

UHD

Faculty Senate

Minutes recorded by: Trevor S. Hale

Date and Time: October 20, 2015 2:30 PM

Room Number: A300

Attendance: Ryan Pepper (President), Susan Henney (Past-President), Carolyn Ashe (President-elect), Trevor Hale (Secretary), Pamela Hurley, Pat Williams, Anne Kane, Jillian Hill, Claude Rubinson, Steven Coy, Dvijesh Shastri, Azar Rejaie, Robin Jose, Maria Benavides, Zhenyu Zhang, Katharine Jager, Steve London

Guests: Ed Hugetz, David Bradley, Sara Farris, Chief Boyle, Faiza Khoja, Ron Beebe, Gene Preuss, Pat Ensor, Lisa Berry, Carol Manousos, John Lane, Lisa Morano

Regrets: N/A

Absent: Charles Smith, Keith Wright, Kendra Mhoon, Susan Baker, Bernardo Pohl, Michael Connell, Jane Creighton, Hsiao-Ming Wang (3:10 PM), Karen Kaser

Call to Order: 2:37 PM

Meeting Proceedings

Meeting minutes:

1. Motion (Hale/Coy) to table October 6 meeting minutes approval till November 3rd. Motion carries unanimously

Announcements:

1. Faculty Senate President Pepper welcomes two new Senators. Hsiao-Ming Wang fills a vacancy from CPS and Karen Kaser is elected to the Faculty Senate from University College. Dr. Kaser is recognized as the first Faculty Senator ever from University College.

Presentation by Faculty Senate President-elect Carolyn Ashe on trip to the Texas Council of Faculty Senates (TCFS) in Austin, Texas on October 16 and 17:

1. Drs. Ashe and Hale attended the TCFS Meetings in Austin, Texas. UHD's very own, Ed Hugetz, was one of the panelist speakers at the conference. UTEP President, Diana Natalicio, was the conference's keynote speaker. A motion was made and carried at the

TCFS business meeting to “share” carve-out zones at the spring 2016 meeting of the TCFS ahead of SB 11s implementation.

Presentation by Ed Hugetz on Complete College:

1. History, Paula Short invited Complete College to UH in February of 2013.
2. It involves UH, UHCL, UHD, San Jacinto Community College, Houston Community College, Alvin Community College, and Wharton Junior College and defines pathways to degrees in STEM and non-STEM majors. All seven have recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to participate in the program. Provost Hugetz stressed that most of the things the program asks for UHD is already doing.
3. It groups majors by meta-majors.
4. It contains an “aligned mathematics” provision and contains incentive based funding for the community colleges (something they haven’t had until now).
5. Provost Hugetz noted that the program should benefit UHD in the long run.

Presentation by Lisa Morano on Retention Task Force:

1. Dr. Morano noted that the Retention Task Force had met and were actively addressing issues to help increase cohort yield rates.

Questions and discussion:

Dr. Moosally: Noted her concern on the increased workload on faculty and asked if the Task Force had any plans to mitigate that increased workload.

Answer: Yes, the Task Force plan to address their charges in a timely manner so as to prepare a request for the Planning & Budget Committee.

Senator Henney: Noted her concern that the Task Force address efficiencies and not more programs.

Dr. Morano: The Task Force will ask if things are not working and the Task Force’s hope is to eliminate programs that are not working.

Provost Hugetz: Some of these efficiencies we have already implemented. For example, it used to be that advising would only talk to the students about the next semester and we don’t have any lasting engagement. We now have CAPP...and it has completely changed the conversation that the University of Houston – Downtown is having with the students.

Senator Henney: That is fine. I just want the Retention Task Force to ask questions like, "Do we even need advising at all?"

Faculty Senate President Pepper: In reference to listening to our student's to help define our programs, do we really want math teachers telling us what courses we should teach?

Provost Hugetz: This gets to the center of the question. And the answer is political...and the faculty need to be political in their approach to this as well.

Senator Coy: Noted a concern about the university becoming corporate education.

Dr. Farris: Expressed her concern that Complete College is "bad shopping" by the UH System, the chairman is a politician, and makes us (UHD) a bad steward of our money. We could do everything they are asking by ourselves.

Presentation by Vice President David Bradley on active shooter training:

1. Three dates have been set up for the campus community on active shooter training:
 - a. November 13th from 2:30-4:00 in A436.
 - b. November 17th from 2:30-4:00 in A436.
 - c. November 18th from 2:30-4:00 in A436.

Questions and discussion:

Dr. Evans: Expressed a concern about training for our faculty that teach at night. Several adjuncts have no idea what the big red buttons are for in the classrooms.

*Senator Jager: Is there a difference between unconcealed guns and active shooter?
Answer (Carol Manousos): Yes, "Active" means active.*

Dr. Moosally: We (UHD) is not very good at consistent information on all channels, all the time, for everyone, every year.

Faculty Senate President Pepper asked the assembly if the Faculty Senate meeting on November 17th should be at the Active Shooter Training session in A436. The response was an overwhelming affirmative.

New Business:

None.

Next meeting:

The next meeting of the Faculty Senate is November 3rd.

Adjourn:

Adjournment at 3:58 PM.