

Cameron University - Faculty Senate Minutes

November 14, 2014

Members present: Saeed Ahmad, Syed Ahmed, Ginette Baillargeon, Cathy Blackman, Krystal Brue, Shaun Calix, Travis Childs, Irene Corriette, Mo Durant, Loree Gaines, Mike Husak, Sarah Janda (chair), Abbas Johari, Gary Kowaluk, Hong Li, Jeff Metzger, Teresa Morales, Dejan Mraovic, Deidre Onishi, Lynda Robinson (chair-elect), Pam Panzani, Holly Rice, Andrew Stonerock, Ronna Vanderslice (guest), Debra Ward (secretary), Gabriele Wethern, Chao Zhao, Yanjun Zhao

3:02	Call to Order
3:03	Approve minutes from last meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ One correction needed as noted by VPAA Vanderslice▪ Motion made to approve October minutes pending correction▪ Motion unanimously passed
3:04	Committee Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Teaching and Learning<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Approved two or three new projects, some of which are partially funded▪ Faculty Committee<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Looked at grievance procedure and determined there needs to be some terminology changes○ The committee will come back to a discussion of the proposed campus climate survey once they have explored additional survey options○ Regarding the Adjunct Faculty Award, the committee decided that, in order for an adjunct faculty member to receive the award, they have to have been at Cameron University for or more (not necessarily consecutive) semesters○ Motion made by Abbas Johari that the Faculty Senate support a recommendation for an Adjunct Faculty Award with the understanding that we do not currently have funding for a monetary award<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Seconded by Ginette Baillargeon▪ One opposition - would like to have further discussion on evaluation standards▪ Motion carries▪ Honors Council<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The committee has submitted a proposal that would allow honors students to enroll early for classes, regardless of class standing▪ Top 30 Committee<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Ongoing work regarding the implementation of an affective-characteristics survey○ A new committee was created out of the Top 30 Committee: P-16 Transition Advisory Committee.▪ Academic Standards and Policies<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The committee was charged with discussing changes to the Student Handbook to include more discussion of online cheating. However, the committee decided not to proceed. They feel the handbook is general enough to encompass online issues and a precedent regarding this type of issue has been set at Cameron.
3:19	Q & A with the VPAA <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Concerns about IDEA evaluations<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ VPAA Vanderslice has visited with faculty and there is a concern about using these evaluations as the primary source for teaching evaluations. This has led to a good discussion regarding other evaluations instruments as well as ways to increase students' response rates.▪ Aggie Sneak Peak<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ VPAA Vanderslice and President McArthur are interested in knowing whether the departments feel the current format for Aggie Sneak Peak is working well. They would like to encourage feedback from faculty.▪ NSSE Results<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Results are being shared with the Chairs and Deans and discussions regarding what the results mean are taking place. Chairs and Deans should be sharing this information with departments.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Four-year rotations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regarding Degree Works, the next step in the process is to create a planner within the system so that students can self-enroll in the future. ▪ Quality Matters Rubric for online classes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If you teach or create online classes, you should have seen this document. ▪ Faculty Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Higher Learning Commission expect faculty to have a degree one level above the students they are teaching. Currently, Chairs are being asked to provide information regarding the minimum level of experience that their departments currently use in lieu of the “one degree above” requirement. ▪ Long Range Planning Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The first round of position requests are being released. ▪ Open for questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regarding the IDEA evaluations, is the concern about non-response or classes where there is a small percentage of student responses? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Both. ▪ Recommendation to remedy this problem: Give evaluations at the beginning of class. Take classes to a computer lab to complete online evaluations When you receive negative evaluations, be sure to respond to them during your annual evaluation or in your portfolio. ○ What are the primary sources for evaluating teaching? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There is no listing of primary or secondary sources for evaluation. The Faculty Handbook lists various ways to show evidence of good teaching. ○ Regarding the “one degree above” requirement, is a bachelor’s degree enough for remedial courses? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Yes, but with respect to remedial courses, experience could also be used.
3:39	<p>Old Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Faculty Awards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Recommended changes to awards have been approved. ▪ Graduate Council Membership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Recommended changes to the council’s membership have been approved.
3:42	<p>New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Results of statewide faculty opinion survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Results are not broken down by individual college or university. Instead, the results are divided up by institution type. The information collected through this survey lets the Board of Regents know the general concerns for faculty and help guide the agenda for the advisory board. ○ Note that the Board of Regents has no control over faculty salary. ○ Student preparedness from high school is a faculty concern that will likely be looked at. ○ The Chancellor of Higher Education has brought up safety in college campuses so it looks like weapons on campus will receive some attention from the state legislature. ▪ Employee online courses through workplace answers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ These courses are required in order for the university to stay in compliance with OCEA. ○ Also, it is feasible that, as a campus member, we could come into contact with blood or chemicals. So it is important for us to know how to respond in these situations. ▪ Veteran’s Day as a holiday? (Irene Corriette) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ From VPAA Vanderslice: This has not been discussed. We do have many recognition ceremonies on campus that day. It would not be a good day for us not to be here.
4:02	Meeting adjourned

Debra D. Ward

Debra D. Ward, Secretary