

Faculty Senate Minutes
February 3, 2016

Attending: Arts and Sciences: Cristian Bahrim, Tom Sowers, Kami Makki, Stacey Knight , Judy Smith, T.J. Geiger , Adrienne Starnes, Jiangjiang (Jane) Liu, J.P. Nelson, Chandru Chandrashekar, Ming Lou, Jennifer Daniel, James Armacost, Martha Rinker , Cheng-Hsien Lin **Business:** George Kenyon, Ricardo Tovar-Silos, Karyn Neuhauser, Vivek Natarajan, **Education:** Ken Young, Janice Kimmons, Dorothy Sisk, Cristina Rios, Rick Carter **Engineering:** Paul Corder , Qin Qian, Jenny Zhou **Fine Arts and Communication:** Nicki Michalski, Bryan Proksch, Richard Gachot, Joel Grothe, Xenia Fedorchenko **Library:** Michael Saar, Sarah Tusa **Lamar State College Port Arthur:** Mavis Triebel **College Readiness:** Melissa Riley

Absent: Arts and Sciences: Patricia Heintzelman Valentin Andreev, Ana Christensen, Carol Hammonds, Jennifer Ravey, Mark Mengerink , Roger Cooper, Ted Mahavier **Business:** Seokyon Hwang **Education:** Randy Davis, Diane Mason, Vanessa Villate, **Engineering:** John Gossage, Wendell Bean, Xinyu Liu **Fine Arts and Communication:** Zanthia Smith, Connie Howard

- **Call to Order:** 3:31 p.m.
- **Approval of the Minutes:** Dorothy Sisk made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Karen Neuhauser seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
- **President's Report:**
 - We will be talking with the administration about the need to communicate for better event coordination.
 - Sarah Tusa will attend the TCFS spring meeting. She expects that campus carry will be a major topic of discussion. Lamar's plan has not been revealed, but faculty's concerns are being taken into consideration.
 - Please update your information in My.Lamar. Many of the phone numbers are wrong as listed.
 - Our by-laws say that elections are supposed to be held in March but early organization of the election will help us to finish in time.
 - You need to have been at Lamar for 3 years to run for senate and 1 year to vote.
- **Committee Reports:**
 - **Academic Issues:** will meet next Wednesday and will be looking into the length of the semester.
 - **Budget:** will meet next Wednesday and will be looking into salary equity issues.
 - **Distinguished Faculty Lecture:** the committee met in November and wants to change wording of the requirements. Two motions were presented: first, to state that faculty must teach at Lamar and second, to state that a faculty member can only win once. The motions carried. This committee will not meet this month.

- **Faculty Issues:** no report
 - **Research:** Money that is not used one year will roll over to the next. The committee is open to suggestions about changes to the rubric. No meeting will be held this month.
 - **F2.08 Revision Task Force:** we have received a charge. A meeting for this month will be scheduled via email.
- Old Business: None
- New Business:
 - The academic issues committee is asked to look into the possibility of changing the 55 minute MWF classes to an 80 minute MW.
 - There would be a need to avoid the perception that faculty does not want to work a full week.
 - This idea may eliminate some scheduling issues: we could use Fridays for seminars and such.
 - Students who take classes during lunch breaks would have more trouble taking classes.
 - There are some subjects that students need the 3 day structure to better comprehend.
 - There was a problem regarding the notification for class dismissals during the flare.
 - If classes are cancelled, you can't change your mind and expect students to be able to show up.
 - There is a need to develop an emergency evacuation plan. There were significant traffic jams on the way out of campus. If there had been a real danger, a lot of people could have been hurt.
- Adjournment: 4:01