**FACULTY SENATE**

**DECEMBER 02, 2015**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT**: Rob Bartsch, Elizabeth Beavers, Sandra Browning, Carol Carman, Stephen Cotten, Caroline Crawford, Kent Divoll, Jennifer Fritz, David Garrison, Lisa Gossett, Rebecca Huss­ Keeler, Amanda Johnston, Heather Kanenberg, Christine Kovic, Samina Masood, Pat McCormack, Scott McIntyre, Tim Michael, Mohammad Rob, Leroy Robinson, LieJune Shiau, Debra Shulsky, Brian Stephens, Alix Valenti, Radu Vlas, Chris Ward, Jeff Whitworth, Paul Withey, Faiza Zalila.

**ABSENT**: Randy Seevers, Tiffiney Barfield-Cottledge, Tom Fox, Matthew Linton, Lei Wu (excused).

**OTHERS PRESENT**: Ted Cummings, Zbigniew Czajkiewicz, Samuel Gladden, Glen Houston,

Mark Shermis, Carl Stockton, Karen Wielhorski.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the November 04, 2015 meeting were approved as presented**.**

**PROVOST’S REPORT**

Dr. Stockton announced the THECB staff reviewer approved the Psy.D. proposal and recommended it to the Academic Affairs Sub-Committee. It will go to the full Board in January. The Board of Regents (BOR) approved fee requests for the Recreational and Wellness Center building. The tentative completion date is May 2018 and opening is summer 2018. The BOR also approved the request to accept a gift of land from the City of Pearland; as well as the BS in Counseling program proposal. Tentative completion date for the STEM building is fall 2018. A request for quotation (RFQ) for the student residence hall was published. A decision is pending on whether the project will be a public/private partnership or UHCL funded. Renovation and expansion of one Chemistry lab will begin Summer I. A Pre-Engineering articulation agreement was signed with the University of Houston. Target start date for student admission is fall 2016. Mechanical Engineering is part of the agreement. Preliminary authority to offer the program will be sought through UH System. A full proposal will be developed and passed through shared governance. Dr. Mohammad asked for details about the Mechanical Engineering program. Provost Stockton responded the plan is to offer a bachelor’s degree program. It was determined that there is a strong market for Mechanical Engineering. Dr. Czajkiewicz added that last fall, UH School of Engineering had 70 mechanical engineering applicants who did not meet admission requirements but would meet UHCL requirements.

**CAMPUS CARRY RESOLUTION**

Dr. Garrison presented a Faculty Senate resolution opposing Campus Carry. A similar resolution was approved by the Council of Professors. Dr. Garrison read a similar resolution approved by University of Texas-Austin Faculty Senate. Dr. Ward said that the Campus Carry Work Group reviewed approximately 900 survey responses. The group decided to create principles to define restricted spaces instead of identifying specific areas. It was proposed that first section of the policy would state the law, then principles for restricted areas, followed by the appendix which would identify specific restricted areas. The appendix will be amended per campus, but the initial policy will remain the same across campuses. The Chancellor asked that all four campuses have similar policies. The completed draft will be circulated campus-wide. Town hall meetings will be held to solicit feedback. The work group will use that feedback in consultation with Central Campus to develop the master policy. The proposal will be channeled through Shared Governance, UH Chancellor and the Board of Regents. The work group received several departmental resolutions relating to Campus Carry.

Trevor Hale of UH-Downtown Faculty Senate stated that the four UH system senate presidents are deliberating on a co-resolution to make all classrooms “gun free zones” to forward to the Chancellor and BOR. Dr. Rob asked about the outcome of the university wide Campus Carry survey. Dr. Ward stated that 25% responses suggested no restrictions, 75% opted for some restrictions. The main concerns highlighted restrictions in areas such as the Dean of Students Office, disciplinary hearings meeting spaces, service areas for minors, classrooms, library and mental health clinic. No gun storage will be provided. The police are concern about gun storage.

Dr. Gossett said that a two-step approach is needed. The first step is compliance with the statute passed by the Legislature. The second is communicating our message to legislators in the next legislative session. Another issue is the cost associated with implementing processes. Others noted that implementation will be a challenge as there will be no metal detectors or body searches. Also, there will be no way of knowing who’s carrying a gun unless identified. How will this be monitored? Dr. Ward said that arrest of unconcealed gun carriers will be made. Dr. Michael asked if there was discussion on lawsuits from gun owners. Dr. Ward replied yes. He added that individuals cannot put unofficial signs prohibiting guns on office doors. It was noted that the law applies only to those with Concealed Handgun License. Every CHL holder knows to look for signage. Will the restricted areas have signs? There was a suggestion to avoid general prohibition of classrooms as signage will be needed for every classroom. Also, both students and faculty will be prohibited as classroom users. General prohibition could result in legislators taking away some of the latitude we currently have under the law.

There was a motion and second to delete the bulleted list in the proposed Campus Carry Resolution. The motion passed.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the resolution as amended:

***It is resolved that: We the Faculty Senate at the University of Houston Clear Lake, go on record as opposing "campus carry".***

The motion passed. FSEC will conduct a referendum.

There was a motion and second to authorize Dr. Lisa Gossett and Dr. Garrison to work with UH System Faculty Executive Council (UFEC) on crafting UH System Faculty Senate Campus Carry resolution. The motion passed.

**UFEC, BOR & MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT STAPLES UPDATES**

Dr. Garrison provided updates on senate leadership meetings with UFEC, Vice Chancellor Paula Short, Chancellor Renu Khator, President Staples and Provost Stockton. Issues discussed with President Staples include the HR Executive Director and Police Chief searches and the allocation of HEAF funds. Campus Carry was discussed at all the meetings. The creation of a UHCL Ombudsman, P&T Policy revision, organization of a UH-system campuses conference and collaboration were raised. In a campus visit, Chancellor Khator’s main discussion topics were Campus Carry, sexual violence prevention and diversity. Senate leadership has scheduled a meeting with VP Michelle Dotter.

Dr. Gossett provided an update on the BOR meeting. Dr. Paredes from the THECB attended and provided a summary of the 60x30TX higher education plan. The plan includes specifying marketable skills. There was considerable discussion on UT’s land purchase in Houston. Board regents were concerned that UT bypassed the THECB and purchased the land with the intent of building a new campus in Houston.

**SENATE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Research Committee**: Dr Carman stated Dr. Travis Webster, Director of Writing Center attended the committee meeting. He informed members of services available to faculty. He would welcome an opportunity to share information with the full Senate. The Faculty Skills and Areas of Study database is online at <https://apps.uhcl.edu/AOI/>. It will eventually be linked to the UHCL homepage. Access is restricted for non-faculty users. This database will promote faculty research collaboration. Dr. Carman demonstrated navigation of the database.

**Curriculum & Teaching Committee**: Dr. Stephens indicated C&T approved a request to revise a catalog policy relating to graduate credit hours. The request was to decrease graduate program credit hours from 36 to 30 hours. Also, that 24 hours out of 30 hours have to be from 5000 or higher courses. The revised version was presented for Senate approval. There was a motion and second to approve the policy as revised. The motion passed.

**Faculty Life Committee**: Dr. Kanenberg stated the committee addressed short-term amendments to the P&T policy. She distributed two copies (tracked changes & revised) and presented them for information and first read. The goal for the policy change was clarification for all parties-candidates, administrators, and review committee members. There was need to clarify language, process, and procedures. Dr. Kanenberg drew attention to two key changes - Items 4.4 and 5.9. She asked senators to encourage dialogue on the proposed changes, obtain input from constituents and provide feedback to Faculty Life senators by January 22, 2016. More discussion and possibly a vote will occur at the February 2016 meeting. The proposed policy will be sent to senators electronically. Dr. Garrison encouraged senators to review and provide comments as soon as possible. Dr. Kanenberg closed by indicating the Faculty Grievance Policy will be addressed in the spring 2016 semester.

**Budget Committee**: Dr. Garrison announced that Dr. Akladios resigned from the Faculty Senate. Dr. Scott McIntyre was nominated to replace Dr. Akladios as Chair. There was a motion and second. The Senate unanimously approved the election of Dr. McIntyre as Budget Committee Chair.

**SHARED GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Facilities & Support Services Committee (FSSC)**: Dr. Valenti shared information from FSSC subcommittee reports. The Space Allocation & Utilization Sub-committee is addressing the need for additional labs for faculty research, space for storage of lab materials. Parking and Traffic Safety Committee will look at replacing bike racks with racks that are more secure. Ward Martaindale provided an update on new buildings initiatives. Other issues discussed include future renovations to the cafeteria and efforts to temporarily repair a huge crack in the cafeteria’s kitchen counter and on-going maintenance projects. Dr. Valenti added that some members were concerned about illegal parking in Lot B. It was noted that enforcement is on-going with an average of 66 parking citations issued daily. Dr. Ward asked if the average of 66 violations has changed since the new parking system was implemented. Dr. Divoll asked how many of the 66 violations were issued to faculty and students. Dr. Valenti said she would find out.

**Planning & Budgeting Committee (PBC):** Dr. Michael stated fee changes were presented to students at the SGA meeting on November 03, 2015. Subsequent presentations took place at two town hall meetings. On November 17, SGA voted to approve the fees. The academic deans presented course fees at the PBC meeting of November 17. The next PBC meeting will be February 2016.

**University Life Committee (ULC):** Dr. Bartsch said Dr. Jennifer Fritz presented a pilot study to ULC on increasing on-campus recycling. A full report to come in the future. Student Life Office made a presentation on all the activities/events students may engage in on campus. As a result, there was a request for faculty to announce those events during class in order to promote student involvement. A convenient way to share information with faculty willing to make announcements will be ironed out.

**ADHOC COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Dr. Michael indicated the Workload Policy Committee is still working on a number of issues. The Online Proctoring & Testing committee is working on recruiting one member from SOE to serve on the committee. There will be presentations in February from Proctoring vendors. There were no reports from Academic Integrity and Faculty Constitution committees.

**QEP REPORT**

Dr. Browning announced faculty who completed a QEP syllabus and are teaching that syllabus will be recognized at a reception on December 03 in the Faculty Club. Cohort IV workshop will be held December 04 in the Forest Room. The spring workshop will take place in March 2016.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEW BUSINESS**

There were no announcements or new business.