

Minutes

Faculty Senate Meeting, May 14, 2013

Speaker John Stallone called the meeting to order and announced the winners of the Richard Stadelmann Faculty Senate Service Award and the Faculty Senate Aggie Spirit Award. The winners were given a plaque and financial award.

It was announced that the senator elections are complete and went well.

Minutes from the April 18, 2013 meeting were approved.

Approval of a long list of 'consent agenda' items:

- 20 new graduate-level courses
- 4 new undergraduate courses
- withdrawal of 8 undergraduate courses
- 10 undergraduate 'change course' requests
- change in the curriculum for the Dwight Look College of Engineering
- change in curriculum for TAMU at Galveston for Maritime Systems Engineering
- new certificate program from Mays Business School in Commercial Banking
- new certificate program from Dwight Look College of Engineering in International Engineering
- and others

Please note: course names, departments and other information are available on the Faculty Senate web page.

Under New Business:

5 proposed revisions to TAMU student rules were approved in the following sections:

- Section 19, updating the reference to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
- Section 14.2.1, for students that have met graduation requirements but do not graduate
- Section 41.3, scratched the words "religious student organizations are not recognized" and not eligible for financial support
- Section 10.21, eliminated repeating courses for credit (most of these were not taken at TAMU but at certain high schools and community colleges)
- Section 7.1.9, inclusion of excused absences of student athletes for NCAA competitions

Aggie Highway – College Station to Houston – tabled for additional gathering of information

Pros:

30 min time-savings

Initial funds are in place

purpose is to facilitate collaborations between TAMU and the Houston Medical Center, aid 2 career families, and increase academic visitors

Cons:

not clear if the stated benefits will occur

unclear impact on communities

environmental studies not complete

need for additional information

Dr. John Stallone, outgoing speaker of the faculty senate was presented with a plaque, gifts, and appreciation from the faculty senate on a job well done.

Dr. Stallone's address on the 'State of the Senate'.

Dr. Stallone first spoke about the major accomplishments of the Senate this past year, then gave a historical perspective and ended with the challenges higher education and the role of faculty. He concluded that the Faculty Senate status was “fair to middling” despite significant drops in grant dollars.

Election of new executive committee members.

Dr. Jim Woosley won speaker-elect

Dr. Dale Rice – secretary treasurer

Election of 6 new members at large to the executive committee: Drs. Leonard Bright, Johnathan Coopersmith, Janice Epstein, Wendy Jepson, Andrew Klein, and Tom Linton (Galveston campus)

Discussion about outsourcing IT services. There has been no decision made about this and the 4-phase assessment has only completed Phase I.

Individual caucuses – assigned members to standing committees; for CVM –

Caucus Leader - Dr. Michelle Pine

Bylaws – Dr. Karen Russell

Election Committee –Dr. Joe Arosh

Committee on Committees – Dr. Judy Ball

New speaker Daugherty adjourned the meeting.