

Minutes
Faculty Assembly Executive Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 5, 2017
Library Conference Room, 3:30 pm

- I. Call to Order

Joseph Velasco called the meeting to order at 3:38 pm.
Present: Eric Funasaki, Christopher Herrera, David Leaver, Ryan Luna, Kathy Stein, Joseph Velasco, and Bonnie Warnock.
- II. Approval of Minutes (4/3/2017)

Kathy Stein moved to approve the minutes from April 3 as presented and Ryan Luna seconded. The minutes as presented were approved unanimously.
- III. President's Report
 - A. Department Chairs Council

Bonnie Warnock called a meeting of department chairs during the summer because department chairs had not been involved in staffing and budgetary decisions that affected their departments. The department chairs want to meet regularly to discuss issues at the departmental level. They also want to formalize these meetings by forming a Department Chairs Council through Faculty Assembly. Joseph Velasco passed out a proposal to form a Department Chairs Council. Ryan Luna moved to bring the proposal with one change to Faculty Assembly and David Leaver seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.
 - B. QEP Faculty Development

The Faculty Development Subcommittee of the QEP Committee has a \$20,000 per year budget for faculty development. The subcommittee is considering having Sul Ross faculty lead roundtable discussions on practices they have used to enhance students' communication skills. Stipends would be given to presenters and possibly to attendees. These roundtable discussions may start in October.
 - C. Deans on the Executive Committee

The department chairs, at their meeting this summer, agreed that Deans need to be on the Executive Committee to help Dr. Case advocate on academic issues. After the Department Chairs Council is approved at next week's Faculty Assembly meeting, the council will present a resolution to Faculty Assembly asking Dr. Kibler to make all Deans voting members on the Executive Committee.
 - D. Impacts of Budget Cut

Joseph Velasco wants to keep track of the impacts of the state budget cut on faculty. There were concerns about the impact of departments having to share secretaries. Send any other thoughts or concerns to Joseph Velasco or the Department Chairs Council.

IV. Vice President's Report

A. 2017-18 Committees and Councils Slate

Kathy Stein will review the slate and work on filling openings caused by Faculty Assembly members who left Sul Ross over the summer.

B. Financial Aid Appeal Committee

The committee's decisions are supposed to be final, yet they are being changed by the Vice President for Enrollment Management. Thus, committee members feel that there is no reason to continue having the committee if their decisions can be changed. Joseph Velasco will discuss this with Dr. Kibler and Dr. Case.

V. Secretary/Treasurer's Report

VI. Parliamentarian's Report

VII. Old Business

A. University Ranch Resolution Plaques

The plaques have been made: one is to be placed in ANRS and one is to be placed in the President's Office. Rob Kinucan will decide how to present these plaques.

VIII. New Business

A. Hole next to the Warnock Science Building

David Leaver is concerned about the hole next to the Warnock Science Building due to a chemical neutralization tank that needs to be replaced. The hole is a safety issue because of the lack of barriers around it. Also, without a functioning chemical neutralization tank there is a drainage problem in chemistry labs. Joseph Velasco will bring this up with Dr. Kibler.

B. Out-of-State Tuition

Joseph Velasco mentioned getting rid of out-of-state tuition as a way to increase enrollment of out-of-state and international students. Kathy Stein wondered if this could be a legal issue as out-of-state tuition might be mandated by state law.

C. Class Scheduling

Bonnie Warnock wants Faculty Assembly or the Department Chairs Council to consider class scheduling. In particular, the increase in MW classes during MWF time slots. Also, all faculty may need to discuss the possibility of moving away from Friday classes to help commuter and working students.

IX. Announcements

X. Adjourn

Bonnie Warnock moved to adjourn and Kathy Stein seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:27 pm.