# FACULTY SENATE MINUTES SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY November 5, 2009

### **Members Present**

Leonard Breen; Bill Brewer; Rebecca Bustamante; Erin Cassidy; Jeff Crane; Donna Desforges; Mark Frank; Chad Hargrave; Deborah Hatton; Darci Hill; Bill Jasper; Gerald Kohers; Paul Loeffler; Andrew Lopenzina; Sheryl Murphy-Manley; Brian Oetiker; Tracy Steele; Doug Ullrich.

#### **Members Absent**

Donald Bumpass; Mack Hines; Renee James; Hee-jong Joo; Brian Loft; Melinda Miller; Ling Ren.

# **Call to Order**

Chair Loeffler called the meeting to order at 3:32pm.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the October 22, 2009 meeting were approved.

# Special Guest: President James F. Gaertner.

President Gaertner shared with the Faculty Senate his recent decision to retire after nine year of service as President of Sam Houston State University. President Gaertner commented that his decision was related to the closing of the capital campaign, the construction of the new performing arts center, the successful acquisition of property in The Woodlands, and currently having three members of the Texas State Board of Regents with close ties to Sam Houston State University.

Looking forward, President Gaertner also shared with the senators his vision of factors that will likely have a large impact on the university in the future: increased competition in distance learning and from community colleges, the development of The Woodlands, the potential for a tighter budget from the State of Texas, the increasing importance of research and creative activity, and the ability to take advantage of our unique niches and interdisciplinary programs.

For the upcoming presidential search, President Gaertner noted that the committee will consist of three members from the Texas State Board of Regents, one faculty member, one member of the staff, one student, one community leader, and one alumnus. An advertisement for the position should appear by the first of the year, with semi-finalists being decided upon by March or April, and three to five finalist by May. On campus interviews are likely to occur in the early part of the summer, and the final naming of the person should occur in late June or July.

#### **Chair's Report**

Chair Loeffler reported from the October 23- 24 meeting of the Texas Council of Faculty Senates:

• Dr. Kenneth Craycraft discussed with senators from the Texas State University System issues related to the implementation of HB 2504 (in particular, the

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