

UHD

Faculty Senate

Minutes recorded by: Trevor S. Hale

Date and Time: November 18, 2014 2:30 PM

Room Number: A300

Attendance: Susan Henney (President), Ryan Pepper (President-Elect) Trevor Hale (Past-President/Secretary), Hsiao-Ming Wang, Dvijesh Shastri, Jillian Hill, Jane Creighton, Katharine Jager, Beverly Rowe, Sam Penkar, Jonathan Davis, Steven Coy, Steve Zhou, Kendra Mhoon, Plamen Simeonov, Judith Quander, Maria Benavides, Rachna Sadana, Ruth Johnson, Claude Rubinson, Cindy Stewart, Angela Lopez Pedrana, Bernardo Pohl

Guests: Gene Preuss, Ed Hugetz, Faiza Khoja, Michelle Moosally, Vida Robertson, Sergiey Koshkin, Bill Waller

Regrets: N/A

Absent: Kirk Hagen, Susan Baker, Utpal Bose, Mary Portillo

Call to Order: 2:34 PM

Review and adopt previous meeting minutes: Motion to approve November 4 meeting minutes unanimously accepted with one abstention (R. Pepper Motion / S. Coy Second)

Review of previous action items: N/A

Meeting Proceedings:

Announcements from Senate President Henney:

1. The response rate for the QEP Selection Process has been underwhelming. QEP Selection Committee meets on November 19.
2. Moving "Survey Results" on the agenda to Old Business by acclimation.

Announcement from Core Assessment Committee Chair V. Robertson:

1. For those faculty teaching classes in the core, please be mindful of Inbox for new rubric.

Presentation from Gen Ed Committee Chair M. Moosally:

1. The Gen Ed Committee has developed a six part proposal in which every course designated as a Writing Intensive (WI) course will incorporate the three learning outcomes specified in the proposal.

To achieve this, the Gen Ed Committee needs to incorporate best practices (part six of the proposal hand out).

Question: What are the guidelines for going for a WI course designation?

Answer: A good faith effort.

Question: Does a lack of requirements (e.g., word count, page length, number of revision cycles) hurt the proposal as it goes forward?

Answer: Not necessarily.

A senator noted concern over departments and colleges that don't necessarily do writing intensive courses now.

Answer: Agreed.

Question: Will there be a justification for resources going forward?

Short answer: Yes.

Long answer: It is all about human resources, but the 20 person class size isn't going to happen. Furthermore, no prescriptive, one-size-fits-all is going to work for all departments or colleges.

Question: Are we considering two courses in the discipline for the WI designation or electives?

Answer: Nothing specific, just two courses.

Question: If the QEP selection is Writing across the Discipline, is there a problem with overlap?

Answer: The WI designation would be more of a complement than a hindrance.

Old Business: Faculty Climate Survey:

1. Earlier in the year, the University of Houston – Downtown contracted with Dr. Phillipa Strelitz to conduct a pair of surveys; one for the faculty and one for the staff. As a part of that effort, the Faculty Senate allowed Dr. Strelitz to run the Faculty Senate Climate Survey concurrently.

The first 52 questions of the survey are the Faculty Climate Survey and will not be disseminated by Dr. Strelitz.

New Business: Service Workload Study, Dr. Claude Rubinson

1. Dr. Rubinson explained the instrument to survey the chairs and the program coordinators as to the level of service by all of the full time faculty.

Needs one Senator from each department to work with the chairs on deploying the survey.

Question: Would it be better to survey the individual faculty members as opposed to the chairs?

Answer: It is thought the response rate would be too low to provide meaningful information.

Next meeting:

The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be December 2.

Action Items:

	Activity	Responsibility	Date of Completion
1	Senators were assigned to give feedback on the QEP presentations.	Faculty Senators	Ongoing
2			
3			
4			

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn carried unanimously at 4:05 PM (B. Rowe Motion / B. Pohl Second).