

Minutes
Faculty Assembly Executive Council Meeting
Tuesday, November 8, 2016
RAS ???, 2:30 pm

I. Call to Order

Joseph Velasco called the meeting to order at 2:36 pm.

Present: Theron Francis, Eric Funasaki, Kathy Stein, Joseph Velasco, Bonnie Warnock, Scott Wassermann, and Mazie Will.

II. Approval of Minutes (10/4/2016)

Kathy Stein moved to approve the minutes from October 4 with two corrections and Bonnie Warnock seconded. The minutes with two corrections were approved unanimously.

III. President's Report

A. Proposal by Staff Council on Motivation

Tanya Romero wants to boost morale at Sul Ross. For example, having a faculty and staff community building event with a motivational speaker. Joseph Velasco was unsure whether Staff Council wants Faculty Assembly to co-sponsor and provide funds for such an event. He is willing to support and participate in any such event, but Faculty Assembly does not have the funds to pay for it.

B. TSUS Meeting

The meeting focused on the upcoming legislative session. No TRB's are anticipated, Hazelwood will be discussed with no expectations for reform, and there appears to be momentum for outcomes based funding which the TSUS Faculty Senate opposes.

C. TCFS Meeting

The meeting had a presentation on Title IX and academic freedom, a screening of "Starving the Beast" which Joseph Velasco thought was very good and felt everyone in higher education should see, and a discussion on issues member institutions were facing. Joseph Velasco wants at least one Executive Council member to go with him to the next meeting in February.

D. Mission and Vision Statements

Feedback from the Sul Ross community is needed. The three versions of the mission statement and one version of the vision statement were given to the Executive Council to review. The mission statement will be completed before work will be done on the vision statement. Send any thoughts or comments to Joseph Velasco.

E. Strategic Planning – Financial Objectives

At the last Strategic Plan committee meeting the one goal relating to finance was discussed. At that meeting, Bonnie Warnock mentioned that while finances are important, Sul Ross needs to focus on remaining affordable. Consequently, Dave Gibson will be chairing a subcommittee on affordability. Put any suggestions or comments on affordability on the Strategic Plan blog.

F. Student Course Evaluations

Student evaluations were supposed to start on November 12, but Joseph Velasco's students have said they are already open. The Distance Education Committee wants to look into different course evaluations for distance education and on-line courses.

G. AAUP Membership

Joseph Velasco suggested having Faculty Assembly pay for an AAUP membership for the Faculty Assembly president or an AAUP chapter at Sul Ross. This needs to be discussed at one of the spring Faculty Assembly meetings.

IV. Vice-President's Report

Kathy Stein has not heard from SGA about students for committees and councils that can have student representatives.

V. Secretary/Treasurer's Report

VI. Parliamentarian's Report

VII. Old Business

A. Baseline Salary Regulations

The federal regulation that goes into effect December 1 sets a \$47,500 minimum salary for all salaried employees, including those at Sul Ross. Joseph Velasco has not had the chance to talk with Dr. Case or Dr. Kibler about this. He will ask Dr. Kibler about this at today's Faculty and Staff meeting with the President.

VIII. New Business

A. Resolution thanking Dr. Kibler for action taken on the University Ranch

Rob Kinucan, Joseph Velasco, and Bonnie Warnock are working on a draft that will be presented at next week's Faculty Assembly meeting.

B. Resolution on recommendations for restoring the University Ranch

Rob Kinucan, Joseph Velasco, and Bonnie Warnock are working on a draft that will be presented at next week's Faculty Assembly meeting.

C. Special Committee on the First Year Seminar

Helen Crane sees a need for creating a special committee that makes recommendations on the First Year Seminar. This will be discussed at next week's Faculty Assembly meeting.

D. Faculty Awards

Joseph Velasco wants to have a conversation on new directions for recognizing faculty in addition to the outstanding teaching award. This will be brought up at next week's Faculty Assembly meeting.

IX. Announcements

X. Adjourn

Mazie Will moved to adjourn and Bonnie Warnock seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.