**Faculty Senate meetings 6/11/12**

There isn’t as much news this month as there was for last month. Attendance was somewhat down due to summer months. Please note that these are NOT the official minutes, but are my notes from the meeting. To view the official minutes, please go to the faculty senate webpage.

1. The discussion of dining outsourcing is ongoing.
2. There is a move to reunify the Health Science Center and TAMU. A joint committee of faculty from both institutes will further discuss this option. A poll is forth coming in the next week or so asking for your opinion.
3. The Texas Public Power Foundation has recommended a 10% cut in energy use this year and a 5% cut next year. Nothing is decided.
4. Former speaker Michael Benedict was awarded a framed picture as a sign of appreciation.
5. Provost Watson, who was scheduled to be the guest speaker, is out of town and did not make it.
6. There was a long discussion/debate about the use of the word “Environmental” in a new University Studies program. Geoscience did not want the word ‘environmental’ in the name. A vote was taken after discussion and the University Studies won by 2 votes, so there will be an Environmental Business track under the University Studies program.
7. Courses added and removed relative to CVM:
   1. VIBS 310, Biomedical Writing, is approved as a new course
   2. VIBS 311, Biomedical Exploration through Narrative, is approved as a new course
   3. VTPP 430, Laboratory in Toxicology, was removed.