

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler

Faculty Senate Meeting

Red & Kim Little Conference Room 6N

December 21, 2017

2:00-3:00 PM

Attendees:

Barbara Elliott, MS

Leo Holm, MD

Vijay Lella (Rao), Ph.D.

Jeffrey Matthews, MD

Patti Olusola, MD

Julie Philley, MD

Hua Tang, Ph.D.

Torry Tucker, Ph.D.

Cindy Scott-Lunau- *brief guest*

Minutes

Dr. Rao started the meeting with the review of last month's minutes. Barbara Elliott motioned to approve as written and it was seconded by Torry Tucker.

Faculty Senate activities update

Dr. Rao informed the committee that he and Leo Holms met with Dr. Calhoun to update Faculty Senate activities. They discussed about transparency in faculty compensation structure. Dr. Rao mentioned that he was not aware of any written policy what the term-tenure meant for the faculty in regarding compensation. Dr. Calhoun believed that there might be a written policy already in place, and he stated that he would look into it. He also stated that he is ultimately responsible for the policies that are written for our campus, and if necessary that the Faculty Senate could bring their point of view on a specific policy directly to him. He plans to meet with the Faculty Senate leadership once every two months, but he stated that his door is always open. He mentioned that he would seek the Faculty Senate input in nominating members to the important committees. He said that it was an oversight from his side not informing the Faculty Senate about the Gender Pay Equality committee that was formed at the recommendation of U.T. Systems.

Shared Governance Site visit

The committee discussed the upcoming Shared Governance site visit. With a large number of faculty and guests expected to attend noon seminar by Tony Cucolo on leadership training, it was suggested that we try to switch the venue from Hudnall auditorium to the Amphitheatre. It was also suggested to ask the Administration to help with meal accommodations.

Faculty Senate by-laws and Committees

Changes to the Faculty Senate by-laws were discussed to include representation to the School of Community and Rural Health. The Senate also discussed about the constitution of Faculty Senate standing committees, such as academic affairs, governance and faculty affairs, and welfare. There was some discussion on what could be the functions of these standing committees, whether they overlap with the existing committees and how the administration views the Faculty Senate forming the committees. Dr. Rao stated that we had these committees earlier when we had Research and Clinical Faculty Assemblies. He said these committees' duties would include formulating academic policies, reviewing IHOP and suggesting appropriate revisions, faculty governance, and other issues. The Faculty Senate discussed this further and clarified that the role of the Faculty Senate Committee is to create academic policies and give meaningful recommendations to Dr. Calhoun. We are not trying to take any power, but we need to be clear on our approach and temper our expectations. We simply want a seat at the table when these type of decisions or policies are being discussed and put into place. The committee agreed that after the Shared Governance visit, that their roles may be a little more clarified.

Meeting adjourned

3:00 p.m.

pka