacing a member of the IRB committee. David Cordell seconded the motion. The motion carried.

3. Approval of the Minutes
Matt Brown moved to approve the minutes. Richard Scotch seconded. The motion carried.

4. Speaker’s Report – Murray Leaf
   1. Speaker Leaf is concerned about the Institutional Conflict of Interest Policy. UT System requires us to create a charge to establish such a committee. The task assigned to a committee headed by James Dockery, in compliance. It was, in consequence, formulated as
a compliance matter. It was Speaker Leaf's opinion that the policy needs to be re-discussed in a wider frame of reference. Speaker Leaf will bring the material developed so far before the February meeting of the Academic Council for placement on the Academic Senate agenda for February.

2. All other items are on the agenda.

5. Presentation: Wellness Committee – Julie Haworth
Julie Haworth gave a presentation from the Wellness Committee. It is intended to serve faculty as well as staff. A copy of her PowerPoint presentation is in Appendix A.

6. Legislative Update – Amanda Rockow
There are 150 members of the House who are elected to two year terms. The Senate has 31 members with four year terms. The Texas Legislature convenes the second Tuesday of January on odd numbered years, and meets for 140 days. This does not include special sessions. 15-20% of university budget comes from state funding. The Legislature also passes many bills that affect the university. During the recent legislature, roughly 6600 bills were filed, 1200 of which became law. Ms. Rockow's office reviews the bills to make sure the bills do not hinder our university. One of the bills passed was related to community colleges. It will allow them to offer 4-year degrees in targeted areas. Also legislation passed concerning sexual assault on university campuses. The only item the legislature is required to pass is the budget. Approximately 70-80% of the budget is education and health and human services.

Our university is funded in a variety of ways--formula funding, research, special items, and the Texas Research Incentive Program (TRIP). This past session was rough financially for our university. At the end of the session our university had $5-million less than what we were funded in 2015. This was an issue because our university had grown by 3700 students. The cuts were primarily in research, and special items. An anticipated increase in formula funding did not occur. Another disappointment was TRIP, which had been an important funding source for the past eight years. We had anticipated matching funds from TRIP for research, but the expected $22-million did not materialize. We only received roughly $150,000 of TRIP funding. It is expected that the next Legislature in 2015 will also be financially difficult due to funding Hurricane Harvey expenditures and school finance. In the meantime, a special higher-education funding committee has been appointed with five members of the Senate, and five members from the House. They will review formula funding, special items, and the structure of the funding itself. They will meet again at the end of February 2018.

7. SACSCOC Reaffirmation Updates – Serenity King
The university received the report from the off-site SACSCOC committee. Of the ninety plus principles, the university was non-compliant in 12 compared to the average of 17. The twelve principles are as follows: 2.8- Full Time Faculty, 2.11.1- Financial Resources, 3.25 – Board Member Dismissal, 3.29- Evidence that Hiring Practices are followed, 3.4.11-Program Heads, 3.5.1-General Education Competencies, 3.5.4- Faculty with Terminal Degrees, 3.5.12- Assessment of Administrative Units, 3.3.15- Assessment of Community Service, 3.4.7 Collaborative Academic Arrangements, 3.7.1- Faculty Credentialing, and 3.7.4 Academic Freedom. All of these issues are being addressed. LTD’s written responses to the off-site committee will be sent by January 23. Ms. King also provided the Senate with information regarding a self-disclosure issue related to Principle 1.1 Integrity; the issue is specific to the improper granting of credit in an executive master’s program.
8. TCFS and FAC Reports- Murray Leaf and David Cordell
The Faculty Advisory Council has not met since the last Academic Senate meeting. The next FAC meeting is scheduled for January 25-26, 2018.

9. Student Government Report- J. W. Van Der Schans
Mr. Van Der Schans' availability has changed, and he is now more available during the day. Student Government had a great deal of turnover at the start of the spring semester. There are new chairs in the Student Affairs, Legislative Affairs, and the Graduate and International Affairs committees. The Public Arts Initiatives are progressing well. The curating board for the Student Union student art is forging ahead and finalizing a few positions. Mr. Van Der Schans will be reaching out in the next week to the different University Committee Chairs to make sure the students appointed to their committees are attending and participating. UT-SAC will meet February 2nd. Student elections will occur soon. The Academic Affairs committee has been working on a project related to iTunes University, which maintains a large library of instructional videos from professors.

10. CEP Recommendations – Clint Peinhardt
   A. Changes to Core
      Two new core classes, BA 1310, and BA 1320 were proposed to go in the core as a 080 and as 090 course, respectively. The goal is to give students more options. There was a great deal of discussion in CEP regarding these classes. Chair Peinhardt noted that the approval vote was not unanimous. Clint Peinhardt moved on the behalf of CEP to approve the new core courses. The motion carried.

   B. Undergrad Course Inventory for Spring 2018
      Eight zero level courses from JSOM were added to the spring catalog. These courses allow students to have documentation on their transcripts that they presented at or attended a conference, or participated in a competition. These courses also allow the university to have better control over the students should something unfortunate happen at such events. Clint Peinhardt moved on the behalf of CEP to approve the undergraduate courses. The motion carried.

   C. Undergrad Course Inventory for 2018-2019
      Clint Peinhardt explained that there are 158 total course changes, 18 additions, 17 removals, and 123 edits. Clint Peinhardt moved on the behalf of CEP to approve the undergraduate courses. The motion carried.

   D. Graduate Course Inventory for 2018-2019
      Clint Peinhardt explained that there are 66 total course changes, 24 additions, 4 removals, and 38 edits. The Art History masters program has begun, and the program is filling in its courses. Clint Peinhardt moved on the behalf of CEP to approve the graduate courses. The motion carried.

   E. New Imaging Concentration in Biomedical Engineering
      The new imaging concentration will be offered in fall 2018. The current masters students requested a clinical portion as part of their degree. The goal of the concentration is to create research engineers, and the Biomedical Engineering department worked with UT
Southwestern to develop this concentration. The concentration will include 6 hours of UT Southwestern courses, and students who complete 12 hours of course work with UT Southwestern will be able to obtain a joint degree. No new instructors will be needed to be hired. Clint Peinhardt moved on the behalf of CEP to approve the new Imaging Concentration in Biomedical Engineering. The motion carried.

F. Informational: Special Registration for High School Students
Clint Peinhardt moved on the behalf of CEP to approve the procedure for special registration of High School students. The motion carried.

11. Approval of the School of Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communications (ATEC) Bylaws- Dr. Leaf
The Academic Council reviewed the proposed ATEC bylaws, which were approved by the ATEC faculty. Matt Brown moved to approve the Bylaws of the School of Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communications. Viswanath Ramakrishna seconded. The motion carried.

12. Informational: Academic Calendar for 2019-Jennifer Holmes
Dr. Holmes presented the proposal for the FY19 Academic Calendar. The committee had lengthy discussions regarding the calendar. They took into account the concerns raised by the early start date for spring 2018, and they continued to align spring break with UT-Austin.

13. Revisions to UTDPP1088- Faculty Governance and UTDPP1007- Academic Senate Bylaws–Murray Leaf
References to the General Faculty meeting were removed. There were three reasons. First, the address is now presented to the entire university community and not just the faculty. Second, removal will free the timing of the address from the senate schedule. Third, the purpose of the provision for a meeting of the General Faculty was to provide an occasion to override an action of Senate or express an opinion to the President that was different from that of the Academic Senate. This provision has never been invoked; there has been no such resolution since the current governance organization was established. Greg Dess moved to approve the revisions to both UTDPP1088 and 1007. Andrew Blanchard seconded. The motion carried.

14. 3+3+3 on Faculty Workload – Murray Leaf
Dr. Musselman suggested that a 6+3+3 committee be created to widen the group’s umbrella. Lisa Bell recommended that this issue also be sent to the CEP committee. Ravi Prakash further suggested that program heads other than Deans be included. A list of proposed members will be assembled by Dr. Leaf and Dr. Musselman and will be presented at the February Academic Council meeting.

15. Revised Committee Charges- Abby Kratz
The Handbook on Operating Procedures Committee is conducting a policy review project. There are policies that have not been reviewed for many years. Now that the policies have been reviewed they will continue on the five-year review process. UTDPP1012- Committee on Academic Integrity, UTDPP1014- Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, UTDPP1016- Biosafety Committee, UTDPP1021- Committee on Distance Learning, UTDPP1026-Committee on Faculty Mentoring, and UTDPP1030-Committee on Parking and Transportation were reviewed by their stakeholders. The stakeholders made minor amendments which were non-substantive. Should there be any issues
following posting, Dr. Kratz should be contacted. Greg Dess moved to agree that the changes were non-substantive changes, thus they did not require a thorough review process... Bill Hefley seconded. The motion carried.

16. Adjournment
There being no further business, President Benson adjourned the meeting at 2:45 PM.

APPROVED: [Signature]

DATE: 21 Feb 2018

Murray Leaf,
Speaker of the Faculty