Call to Order @

Invited Guests
- General Hawkins, President - Present
- Dr. Don Topliff, Provost and VP for Academic Affairs – Present
- Dr. Clifton Jones, Vice Provost - Absent
- Dr. Ben Lion, VP for Student Affairs - Absent
- Meghan Pena, Staff Senate President – Absent
- Trevor Bills, Student Government Association President – Absent

Announcements and Questions
- University President – President Hawkins provided a number of updates, including the upcoming SACSOC visit on campus and Board of Regents meeting. The ASU Safe app is being gradually introduced and should be increasingly used by spring semester’s end. The Regional Security Studies ribbon cutting ceremony was held and launched the pilot program in schools across Texas.
- Provost – Dr. Topliff disussed the student numbers being slightly down, partially due to the change in need-base allocation of Carr Scholarships. However, he reported steady numbers for incoming fall students as well as on-campus housing application submissions. Despite next year’s budget being cut by a projected 4%, no salary reductions are planned and administration is looking for ways to provide increases in the future. He reminded faculty of the importance of attending Commencement ceremonies (although not mandated to attend) for the students and their families before listing the dates and times for the five ceremonies to be held on Friday evening and throughout the day on Saturday.
- Vice-Provost – Absent
- VP Student Affairs – Absent
- Staff Senate President – Dr. Tasker informed the Faculty Senate that Ms. Meghan Peña will no longer be serving as Staff Senate President due to other obligations.
- Student Senate President – Absent
Minutes of Previous Meeting

- Christopher Shar moved for approval of the minutes from the January meeting. The motion was seconded and was passed unanimously by the Senate body.

Standing Committee Reports

- Academic Affairs (Dr. Tony Bartl) – No report
- Bylaws and Standing Rules (Dr. Tasker in lieu of Dr. Conklin) – No report
- University Affairs (Dr. Floyd Huang) – No report
- Student Affairs (Dr. Nick Negovetch) – Dr. Negovitch reported on student concerns regarding the cleaning and maintenance of dormitory spaces between fall and spring semesters as well as between academic years. He updated the Faculty Senate on the response of Dr. Lion (V.P. of Student Affairs), who explained the process to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee at its February meeting. Faculty Senate was notified that information was available on the Faculty Senate Blackboard website to consult in cases when students bring such concerns to them.
- External Affairs (Dr. Tammy Stafford) – No report
- Committee on Committees (Dr. Tasker in lieu of Dr. Curtis) – The system to improve information collection and categorization may not be completed this academic year as had been hoped. However, work continues on improving the process for committee assignments to be allocated and recommended to the Provost’s Office.

Unfinished Business

- OP 06.02 – Faculty Workload – Dr. Bartl reported on the Academic Affairs Committee’s work on cleaning up language throughout the policy, such as items 5 and 8, which had redundancies removed. New master’s theses language was based on language used by Texas Tech regarding doctoral dissertations. Recommendations were made for labs to be counted as 1:1. Senators will take the draft changes to their departments for comment and feedback.
- OP 06.14 – Feedback on scholarly activity required of faculty included a discussion regarding contribution differences between tenure-track and non-tenure-track faculty members. Verbiage needs to be clarified distinguishing tenure/non-tenure faculty. Senators were asked to take this issue back to respective departments for feedback, comment, and suggestions in time for the April Faculty Senate meeting.
- Ad Hoc Committee Updates – OP 06.28 and related OPs – Language from related operating policies is being aligned to conform with terms and timelines in OP 06.28. The committee plans to have its draft recommendations ready for presentation at the March Faculty Senate meeting. Drafts are posted on the Faculty Senate Blackboard web site.

New Business

- Other new business – There was a brief announcement and discussion of the March 1st lunch and learn about QEP in preparation for the SACSOC visit the following week.

Roundtable

- Kenna Archer – Asked for and received clarification regarding university policy regarding the week prior to finals week (AKA “Dead Week”). The issue was discussed in the context of 8-week courses and the scheduling of exams for those courses. Some faculty suggested explicit clarification to students and faculty members.
- Manuel Garcia – Initiated some further discussion on faculty workload related to receiving time specifically for the creation of online versions of courses. Other faculty voiced their experiences in which they don’t receive training for or time allotted to build courses online as this is considered just another type of course preparation. Summer mini-grants offered by the Faculty Learning Commons were offered as one solution. It was also mentioned that some departments consider this to be scholarly and creative contributions eligible for tenure and promotion consideration.

VIII. Adjournment – 4:51 p.m.
Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2023