

SHSU Faculty Senate Minutes

Sam Houston State University

February 4, 2016

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

LSC 304

Chair Lisa Shen called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

In attendance: Randy Garner (CJ), Diane Dowdey (CHSS), Jason Payton (CHSS), Jeff Littlejohn (CHSS), John Domino (CHSS), Stacy Ulbig (CHSS), Tracy Bilsing (CHSS), Don Bumpass (COBA), Irfan Ahmed (COBA), Mark Frank (COBA), Jonathan Breazeale (COBA), Andrea Foster (COE), Donna Cox (COE), Melinda Miller (COE), Karla Eidson (COE), Karen Miller (COFAMC), Gary Oden (COHS), Debbi Hatton (COFAMC), David McTier (COFAMC), Eric Marsh (COFAMC), James Landa (COHS), Donovan Haines (COS), Douglas Ullrich (COS), Dwayne Pavelock (COS), Madhu Choudhary (COS), Mark Klespis (COS), Bill Jasper (COS), Lisa Shen (NGL)

Absent: Joan Bytheway (CJ), Nancy Baker (CHSS), Diana Nabors (COE)

Welcome

Chair Shen welcomed Donovan Haines to the Faculty Senate. Dr. Haines will complete the term of Senator Lutterschmidt.

Approval of Minutes

The January 28 minutes were approved.

Special Guest

Mr. Kelley Osborn, Director, Services for Students with Disabilities &
Dr. Drew Miller, Assistant Vice President of Student Services

Mr. Osborn is the Director for Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD).

Mr. Osborn gave an overview of the SSD. He shared that he was vetted with the responsibility of seeing to the accommodations of students with disabilities in class and online. Approximately 539 students were served in the SSD last fiscal year. He stated that students came to the SSD with a wide range of disabilities and some not readily apparent, such as psychosis, Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder, learning disabilities, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, and emotional disabilities. Further, students with a wide range of medical conditions are served in his office.

Initially, students must register and submit documentation that provides information on functionality. Students must be examined by a certified medical specialist, such as a physician or psychologist. If documentation is outdated or insufficient, the student is sent to obtain additional information. The results of this documentation determine how a mental or physical impairment limits a student academically.

can become onerous and that their needs for communication are disproportionate to communicating with other students in class. How best accommodate these individuals? Mr. Osborn stated that students on the

Staggs Counseling Center on the SHSU main campus and the Woodlands Center and is low cost or free. Students are prioritized but there is a waiting list.

A senator asked if there was a time limit for signing the accommodation forms. Mr. Osborn said that it was perfectly appropriate to take the form, read over it and sign it on the following class day.

The same senator wondered about accommodations that were at cross purposes to the profession the student is studying to enter.

Mr. Osborn stated that instructors focus on the class at hand.

One senator asked if instructors could know a bit before classes start for the semester if they are to have deaf interpreters or closed captions for videos or a student is going to have mobility issues.

Mr. Osborn said he would address the issue with the sign language coordinator to communicate (early notice) to instructor. However, late registration can be a bit of a challenge. He strives to alert online instructors two to three months in advance if a student with a disability will need accommodating. Transcription services

Chair's Report

Committee Reports

The Faculty Affairs Committee presented the latest revision of the Conflict of Interest Policy (HR-E8)

A motion was made and seconded to accept the report. It was accepted unanimously

The Academic Affairs Committee presented the latest revision of the Graduate Faculty Status Policy (AP 801014)

A motion was made to accept the report. It was accepted unanimously.

A motion to accept proposals of the version that was e-mailed to Senate and in hard copy to Senate accept policy with the request to change the date.

The proposal changes were accepted unanimously

Adjournment

5:00 pm