

May 4, 2016  
Faculty Senate Minutes

**Attending: Arts and Sciences:** Patricia Heintzelman, Cristian Bahrim, Tom Sowers, Kami Makki, Valentin Andreev, Ana Christensen, Stacy Knight, Judy Smith, Jennifer Ravey, Adrienne Blackwell, Michael Beard, J.P. Nelson, Chandru Chandrasekaran, Jennifer Daniel, Randall Terry, Martha Rinker, Cheng-Hsien Lin, Gina Hale, Ozge Gunaydin-Sen **Business:** James Slaydon, Ricardo Tovar-Silos, Karyn Neuhauser, Seokyon Hwang, Vivek Natarajan **Education:** R.J. Davis, Anna Nguyen, Ken Young, Janice Kimmons, Vanessa Villate, Belinda Lopez, Dorothy Sisk, Diane Mason, Cristina Rios **Engineering:** John Gossage, Jiang (Jenny) Zhou, Nicholas Brake **Fine Arts and Communication:** Xenia Fedorchenko, Zanthia Smith, Cain Chaisson, Bryan Proksch, Vinaya Manchaiah, Joel Groethe **Library:** Sarah Tusa, Michael Saar **College Readiness:** Melissa **Riley Lamar State College Port Arthur:** Mavis Triebel

**Call to Order:** 3:35 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** Valentin Andreev made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion was seconded by Cristina Rios and passed.

**President's Report:**

- The syllabus template is being created.
- Regarding the concerns about faculty evaluation results, the administration is collecting data. They will provide departments with means so it can be determined if there are actually big changes in the ratings.
- The administration says it is amenable to an equity study. Valentin Andreev presented the following motion:
  - I move that an ad hoc committee is created to study faculty salaries at Lamar University. The committee will be charged with collecting data to analyze salary distribution at the department, college and university level. The committee will also be charged with identifying and gathering data from comparable peer institutions to serve as a comparison and establish market values.
  - Vivek Natarajan seconded the motion, and it carried.
  - Volunteers are being sought for the committee.
- President Sarah Tusa met with Pete Kelleher regarding the research enhancement grants. He is trying to put the application process online. He will be our guest speaker at the first meeting of the fall semester.
- The officers, committee chairs and vice chairs are thanked for their service this year. The senate has been successful in getting a schedule change for 2017 and keeping the syllabi from past years available on the web. We are still working on determining the process for moving somebody from non-tenure track to tenure track.

**Academic Issues:** no report

**Budget and Compensation:**

- The administration has made shifting statements regarding equity which led to our creation of the previously approved motion. The ad hoc committee is wished good luck as they undertake the process.

**Distinguished Faculty Lecture:**

- Julia Fischer has been selected as next year's speaker. Her topic is "Raiders of the Lost Art".

**Faculty Issues:**

- The syllabus template is looking good. It will be voluntary for fall. Stefan Andrei and his students made the program which was funded by Kevin Smith's office.
- Since we do not want to trigger external reviews for everyone as they go through the promotion and tenure process, we have decided to keep the promotion to full at 7 years. However, we will make people more aware that there is a process in place for applying early for promotion.

**F2.08 task force:** no report**Research:**

- Please encourage your colleagues to apply.
- Dr. Kelleher will provide feedback about your research enhancement grant application if you make an appointment to talk with him.

**Adjournment:** Jennifer Ravey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3.40. Valentin Andreev seconded the motion, and it carried.

May 4, 2016, second meeting

**Attending: Arts and Sciences:** Patricia Heintzelman, Cristian Bahrim, Tom Sowers, Kami Makki, Valentin Andreev, Ana Christensen, Stacy Knight, Judy Smith, Jennifer Ravey, Adrienne Blackwell, Michael Beard, J.P. Nelson, Chandru Chandrasekaran, Jennifer Daniel, Randall Terry, Martha Rinker, Cheng-Hsien Lin, Gina Hale, Ozge Gunaydin-Sen **Business:** James Slaydon, Ricardo Tovar-Silos, Karyn Neuhauser, Seokyon Hwang, Vivek Natarajan **Education:** R.J. Davis, Anna Nguyen, Ken Young, Janice Kimmons, Vanessa Villate, Belinda Lopez, Dorothy Sisk, Diane Mason, Cristina Rios **Engineering:** John Gossage, Jiang (Jenny) Zhou, Nicholas Brake **Fine Arts and Communication:** Xenia Fedorchenko, Zanthia Smith, Cain Chaisson, Bryan Proksch, Vinaya Manchaiah, Joel Groethe **Library:** Sarah Tusa, Michael Saar **College Readiness:** Melissa **Riley Lamar State College Port Arthur:** Mavis Triebel

**Not Attending: Arts and Sciences:** T.J. Geiger, Yasuko Sato, George Irwin, Roger Cooper, Ted Mahavier, Carol Hammonds **Education:** Rick Carter **Engineering:** Paul Corder, Wendell Bean, Xinyu Liu **Fine Arts and Communication:** Richard Gachot

Karyn Neuhauser assumes the chair position to run the officer elections for the 2016-2017 Senate.

- The floor is opened for nominations for the position of secretary. Judy Smith from nursing is nominated. She is elected by acclamation.
- The floor is opened for nominations for vice president. Vivek Natarajan and Ted Mahavier are nominated. After balloting, Vivek Natarajan is proclaimed the winner.
- The floor is opened for nominations for president. Sarah Tusa is nominated and elected by acclamation.

Karyn Neuhauser made a motion for adjournment at 4.00. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Ravey and carried.