

Faculty Senate

Meeting Minutes

November 3, 2021 / Zoom or B2236 / 1:00-3:00 p.m.

### **Senators**

**Present:** Anne Anders, Elizabeth Beavers, Yvette Bendeck, Amber Brown, Sarah Costello, RJ Davis, Anton Dubrovskiy Neal Dugre, Leticia French, Kathleen Garland, Leslie Gauna-Gago, Shanna Graves, Youssef Hamidi, Beth Hentges, Rebecca Huss-Keeler, Daniel Imrecke, Preeti Jain, , Angela Kelling, Anna Klyueva, Timothy Michael, Jordan Mitchell, Jeff Mountain, Janice Newsum, Alfredo Perez-Davila, Desdamona Rios, Leroy Robinson, Gene Shan, Haeyoung Shin, Ishaq Unwala, , Christine Walther, Sharon White Andrews, Paul Withey, Randy Seevers, Faiza Zalila,

**Absent:** 1

**Administrative Guests:** Robert Bartsch, Mark Denney, David Garrison, LeeBrian Gaskins, Samuel Gladden, Heather Kanenberg, Kathryn Matthew, Christopher Maynard, Vivienne McClendon, Veronica Ortiz, Joan Pedro, Tim Richardson, Glenn Sanford, Bianca Schonberg, Sia Sreerama, Brittany Thompson, Edward Waller, Lee Young

Next meeting: December 1, 2021 / Zoom or B2236

### **Call to Order – Dr. Withey**

1:02

### **Approval of Faculty Senate minutes – Dr. Withey**

Minutes were approved as written.

Vote: 24 Yea; 0 Nay; 0 Abstain

### **Provost's Office Report – Dr. Maynard**

Dr. Maynard's provided a recap from the Monday's communication covering the SACSCOC reaffirmation.

Office of Global Learning and Strategy will be returning to Academic Affairs. The office was temporarily moved in the absence of a Provost.

Center and Institutes – The centers and institutes on campus will need to be identified and a university policy will need to be created that is in line with the UH system policy. Once the Centers and Institutes are identified; Shared Governance will receive a request to help create a university policy is inline with the system policy. This is needed for the SACSCOC site visit.

The floor was open for questions in person and through the chat feature in Zoom. Discussion occurred on the QEP open positions.

[Committee Reports are attached. There was discussion about the committee reports as follows:](#)

### **Senate Committee Report – Governance – Dr. Beavers**

Academic Honesty Policy – A presentation of the steps taken and changes on the Academic Honesty Policy was displayed to the Senate by sections. The changes were displayed in sections with questions and discussion being encouraged after each section. Edits and suggestions were made by the Senate. The policy will go back to the committee

Faculty Handbook – Joseph Nguyen (CETL student worker) and CETL were thanked for their assistance with the Faculty Handbook. Information will be shared as it occurs.

### **Senate Committee Report – Faculty Life – Dr. Costello**

Workload Policy Discussion – Dr. Costello shared one addition to the policy that was not included in the original committee report and documentation. Discussion occurred about the additional change made to the policy and future steps needed. Senators are being asked for additional feedback before the policy is submitted for a vote.

### **Senate Committee Report – Teaching & Research – Dr. Dubrovskiy**

Survey - a link to a Qualtrics survey will be sent about student evaluations. Everyone is encouraged to provide their feedback.

IDEA – is a third-party provider that administers evaluations. Currently one college on campus uses IDEA and a proposal has been submitted for all colleges on campus to use this instrument for consistency across the campus. A link to the 15-minute video on IDEA will be sent to the Senate. Senators are encouraged to view the video and ask questions and address concerns.

### **Senate Committee Report – Budget & Facilities – Dr. Unwala**

An overview of the committee report was provided. No questions were asked.

### **Senate Committee Report – Curriculum – Dr. Huss-Keeler**

An overview of the committee report was provided. No questions were asked.

### **Shared Governance Reports – Drs. Bendeck, Michael, & Garland**

- Facilities & Support Services – Dr. Bendeck  
Parking and space allocation will be discussed in future meetings. No questions were asked.
- Planning and Budget – Dr. Michael  
An overview of the committee report was provided. The committee will be discussing a copy of the State Budget that has been received. Discussion occurred on the \$45 million being received for construction funds and how the CARES and HERF funds have been spent.
- University Life – Dr. Garland  
An overview of the committee report was provided. No questions were asked.

### **Faculty Senate Resolution – Dr. Beavers**

Ombudsperson resolution was displayed for the Senators. The resolution is to vote if Faculty Senate support the creation of an Ombudsperson.

Vote: 29 Yea; 0 Nay; 0 Abstain – passed

### **New Business – Dr. McClendon**

Library Mission & Vision Statement – The library is updating their mission and vision statement, which was last updated in 2008. The new statement was presented to the Senate. The floor was open to questions. A friendly amendment was requested on changing the name to include the Pearland Library and to revise the last sentence in the mission statement. The feedback and suggestions will be sent back to the staff for review.

**New Business – Dr. Walther**

Peer Evaluation – This item will be discussed at the next meeting.

**Center for Faculty Development – Robert Bartsch**

No items were shared.

**Announcements – Dr. Withey**

Dr. Youssef Hamidi was recognized as the UHCL nominee for the Minnie Piper award

Hawk pantry is looking for donations. They will be collecting items to distribute to students for the Thanksgiving holiday. More information will be sent to the Senators.

**Call for Adjournment – Dr. Withey**

3:05

UHCL Faculty Senate  
Committee Reports – November 2021

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**Faculty Senate Committees**

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**Budget & Facilities Committee – Ishaq Unwala, Chair**

- Committee met on Oct 29.
- Committee discussed merging of multiple salary/compensation policies into Salary plan. The consensus was that smaller policies are easier to pass through than one big policy. But committee will revisit other salary policies to make them consistent with Salary plan.
- Committee discussed the importance of CIP code reclassification where appropriate and the fact that there is currently no policy or procedure to reclassify individuals that have been misclassified. One option would be to create an Ad hoc committee to draft the policy and procedure for reclassification.
- Committee also wanted to look at the Summer pay policy right away. But without Workload policy approved, it will be hard to get increase in the summer pay to 1/9.
- Committee also discussed distribution of \$Dollars between equity and merit.

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**Faculty Life Committee – Sarah Costello, Chair**

- After hearing feedback from faculty in all four colleges and presenting at Faculty Assembly, the Faculty Life committee is now bringing the Workload Policy up for discussion at the November Faculty Senate meeting.

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**Teaching & Research Committee – Anton Dubrovskiy, Chair**

- Research webpage (<https://www.uhcl.edu/faculty-research/>) has been renamed into "Faculty Highlights" and was put under "information for Faculty & Staff" spot in the website. Waiting to hear if the page could be placed under "About UHCL" page.
- Teaching & Research Committee is continuing work on the survey to learn faculty's perspective on how evaluations should be collected/analyzed/distributed.
- Meeting with OIT soon – to discuss removing artifacts (low response rate evaluations) and possible incentives for students filling the evaluations.

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**Curriculum Committee – Becky Huss-Keeler, Chair**

- Creating a credit bearing certificate policy. Dr. Maynard will visit to give input to the policy.
- At the November 8<sup>th</sup> meeting we will consider the Foreign Transcript Evaluation Policy from International Admissions.

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**Governance Committee – Elizabeth Beavers, Chair**

- Initiated an analysis of the UHCL Faculty Handbook by creating a chart listing all policies, crosschecking listed policies with HR policies, and brainstorming preliminary recommendations.
- The chair met with UHCL Legal Counsel to discuss preliminary legal review of the Policy on Academic Policy Development: Creating and Maintaining UHCL Academic Affairs Policies (UAAP) which passed Faculty Senate in May of 2021. Updates will continue to be provided as the policy proceeds through legal review and shared governance.

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**Shared Governance Committees**

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**The University Life Committee - Kathy Garland, Chair**

- University Life has met once and will meet again Nov. 9.
- Items we are working on: Collaboration on Emergency Management planning with AI Black's office.

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**Facilities & Support Services Committee – Yvette Bendeck, Chair**

- No items to bring forward at this time.

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**Planning & Budget Committee – Tim Michael, Chair**

- PBC discussed several items at the last meeting. First, the Budget Office will be giving us some details on the disposition of the budget initiatives from the spring, along with explanations as needed. Ms. Sero mentioned (and Mr. Denney has confirmed) that we can expect to receive from the state nearly \$45 million in construction funds to be used on upfit of existing buildings (not on STEM II).
  - In addition, the Tuition and Fees proposal for the next two years is being developed now and Town Hall discussions will be held in early November to address questions and concerns about these. These will be presented to SGA and PBC for comment as well.
  - Finally, Mr. Denney will provide PBC with an update on the budget and university finances this semester, but his full financial health presentation will be delayed until early spring.
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