

5 December 2013
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Austin Hall

experienced undue pressure. One senator said her department has more adjuncts than tenured/tenure-track faculty, but the adjuncts are counted as faculty who do not give (despite their obvious financial hardship). Another senator said his department sends harassing e-mails insisting on 100% faculty giving. Several senators said the data is used as a talking point in lobbying the State Legislature and in the *US News and World Report* ranking of universities. Another senator suggested the university offer a parking rebate dollar-for-dollar in the amount of contributions to the Annual Fund.

Dr. James announced that the provost said no faculty will be fined for lateness in submitting IDEA evaluations, contrary to what one faculty member was told.

Dr. James sent everyone the Developmental Leave Policy. However, the policy is now a moot issue because the policy went to the Academic Policy Council and Dr. James was informed that we cannot remove the section on benefits that Faculty Senate wanted to remove. According to SHSU's interpretation of state law, if you are off for a full semester, full-time, your benefits are covered by SHSU. If you are working half-time and off half-time

Some committees' chairs are appointed, and some chairs must be elected by the committee members. The latter is a particular problem if the chair is the one to call the meetings, as the committee must meet before they have a chair who can call a meeting. The Standing Tenure committee is one that is having a problem calling a meeting.

A senator suggested that perhaps having a chair and a chair-elect of all committees would prevent this problem.

Another senator said that there are committees that do not meet unless there is an issue in need of addressing; perhaps this why some do not meet regularly.

One senator asked where a complete list of committees can be found, including who is on them and what the description is for each committee's purpose. Dr. James said the Academic Affairs Committee Book lists all of this information.

Three items need attention.

The Excellence in Service committee is in need of a new member, as one of the members has left SHSU. The Committee on Committees would like to recommend Donovan Hines as the replacement member for that committee. The Senate approved this unanimously.

There are two proposed new committees the Committee on Committees would like the Senate to approve.

After a brief discussion, the Senate approved the new Online Course Development Support Committee with 24 ayes, 1 no, 0 abstentions.

The Computer and Technology Standards Committee has been proposed to provide an avenue for formal feedback from faculty university-wide to advise IT on purchasing technology for faculty. The senators discussed the advantages and disadvantages to having such a committee. A senator asked if there is a general advisory committee on technology in general; Jacob Chandler says yes, but it has lost some members and has not met in a long while. (Chandler referenced the IT Project Planning Council and the IT Governance Council. The two are listed, but one is more recent than the other, and neither one is meeting.)

Changes were proposed to the language of the Computer and Technology Standards Committee proposal ("effective communication faculty concerns" should be changed to "effective communication faculty concerns" and "include one faculty member" should be "include one faculty member"). The Senate voted to approve the new Computer and Technology Standards Committee with a vote of 22 ayes, 1 no, 2 abstentions.

Dr. Mary Anne Vincent mentioned

global, non-profit organization for professors to explore what kinds of IT materials would be useful for their organizations. SHSU can get a subscription to this group; this could be useful for the committee advising IT purchases.

Dr. Vincent suggested the following websites for those who are interested in learning more about the TLT Group:

<http://tltgroup.org/about/history.htm>

<http://tltgroup.org/subscribing.htm>

http://tltgroup.org/Flashlight/FL_subscriber_materials.htm

A senator asked what one does when a Blackboard listing of classes and instructors needs to be updated (in the example cited, the faculty lists include dead people and people who have left SHSU). Another senator recommended that Stacy Scott of DELTA be contacted for help with this.

The Committee on Committees asked if the Archives Committee could be disbanded. The Archives Committee has not met since 2003. This committee is on the Committee Book, but Faculty Senate does not recommend people to be appointed to the committee. Dr. Shen, the chair of the Committee on Committees, said that the purpose of the committee was originally to develop archiving standards and collection policies, which have been done. There is a Library Advisory Committee that could fulfill whatever purpose the Archives Committee might have. Dr. Littlejohn opposed this idea. He explained that the archives are having problems right now: the hours are much too short for full use (1-5 daily, no weekend hours), and there are multiple staff members. Dr. Jeff Littlejohn would be willing to meet with the Archives Committee to discuss concerns re: the hours of operation, and the need for active recruitment of new collections to be acquired from the local community. (Current members of the Archive Committee include: Dr. James Olson, chair; an archivist; a director of the Physical Plant; the director of the Sam Houston Memorial Museum; and the chair of the Walker County Historical Commission.) Dr. Jeff Littlejohn and Dr. Nancy Baker will talk to Dr. Olson about the Archive Committee.

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An open meeting of the Faculty Affairs Committee with Rhonda Beassie, our SHSU lawyer, regarding intellectual property rights and other legal issues will occur on Thursday, Dec. 12, at 1:00.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:59 pm.

Revised 02-03-2014 10:55 am