



ALAMO COLLEGES DISTRICT
San Antonio College

Faculty Senate
San Antonio College

Minutes

November 16, 2018 – 12:34 PM, VAC room 120

Meeting called to order by: Senate President, Lennie Irvin at 12:34 PM.

Note taker: Ruby Martinez, Senate Secretary

Senators absent: Anahita Lorestani, Teanna Staggs, Mahmud Yasuf, and Robert Inman

A. Approval of Minutes

- Senator Garcia made a motion to approve the minutes as amended by Senator Portales. The motion was seconded and approved.

B. Reports of Officers

- Senate President Lennie Irvin: mentioned that we all should be thinking about elections for next year since we will be nominating people in January and electing in February. President Irvin directed everyone to read the document “President’s Update to Faculty Senator’s 11/16/18. He also congratulated Senators Alex Bernal and Patricia Portales for being Piper Professor Nominees for San Antonio College. Congratulations to Dan Dimitriu. He also mentioned if we want to have some type of celebration for the nominees and the winner as well. Discussion was generated. We have a budget. Gift cards were mentioned; however, Senator Barbara Knotts said that gift cards are not allowed. A small event during convocation week was discussed with the idea that we could possibly have it put in the convocation schedule. President Irvin allowed the staff senate president to speak about asking for volunteers to bring a gift for Angel Tree for Margil Elementary. The list of names and paper ornaments were passed around. Construction in the Spring is going to take up 500 spaces. It will be an issue next spring. Dr. Blackwood took President Irvin’s text word for word to the Chairs Meeting about faculty Evaluation. We need to get our viewpoints together concerning Faculty Evaluation. This stirred conversations and people brought up not being aware of the time lines. Maybe we can have a forum to have faculty come speak about their input. This could turn into a “gripping session”. Senator Pais said we need a consistent rubric for everyone. Call for input should be brought upon from departments from their representatives. Quality Matters 6th edition training is due by December 30, 2018. No one will be prevented from teaching online without this additional training. Senator Esther Pais discussed the fact that this was not impressed upon as a “mandatory” training. Senator Cox stated that the Quality Matters 6th edition training seems as if it is training an instructor to be an evaluator. Senator Knotts added that Dr. Blackwood is probably not aware of the nature of the training. President Irvin will communicate to Dr. Blackwood what was stated in these above-mentioned comments. President Irvin brought

up Jeff Hunt. This led to a discussion. Senator Portales stated we should ask Human resources some general questions concerning employment. The Faculty Senate brought up the idea of a Faculty Ombudsman. Senator Argo stated that we need to find out why that position was dissolved.

- Senate Vice President Gerald Busald: No report
- Senate Secretary Ruby Martinez: No report

C. Adjunct Faculty Council

- President, Amanda Martin: stated the next meeting is November 20, 2018. Their focus now is to work with Northeast Lakeview Council and other contacts at the other Alamo colleges in order to increase their voice at the district level. President Martin also stated that the Adjunct Faculty Council is currently working on building a Canvas site.

D. No Board of Trustees meeting. No report

F. Reports from Standing Committees

- **Communication - Senator Robyn McGilloway:** mentioned that the electronic voting may have issues. She asked for the Senate's input. Should we have a voting website or just use Canvas? Some discussion was generated on which platform would be best. Senator Caraway mentioned we should stick to Canvas.

- **Curriculum and Instructions - Senator Alex Bernal:** Dr. Vela received both resolutions very well. Senator Amanda Martin read the Revised resolution for Adjunct Faculty Sick Leave:

Adjunct Faculty Members should be eligible for 4.5 hours of paid leave per course per semester. This would mean no deduction from their salary to cover pay for a substitute (about \$28 per hour). Furthermore, these hours would be non-accruable and classifies as "Personal Leave," and would encompass all types of leaves and absences (i.e. illness, bereavement, civic duty, military duty, personal matters, and professional development). Leave would be documented when applicable, using the "Request for Leave Form currently used by Alamo Colleges District employees.

There was a second to the motion. President Irvin added to the discussion that there is a shift to 4.5 hours instead of my course because some courses are 3 hours or 4, etc. All were in favor. The Resolution passed.

Senator Cox talked about the original resolution and then the revised Resolution:

Resolution on Reducing International Student Tuition:

SAC Faculty Senate endorses the effort to reduce international student tuition to a level competitive with Texas community college systems of similar size to the Alamo Colleges. The current proposal is for international student tuition and non-resident tuition to be equal to the tuition charged for out-of-district students.

The motion was seconded and there was a discussion from a faculty member that works with the population of international students: Dr. Shaila Jones. She stated we are not getting students in ESL due to the tuition being too high.

The motion passed. No one opposed.

Senator Teanna Staggs is out sick so will update us next meeting on Faculty Development.

- **Policy and Procedures - Senator Deidra F. Dobson:** stated that she does not have access to the Faculty Handbook that former Senator Jeff Hunt had access to. Senator Mai Lai Eng stated that the flash drive is the property of the college and The Faculty Senate has a right to request that the college retrieve it from Jeff Hunt.
- **Research - Senator Patricia Portales:** stated that her committee is going to review the 2017 tenure report that went forward. Leslie's name will be removed from the documents. They want to get results on the tenure question first. They want to know what faculty think about Faculty 180. They want to put a list of higher education institutions that won the Baldrige Award and that also have tenure at their institution.
- **Surveys and Elections – Senator Mai Lai Eng:** stated that we need to discuss the issue of a piper nominee being nominated more than once. Should we limit the number of times a professor can be nominated or limit the time frame that he or she can be nominated? Much discussion was generated with varying opinions. Senator Portales asked if Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation has any limits. Senator Cox said he would never have received the NISOD award if it hadn't been for his second nomination. Senator Garcia asked how many people voted this year in the Piper election. 120 people voted. Senator Garcia went on to add that we need to focus on "growing" the pool of voters, instead of limiting it. Senator Pais stated that this issue needs to be tabled for a later date, so we can see what has transpired with the participation. Senator Maunsell said that we should keep the Faculty 180 questions in the Faculty Survey in order to gauge faculty's opinions and give us information. Senator Hochmeister mentioned that a faculty member has a question about the Progressive Discipline policy. Senator Mai Lai Eng asked Senator Hochmeister to have that faculty member forward the exact question to Senator Eng's email. We will get the Faculty Survey sent out soon.
- **G. New Business/Announcements:**

We talked about faculty compensation and quality matters mentioned in the report of officers above.

Meeting adjourned: at 2:46 pm.

Submitted by Ruby Martinez, Senate Secretary