

UNT Dallas

Faculty Senate 2022 January Meeting Agenda

January 14, 2022 9:30 – 11:30 am

Faculty Senators Only Meeting

Location: Microsoft Teams

Agenda

- I. Call to Order (9:30/Baggerly)
 1. In attendance: Chandler, Arxer, Baggerly, Borges, Hackard, G. Holmes, S. Holmes, Johnson, Lin, Siddique, Smith, Varga, Yousufuddin, Zia
- II. Approval of Minutes (9:35/Baggerly)
 1. **Motion to Accept: Hackard, S. Holmes: 14-0-0 - Carried**
- III. Follow Up on Past Priority Items (9:40/Baggerly)
 1. T&P Committee
 - Provost Stewart has selected the following:
 - Business- Elizabeth Muniz
 - Education- Gwendolyn Johnson
 - Human Services- Yu-fen Lin
 - LAS- Julie Siddique
 - COL- Eric Porterfield.
 - Faculty Senate elected the following:
 - Business- Gary Holmes
 - Education- Ratna Narayan
 - Human Services- Jennifer Baggerly
 - LAS- Saif Al Sultan (Steven Arxer recused)
 - COL- Cheryl Wattlely
 - Committee has met and will began reviewing portfolios 1/15/22.
 - There are 11 tenure cases and possibly more with promotions
 2. Office Space Resolution sent forward
 3. Tenure and Promotion guidelines – Faculty Senate reps will review process and make recommendations after T&P committee ends
 4. Data on impact of COVID on faculty evaluations by students – labor intensive
 - Overall means are similar but direct comparison of scores has not been done.
 - Response rates have dropped and have caused some skewing of numbers
 - Questions on students’ surveys still need to be revised as many questions do not apply to every class.
 - In school of Human Services, it is understood that the Provost dictated a 4.3 in every course, not just an overall average. This needs to be confirmed.
 - Contradicts the 4/5 scale on the tenure document

IV. Priority Items

1. Vote on Intellectual Property policy (9:50am)
 - Concerns over the definition of “formal agreement”. Is this something that goes through legal?
 - Current practice has been that the course belongs to the university if you are given a course release or stipend to develop it.
 - Category C of the document allows for joint ownership between university and instructor but there does not appear to be an existing document for a joint ownership agreement.
 - **Motion to send document back to committee to clean up language: Hackard, Borges: 13-0-0 - Carried**
2. COVID issues and Course Delivery Mode (10:00am)
 - Results of surveys to faculty and students: faculty were split between face-to-face and remote while students were majority voting for hybrid delivery
 - Some class caps have been raised to the point that the students cannot be split into A/B groups and fit into the classroom.
 - Students are still not attending on the designated days. Faculty do have right to penalize provided that the policy is in the syllabus.
 - Lack of follow through on things such as cleaning and resource availability. Some resources do not exist or are difficult to obtain.
 - Concern voiced over ECHS (Early College High School) student evals. Students are not taking the evals seriously and its resulting in poor scores that are severely impacting faculty. Recommended to either not have ECHS complete student evaluations or modify student evaluations so there is indicated it is from ECHS.
3. Academic Calendar issues (start date and 8 week courses not getting Spring Break) (10:20am)
 - Starting earlier than MLK day puts an undo burden on faculty prep for spring as it cuts into holiday break
 - Issue that caused the misaligned spring break was an antiquated rule that is not going be followed moving forward.
 - Issue should be brought to Academic Council.
 - System of setting semester start dates should be standardized. (Fall ends 2 weeks before holidays (Dec. 25) and spring starts week of MLK?)
 - Administration has said calendar cannot be fixed as its already published; however, the enrollment deadline date was recently changed. So changes are possible but are not being implemented for the spring break, 8wk2 conflict.
 - Request a reconsideration of modifying the 8wk2 start date to accommodate for the spring break.
4. Requiring faculty to transcribe captions for online teaching (10:25 am)
 - Dean Da Silva said “While it is a best practice to ensure that videos, word documents, PDFs, PowerPoint presentations, etc., are all created in a universal design model (i.e. ADA accessible), we cannot and do

not require that faculty **proactively do this.**” Is it a reasonable accommodation for faculty to transcribe captions? What are solutions?

- Faculty are being given the full burden of accommodating captioning lectures, PowerPoint presentations, and other documents with no assistance from ODS. While some schools are working to hire a Work Study student to help, they were not available at the beginning of the semester and some schools do not have Work Student students.
 - Accommodation letters have not been distributed to some faculty.
 - More funding needs to be allocated to OSD to centralize the solutions to these issues.
 - OSD has asked for more funding repeatedly and has often been turned down. Faculty Senate needs to push for the allocations to be approved.
5. Extra Faculty Senate Fund options: Faculty family picnic? (10:45/Baggerly)
 - Tabled
 6. Chancellor meeting agenda items – Shared Governance? Library database? ??? (10:50/Baggerly)
 - Look for email prompting for items to consider
- V. Committee Updates (Chair reporting and charges reviewed)
1. Academic Affairs (10:30/Cynthia Rodriguez)
 - No update
 2. Faculty Handbook (10:35/Pam Thompson)
 - Open items sent to Provost to review
 3. Faculty Work Life (10:40/S. Gabe Otteson)
 - Concerns over “rolling contracts”, criteria for Principal Lecturer vs Senior Lecturer
 - In May of last year, FS charged Faculty Work Life to revise the Principal Lecturer timeline. On October 1, Provost recommended against a ten-year contract for Principal Lecturer. This does not align with university practices and is not recommended by Texas law. Texas law requires that we have funds to support these contracts and we would be supporting with unappropriated funds. At sister schools there is a 5% salary increase (there is a maximum dollar amount) on a promotion of a lecturer. The Provost will be recommending that this be supported.
 - Faculty Work Life will finish changes and bring forth revised policy in February meeting
 4. IT (10:45/Mary Hoyt)
 - Working with COL for software needs
 - Looking at “Clearboards” for teaching. Investigating cost and ability to pilot.
 - Meeting with DLIT regarding online course development and protocols.
 - Excessive development timeline
 - Excessive standards
 - No course releases for course development except for new programs

- DLIT now has the ability to block approval for online teaching but it was understood that the original intention was for the them to be kept in the loop, not necessarily have veto authority.
5. Library (10:50/Jesseca Lightbourne)
 - No update
 6. Nominations and Elections (10:55/Janiece Upshaw)
 - Finalizing lists for voting
 - Candidates will be ready by April
 7. Constitution and By-Laws (11:00/Joshua Goodson)
 - No update
 8. Annual Administrator Advisory Review (11:05 Walt Borges)
 - No update
- II.** Other Business (11:10)
- VI.** Adjourn (11:30) – meet again Feb. 4