

ASU Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
3:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 8, 2021
Rasman Room 104, and Remote Access via WebEx

Nick Negovetich President BIO	X	Twyla Tasker Vice President C&I	X	Carlos Flores Secretary TED	X	Christopher Shar Parliamentarian SW	X
Anthony Bartl PSCI/PHL	X	Alfredo Becerra NURS	X	Robert Briwa HIST	X	Michael Conklin AEF	X
Drew Curtis PSY	X	David Faught ENG/LANG	X	Manuel Garcia ENG	X	Mark Hama ENG/LANG	X
Floyd Huang PT	X	JongHwa Lee COMM	X	Heather Lehto PHYS/GEO	X	Adam Parker KIN	X
English Ratliff AGRI		Babajide Sadiq HSP	X	Rene Segoviano M&M	X	Andrew Siefker Math	X
Tammy Stafford NURS (Clin)	X	Devon Stewart VPA	X	William Taylor SEC STUD	X	Grant Wilde CS	X
Ralph Zehnder CHEM	X						

Call to Order @ 3:07

Invited Guests

- General Hawkins, President – Present
- Dr. Don Topliff, Provost and VP for Academic Affairs – Present
- Dr. Clifton Jones, Vice Provost and Interim Vice President of Student Affairs - Present
- Meghan Pace-Pena, Staff Senate President – Present
- Kristen Kilpatrick – Student Senate President – Absent
- Brady Floyd – Student Senate Vice-President - Present

Announcements and Questions

- President Hawkins – We are closing out the semester. There are a lot of great things which have occurred and many of great things are going to happen in the spring as well. Please take safety into consideration in everything you do. We had 1 person in quarantine and are now up to 4. Everyone has been doing phenomenal work this semester. There are many great special projects on the horizon, engineering and commercial aviation have the potential to grow. The band is growing as well, he has more students than he has instruments for which is a great problem to have! The search for a new VP of Student Affairs is kicking off. The winter and spring sports are swinging into effect right now and all the fall sports had a great season.
- Dr. Topliff – Graduation is this weekend. We have 3 ceremonies this weekend. They will be as close to possible as how we've done it in the past. Students have been sent a video as to how they are supposed to line up. Faculty will congregate in the hallway as opposed to the gym. Deans and chairs will not shake hands with the graduates this year, the president will. Faculty are not required to attend. We have approximately 600 students who will walk and about 750 who will graduate. **Retention:** retention decisions by students are typically made in the first two weeks they are on campus. We have to figure out a way to be more intentional with students in

the first 3 - 4 weeks of them being on campus. GS1181 courses have helped with this. We are going to pilot a new initiative in the winter intercession. We are asking faculty to enter into Blackboard a plus, a check, or a minus. A plus indicates an engaged student expected to complete the class, a check indicates the student is doing ok, and a minus indicates there is an issue with the student. Someone will then contact the students with a minus to see what help can be offered. If anyone has any other ideas on how to make this work, please let us know. The column with the plus, checkmark, or minus symbol will be hidden from students. The instructor will have to create the column in Blackboard and hide it from the students.

Administration will still be able to see the column. If you have an online course and the student has not logged in by day 3, they need a minus. It is not going to be perfect off the bat but we will work through the issues. You can still submit an early alert and are encouraged to do so.

SACS: our documentation goes in this August. You may be asked for input so please reply and help out if you are approached. **Enrollment:** our new first-time freshman enrollment was up about 9 this fall. We are down from our all-time high from 2018. We knew this was going to happen and are working on a way to improve this. We are looking at the different processes we have in place to see if there are areas we can work on any issues. We did discover one or two processes which we were impeding the enrollment process for some students based on the number of hours for which they are enrolled. We have students leaving Texas to go out of state and we need to find a way to keep them here in the state. Adult learners are not going to commit to a 16-week course. Our most successful graduate programs are online and they are 8-week courses. This is something we need to explore in other areas as well.

- Dr. Jones – with accreditation means we need a new QEP. Our new QEP will help focus on student development. We need to be able to track what happens to our students after they walk the stage. We need to track employment data of our students. There is an ongoing issue relating to academic integrity. We are lax in documentation. We need to have a way to track these students as it may be happening in more than just your class. OP 10.03 (Grade Grievance policy) addresses this and needs to be followed. We are moving towards a digital syllabus which has been piloted in the College of Education. This is closer to being rolled out to the entire university. There will be some training sessions conducted in the spring for faculty which will cover a multitude of topics including self-care for faculty. **Questions:** Who do you report academic integrity issues to? You may go online and create a report in the same place where BIT reports are created. Will the grade grievance policies be added to Concourse? Yes, but probably not until the fall.
- Meaghan Pace-Pena– staff senate is helping with the Concho Christmas Lights this Friday, December 10, 2021. There are volunteers from ASU who will be greeting people this Friday.
- Brady Floyd – Brady will become president of Student Senate when Kristen graduates this week. This semester 4 pieces of legislation were passed. They were also part of several community service projects this semester. There have approved 8 new student organizations this semester and have 3 more to approve next semester. The Christmas Tree Lighting event was a huge success. They raised \$7,078.51 for student scholarships and it will be matched up to \$5,000. The goal is for student government to be more present on campus at different events. The Rammies ceremony will be held in April, this is an awards ceremony for Student Organizations. Hopefully we can make this a big event again this year.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

- Motion to accept by Chris Shar and seconded by Bill Taylor
- Vote was unanimous to accept the minutes as written

Standing Committee Reports

- Academic Affairs – suggestion for OP 06.10 have been sent out to senate. More to come next month.
- Bylaws – ready to present the constitution and by-laws to the Executive Committee (EC). Once the EC has made comments, it will be presented to the senate.
- University Affairs – Nothing to report
- Student Affairs – has been working with the SGA on the bill passed regarding grades. The survey has been written and will go to the IRB process in the spring. We would like for faculty to develop a paragraph for the syllabi stating when grades can be expected depending on the type of assignment. They would also like students to have a name associated with the grievance process so students will know who they can go to for issues.
- External Affairs – Nothing to report
- Committee on Committees – Nothing to report

Unfinished Business

- Waiting on OP 06.23 –It is now back in the provost's office and comments will be sent to the senate shortly.
- OP 06.10 – Faculty Development Leave – the changes were mostly clarification or language. Section 11 was the most revised section. Some senators had issues viewing the changes so we are tabling this OP until next month so everyone has a chance to review the document.

New Business

- Several faculty members have expressed an interest in ending the fall semester at Thanksgiving. The Faculty Senate President is creating an AdHoc committee to explore this possibility and the potential impact on various areas of the university. The committee consists of a senator from each college and will be reaching out to various departments for feedback. Drs. Topliff and Jones gave several ideas of issues which need to be considered. The AdHoc committee will explore all issues. The committee members are: Carlos Flores, Tammy Stafford, Rene Segoviano, Ralph Zehnder, and Mark Hama.

Roundtable

- Robert – Many people are interested in ESCALA but this year it is costing the departments to send people to training and this may impact smaller departments with smaller budgets. Dr. Jones – this was funded by a Federal Grant and we are required to continue this with university funds. In an effort to make this available across the board, departments were asked to share the cost for individuals who attend. It is not going away and the plan is to offer this every summer. If a department has a large number of people interested, perhaps the college could offer funds to assist the department pay for this as well. Dr. Topliff – if there are faculty who want this training, sign up and we'll figure out how to make it happen.
- Bill – checking on the possibility of moving from a one-year appointment to a three appointment for senior instructors. Dr. Topliff – under law, they are at-will employees. If they are not going to be re-appointed, they are required to be notified in the spring. If a contract is late, you have a job if you were not told earlier you were not being re-hired.

Adjournment – 4:25