



Faculty Senate
San Antonio College

Minutes

December 5, 2020 12:30-2:30pm, via Zoom

Zoom ID: 953 6161 3214

Meeting called to order by: Senate President Olivia Sandoval at 12: 38pm
Note taker: Isabel Garcia, Senate Secretary

Senators absent: Ruby Martinez, Deidre Flynn Dobson, Lennie Irvin and Saamil Christian

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the November meeting was made by Senator Robertson-Schule. Motion was seconded by Senator Caraway and passed unanimously.

III. Board of Trustees Meeting – Committee of the Whole

- Meeting attended by Senator Eng and Senator Knotts. Topics discussed included: the Student Success Committee, the San Antonio Honors Academy, enrollment and the budget. This year, enrollment was up but contact hours were down. Senator Knotts added that Dr. Vela gave a report in regard to the construction work being done on the SAC campus. There are 24 slated projects, 4 of which have been completed and 9 of which have been started. Both Senators Eng and Knotts stated that there was discussion in regard to the proposed UFS policy that there be faculty input into any policy that affects the faculty. The policy was almost approved but there was some dissention on the wording of the policy having changed from “may” to “will.” President Sandoval that there will be a meeting later today to discuss that wording.

IV. Reports of Officers

- Senate President Olivia Sandoval:
UFS Update - the UFS continues to work with the EFC on several Ad hoc committees. The course evaluation committee phase 2 has surveyed faculty and is now looking at input on an evaluation form. An Ad hoc committee to reinstate tenure has asked Dr. Flores if it would be ok to talk to the Trustees about their ideas on the subject. They will be talking to Trustee Kingsbury this Monday. The committee had been hoping to get the work done by the end of the spring semester so that the board could pass it in the summer but the timeline is in flux. Another Ad hoc committee is looking at replacing Fac180 with another evaluation instrument. The UFS is also corresponding with the Vice Chancellor who is responsible for Alamo College Online and the APPQMR about the possibility of a stipend being given to faculty who are certified or get certified.

EFC Update - the EFC is meeting next week to discuss faculty mentoring with the VPAS's. It is a challenge being pushed by the Board of Trustees.

- College Administration - The letter written by the Faculty Senate in regard to going back to campus at 25% rather than 10% was sent to both Dr. Vela and Dr. Blackwood. Dr. Blackwood responded and said that she appreciated the Faculty Senate sharing their thoughts on the matter with them. Dr. Vela said that he would be also sending a written response to the Senate.
- Senate Vice President Ruby Martinez: No report
- Senate Secretary Isabel Garcia: No report

V. Adjunct Faculty Council

- Senator Amanda Martin: The Adjunct Faculty Council had a meeting in November. They are currently gathering feedback from the Adjunct Faculty and working on revisions and additions to the Handbook. They are also going to be looking at the issue of compensation in the spring.

VI. Topical Items

- District Faculty Development Advisory Board – Senator Joseph attended an orientation meeting on November 16th where they looked at the surveys submitted by the Alamo Colleges in March of 2020. The question that stood out the most was in regard to Faculty Mentoring and a lot of the feedback was negative. Class sizes were also of concern to faculty. Senator Joseph asked that the Senate give any feedback on what other concerns need to be addressed and how to make the survey better.
- SAC Teaching and Learning Committee (Faculty Development) – Senator Robertson-Schule said that regular meeting was cancelled but she did put into the chat the page for the Teaching and Learning Committee where you can find where other faculty members have volunteered their time to help their fellow teachers.
- Mascot Committee – Senator Knotts said that the meeting met that Monday and the various groups gave reports and deadlines were set. The committee is trying to bring transparency to the process. Senator Rodriguez said that the process is fairly extensive and should end in a good result.

Then

V. Committee Updates

- Communication – Senator Caraway, Chair
Nothing new to report.
- Curriculum and Instruction – Senators Alex Bernal and Jose Moreno, Chairs
No committee report since the committee did not meet. However, Senator Bernal spoke to the topic of class size increases and the relationship of those sizes with PGR. He suggested that the Senate ask the Administration to base PGR on those who complete the course. He said that faculty does not feel supported by Administration in regard to this issue. Senators Bernal and Moreno said that they would work on a proposal to then send to Administration. Senator Bernal also stated the concern that the Adjunct Faculty are being asked to do extra work (such as conducting classroom observations) for no compensation. He also said that seniority needs to be tied to retrenchment in regard to possible employee furloughs.
- Policy and Procedures – Senator Deidra Flynn-Dobson, Chair

No committee report. In regard to the Faculty Handbook, President Sandoval said that Seabrook Jones , from the history department, will be working on the Handbook with the committee. But the work that needs to be done is tremendous and so President Sandoval will be asking Dr. Vela and Dr. Blackwood to give release time to Seabrook Jones. The Target date for completion will be the end of the spring semester.

- Research – Senator Bruce Norton, Chair
Senator Norton and the committee met and have a plan in regard to the proposed meeting with Linda Boyer Owens. The tentative date will be sometime after February 22nd
- Surveys and Elections – Senator Mai Lai Eng, Chair
Senator Eng stated that the Senate needs to think about elections in regard to who is eligible to return, roll off or continue on the Senate. The nominations should happen in February and the elections in March.
- District Textbook Committee – Senator Lisa Menard
No report. Senator Menard says that the meetings take place on very short notice and seem rather thrown together. In their next meeting, the committee will rate the bidders for the bookstore contract.

VI. New Business/Announcements

- No new business or announcements

VII. Adjournment

The Faculty Senate Meeting was adjourned at 1:50pm

Next Faculty Senate Meeting will be on Friday, January 15th from 12:30 – 2:30pm via Zoom

Acronyms used in these Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes:

EFC – Executive Faculty Council

UFS – United Faculty Senate

OTC – Online Training Certification

VPAS – Vice Presidents of Academic Services