

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

September 21, 2017

3:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

LSC 304

Members Present (23). Donald Albert (COSET), Burcu Ates (COE), Jonathan Breazeale (COBA), Donald Bumpass (COBA), William Carroll (CHSS), Madhusudan Choudhary (COSET), Kevin Clifton (FAMC), James Crosby (CHSS), Brandy Doleshal (COSET), Andrea Foster (COE), Donovan Haines (COSET), Michael Hanson (NGL), Renee James (COSET), William Jasper (COSET), Bobby LaRue (CJ), Eric Marsh (FAMC), Kenneth McIntyre (CHSS), Karen Miller (FAMC), Vlad Radoias (COBA), Nancy Stockall (COE), Stacy Ulbig (CHSS), Anthony Watkins (FAMC), Ryan Zapalac (COHS)

Members Not Present (6). Stephen Rapp (CHSS), Maria Botero (CHSS), Randall Garner (CJ), Santosh Kumar (COBA), Melinda Miller (COE), Helen Berg (COE),

Called to Order. 3:30 PM by Chair Jonathan Breazeale.

Approval of Minutes.

The September 7 minutes were unanimously approved.

Introductions.

Senators briefly introduced themselves.

Chair's Report.

The Senate Chair distributed a report of his most recent meeting with the Provost and President. Topics covered in the report include the D.O. program, SACS policy review, salary data, and possible ORP supplementary contribution.

The Chair explained this past summer's policy review process and how the senate should proceed with future policy review.

The Chair raised the idea that the university consider supplementing existing ORP contributions. The Provost agreed to discuss the request with the V.P. of Finance.

Old Business.

University Diversity Committee

A University Diversity Committee document was distributed to the Senate for discussion. The committee was previously discussed over the summer with some senators expressing concern over its formation. Specific concern was raised during our meeting that the committee included no representation from white men. Senators voiced further concerns about how such a committee will enforce diversity goals, how said committee would view diversity, as well as the potential to weaken the voice of faculty in a range of settings. Senators questioned language referencing the University's Diversity Plan, yet it's not clear at this point what that plan is.

A motion was made to accept the document as written. The document was unanimously rejected.

The D.O. School

A motion was made to record senate support for the D.O. School. A vote was taken on the following question.

Given what you know now, do you support a College of Osteopathic Medicine at SHSU?

Votes were recorded as follows:

For: 11

Against: 4

Indifferent/Ambivalent: 6

Abstain: 1

(The meeting roster and vote count indicate 1 unaccounted for vote)

Committee Assignments

Assignments were distributed and committees were asked to briefly meet and name a committee chair. Committee chairs are as follows:

Academic Affairs: Ken McIntyre

University Affairs: Burcu Ates

Faculty Affairs: Ryan Zapalac

Committee on Committees: Michael Hanson

New Business.

Senators raised possible new business items for senate consideration.

A senator expressed concern about course releases for graduate faculty being in jeopardy.

A senator conveyed a possible conflict between book publishers and the university bookstore in regard to free ebooks for students.

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