

Cameron University
Faculty Senate
August 9, 2013
Minutes

Members present: Eric Abbott, Saeed Ahmad, Syed Ahmed, Thom Balmer, Travis Childs, Irene Corriette, Mike Dunn, Tahzeeba Frisby, Courtney Glazer, Mike Husak, Sarah Janda, Abbas Johari, Jeff Metzger, Alan Moore, Teresa Morales, Yoonsin Oh, Mary Penick, Lynda Robinson, Kathy Scherler, Jason Smith, Keith Vitense, Gabriele Wethern, Frankie White, Chao Zhao, and Yanjun Zhao

Guests present: Ronna Vanderslice, Vice President for Academic Affairs

Old business

Committee Agenda

The last duty in May for each committee is to set an agenda for the following year. Last year's committee chairs need to email that agenda to the new chairs unless all business was completed during the year.

Committee Minutes

No committee minutes from last year were posted to the Internet. Please post minutes from upcoming meetings by following the instructions provided during the meeting.

Faculty Senate Elections

Committee elections were moved to January to speed the process. Discussion occurred about moving senator elections to January as well. It was agreed that current senators will approach their departments to see if they have a preference regarding the timing of senator elections.

New Business

Committee Assignments

Committee assignments were made along with provisions to deal with run-off elections. The VPAA shared that students who are appointed to committees by SGA are often put off by committees that aren't very active. She asked if there might be a better way to work with students so that they worked with the committees that would help them be more involved. The experience of many senators was different in that students did not attend meetings when they were called. The VPAA also suggested that the senate look at the different committees to determine if all of them were necessary. *A motion was made for the Rules Committee to review all committees regarding their functions and how students are selected and to establish rules for the Going Green Committee. The motion passed.* Also, a new committee is in the earliest planning stages and comes from Tom Russell. It will include one faculty senate representative in addition to reps from all units and will deal with gender equity and inclusion.

Faculty Senate Terms

Sometime in the past all faculty senate terms were recorded as ending in the same year. Taking into consideration that past senate terms would expire in 2014 and new senate terms would expire in 2015, roughly half of the senate is now serving a one-year term with the other serving a two-year term without the need to draw lots.

Appellate Committee

One role of the faculty senate is to ensure fairness for all faculty members. A situation has arisen in which a tenured faculty member was disciplined and is seeking to appeal the decision. One part of the appeal is a committee of peers. According to section 4.5.6.6 of the Faculty Handbook, The appellate committee must consist in part of eight tenured faculty members nominated or elected by the faculty governing body. Chair Mike Dunn presented eight names asking for senate endorsement. *A motion was presented to accept Doug Catterall, Mike Husak, Matt Jenkins, Barbara Pickthorn, Lynda Robinson, Michelle Smith, Keith Vitense, and Aubree Walton as the Appellate Committee on the Dismissal or Suspension of Tenured Faculty Members. The motion passed.*

Sabbatical Leave

The President has asked that the senate look into firmer guidelines for sabbatical leave so that faculty, deans, and chairs all know what the rules are. *A motion was made for the Faculty Committee to review and rewrite the sabbatical leave policy. The motion passed.*