**Faculty Senate Minutes (04/29/2021) at 3:30 pm via Zoom**

**Link to the recording:**

<https://tcu.box.com/s/96xc3kpnqzoegfp9wxz8x6cjo3w50huv>

*Senators present*: Jose Carrion, Sean Atkinson, Lisa Bashore, Layne Craig, , Pamela Frable, Greg Friedman, Jessica Fripp, Loren Spice, Julie Fry, Hayat Hokayem, Clark Jones, Andrew Ledbetter, Thomas Moeller, Michele Meitl, Twyla Robinson, Chris Sawyer, Marie Schein, Amy Stewart, Daxton Stewart, Daniel Williams, Barbara Wood, Suzanne Carter, Josh Bentley, Joddy Murray, Till Meyn, Kelly McCormick, James Rodriguez, Jan Quesada, Laurel Lynch, Oteka Jackson-Cenales, Qinghua Yang, Ted Legatski, Krista Scott, Arthur Busbey, Swami Kalpathy , Hadi Hosainy, Dustin Hahn, Jennifer Engler, Kathryn Ellis, Shauna McGillivray, Greg Stephens, Diane Hawley, Danyelle Ackall, Mark Wills, Jill Havens, Josh Bentley, Brandy Quinn, John Lovett, Patricia Duncan, Sophie Garcia, Marc Neri, Lavonne Adams, Michael Sawey, Emily Herzig, Alex Lemon, Hanan Hammad, Ranga Ramasesh, Bingyang Wei, Eric Gonzales, Guangyan Chen.

*Senators absent (Excused)*: Katie Lauve- Moon, David Bedford, Tee Tyler, Laura Singletary, Sage Elwell, Morgan Kiani.

*Senators absent (Unexcused)*: Sohyun Lee, Elva Orozco Mendoza, Mary Waller, Eric Simanek, Steve Palko, San-Ky Kim, Santiago Pinon, Jr., Omar Harvey, Timothy Watkins, Phil Esposito, Samantha Bates.

The Faculty Senate Chair Sean Atkinson called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

The minutes from the April 1st session were approved.

Sean Atkinson invited Provost Dahlberg to talk. She said that there will an announcement of the core director soon. She then thanked those who participated in the SACS training despite the technical difficulties. She thanked everyone for the work in this challenging year, especially Sean and the FSEC and then turned it to questions. Hearing none, Sean then gave the floor to the Chancellor,

The Chancellor thanked everyone for an amazing year. He said that every single permanent employee is still there, and starting January 2021 he eased up on the mandatory hire freeze. He mentioned that TCU recruited 49 positions in academic affairs, 29 faculty members and some staff positions were also freed up. He took pride in TCU not going above the 14 to 1 student to faculty ratio, and said that as TCU gets more students, there maybe the need to hire more faculty. Concerning carry over money, he said that he listened to the concerns of the faculty senate executive committee, and he mandated some changes, so any carry over up to 2019 will remain for the colleges, but for 2020 and 2021, there will not have carry over. He said that he’s trying to save money anywhere he can. Starting 2022 he expects that the department can start accruing carryover. He moved on to talk about enrollment which looked good for next year. He thanked everyone and opened it up for questions. One senator thanked the chancellor for taking the carryover concern seriously and doing something about it. Another senator asked him why he said that TCU is a cooperation, The Chancellor said that he did not say that TCU is a corporation but that in Texas we are cooperated, this does not mean that we are business like IBM.

Then there was a resolution from the Faculty Relations Committee (FRC). Andrew Ledbetter, the chair of FRC explained it as a resolution that invites communication between the senate and the AAUP. The floor was opened for a brief discussion after which Sean proceeded for a vote. The resolution was supported by 94% and it was approved.

Then Sean announced that this is the time where each faculty senate committee reports on its work for the year. He gave the floor to Ted Legatski to report on the work of the Committee on University committees (CUC) for the year. Ted presented PPT slides so this is a summary of Ted’s presentation with reference to the slide number. Ted started by the recommendations they made on the Budget advisory committee (BAC). The CUC recommended that the chairs of the BAC should be members serving 3 years and not be automatically the chair elect of the senate (*slide 2*). He then moved to talk about recommendations for the university compensation advisory committee (UCAC) and said that they recommended to shrink the committee from 27 to 11 and to eliminate the ability of the past chair of the faculty senate to chair this committee (*slide 3*). One senator objected to shrinking the committee and there was a discussion whether UCAC members had input in this recommendation. Ted explained that while not every member of UCAC was consulted, the CUC kept the leaders of UCAC aware of this work. One senator had a motion to vote on whether the senate endorses the recommendations of the CUC concerning UCAC. The motion was seconded and the resulting vote endorsed the CUC recommendation. Then Ted talked about the DEI committee (slide 4 & 5) and he said that the CUC recommended a slight change in how the membership is distributed (from 9 faculty, 7 staff, 2 students to 8 faculty, 8 staff, 2 students and 2 administrators, with the administrators being unable to serve a chair/co-chair of this committee).

Then Sean gave the floor to Andrew Ledbetter, the chair of the Faculty Relations Committee (FRC). Andrew talked about the work of the committee which was mainly about resolution concerning tenure and promotion and the other one concerning AAUP. Both of those were approved by the senate.

Then Sean gave the floor to the chair of the Academic Excellence Committee (AEC), Lisa Bashore. She presented the standing charges and one special charge that was completed which was to create the mechanism of assessment. The committee explored the ways that faculty can excel with teaching and how they can maintain academic excellence. She also said that mental health was their main work, in addition to working on core curriculum, and on considering the DEI concepts. They had a mental health colloquium in 2020 and continued in 2021, provided opportunities for faculty resilience. She reported that as a result of the survey, faculty expressed concerns about the pandemic, but also some colleges noted positive changes. They also looked at the class sizes which impact faculty work load. She said that they plan to analyze the results of the survey they sent to the faculty more thoroughly and report about that later.

Moving on, Sean gave the floor to Michael Sawey, the chair of the Educational Evaluation Committee (EEC). He reported that this was a slow year to EEC with so much being online. They met with the Koehler center leaders who assured them that the center’s role is not being evaluative of the faculty as some thought. He feels positive moving forward.

Then Sean gave the floor to the Governance Committee (GC): Barbara wood, refresh the memory of what they were doing about the honorary senator recognition. This will be for a senator who provides extensive service for the senate. Current or former senators can be self- nominated for this award. They moved the nomination to December, and then in February, the senate votes on it in a closed senate session, and there needs to be the majority of votes to win the nomination. The winner will get a certificate of an honorary senate award and a physical award. The faculty senate budget will be able to fund that, so the award is less than the $100. The committee decided not to limit it to one person a year, some years there could be more than one nominee and some years none. This award is coming out of the original award given to Dr. Donovan. Then Pamela Frable talked about the work they had done in thinking of ways to increase the visibility of the senate like introducing the FS orientation.

Then Sean gave the floor to the Student Relations Committee (SRC). Laurel Lynch said that the work for the past year has been predominately focused on the honor code. It will be included in the catalogue and will be on some buildings, will be covered with student orientation and with faculty expectation, it will be the focus in UNLF in weeks 4 and 7. The SGA presidents will record a short video that will be played for new students.

After that, Sean acknowledged and thanked all the foundational work that all the committees did.

Then, Sean introduced the new senators, by showing their names on the slide. Then he presented the results of the FSEC elections. Those elected were the following: Jill Havens as chair elect for 2022-2023, Greg Friedman as the administrative secretary for 2021-2022, Hayat Hokayem as the recording secretary for 2021-2022, Laurel Lynch as the information officer for 2021-2022, and Sean Atkinson as the immediate past chair for 2021-2022.

He then transferred the power of authority to Joddy Murray who will serve as the faculty senate chair for 2021-2022. Joddy thanked everyone and looked forward to working with everyone. Then the meeting was adjourned.