**FACULTY SENATE MEETING**

**NOVEMBER 07, 2012**

**MINUTES (Revised)**

**Members Present**: Magdy Akladios, Leo Chan, Kent Divoll, David Garrison, Lisa Gossett, Tonya Hammer, William Hoston, Stuart Larson, Kathryn Ley, Samina Masood, Rick. Puzdrowski, Frank Matthews, Jana Willis, Pat McCormack, Scott McIntyre, Tim Michael, Ron Mills, William Norwood, Camille Peres, Alfred Perez-Davila, Michelle Peters, Leroy Robinson, Haeyoung Shin, Mary Short, Felix Simieou, L. Jean Walker, Chris Ward, Keith Parsons.

**Members Absent**: Sandra Browning, George Collins, Shanna Graves, Bazlur Rashid, Bettye Grigsby.

**Others Present**: Yvette Bendeck, Darlene Biggers, Zbigniew Czajkiewicz, Glen Houston,

Rick Short, Carl Stockton, Samuel Gladden, Mrinal Mugdh Varma.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the October 03, 2012 meeting were approved as presented.

**Provost Report**

Provost Stockton announced that Dr. William Hoston has been selected to represent UHCL for the Piper Award. Provost Stockton and Faculty Senate congratulated Dr. Hoston.

Dr. Stockton reported the following:

* At the last Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) and Chief Academic Officers meetings, McGregor Stephenson, Associate Commissioner for higher education indicated that the THECB staff committee would recommend approval for new standards for low producing program. The current standards are: 25 Baccalaureate graduates in 5 years, 15 Master’s graduates in 5 years and 10 graduates in 5 years for Doctoral degrees. Proposed new standards effective 2018 will be: 40 Baccalaureate graduates in 5 years (8 graduates/year); 25 Master’s graduates in 5 years, 15 Doctoral graduates in 5 years. Some Graduate Education Advisory Committee members (GEAC) do not support the new standards. The THECB will vote on the proposed standards in January. In about one year, UHCL will begin reviewing small programs to prepare them to meet the new standards if they are approved. The THECB may recommend discontinuance of those programs on two-year extension that do not meet the new standards by the end of the extension period.
* Another issue addressed at the THECB meeting relates to Lamar University Masters of Arts degree in History. The THECB recommended discontinuing the program and denied a 2-year extension. Lamar University appealed and asked for an extension because they had made some program changes and was confident that the program numbers would increase. The Chair of the THECB moved to approve the extension but the motion failed. The Chair made a motion to table until January that motion failed. A THECB staff committee recommended discontinuance and asked the parliamentarian to act on the recommendation. The vote – 3 approve, 2 disapprove, 1 abstention. The motion passed. The Master’s of Arts degree in History will be taken off Lamar’s University course inventory. Another example of THECB action was related to a proposal from the University of North Texas. UNT submitted a proposal to renovate and extend an old student center. The university has been working on that project since 2005. The proposal was not approved based on a board member’s view that out of 30,000 students only 2100 students voted and approved the proposal. More student support is needed. The motion to approve failed. Dr. Stockton stated that there needs to be increased awareness of the dynamics at the THECB.

Dr. Matthews asked in which academic year a summer master’s degree counts. Dr. Stockton responded that it counts in the academic year it is completed. Dr. Gossett asked if it was possible to count semester credit hours as criteria for the low producing programs. Dr. Stockton stated that THECB’s criteria are the number of graduates.

Provost Stockton invited the Faculty Senate to the university-wide Four-Year Initiative presentation on November 13, at 9:30 a.m. in the Garden Room.

**Senate Committee Reports**

Budget: Dr. Ward reported that the Budget Committee is collecting data on Faculty Development Support Fund and faculty salaries. Based on the findings, recommendations will be made to the Faculty Senate. The committee is also working on a program development support fund proposal that will allow faculty to promote their individual programs with activities not met by the current budget.

**Curriculum & Teaching**: Dr. Willis shared an update on the Online Policy. Drs. Houston, Stockton and Goswami met with C&T to finalize the final changes to the policy. The Office of Online Programs will be creating a website that will have the course designation codes linked from the Online Policy. Dr. Willis presented an action item on C&T behalf requesting language change in the catalog pertaining to Comprehensive Exam. The recommendation is to remove “long” in the narrative to allow students to re-take the exam in the next semester. Currently, students may re-take in the next long semester. SOE and HSH recommend the change to allow students to take the exam the next semester. A motion was made, seconded approving the change.

**Faculty Life**: Dr. Frank Matthews presented two policies due for sunset process in February 2013 - 6.10 Summer Pay Policy and 3:10 Emeritus/Emerita Status. Following discussion, the Emeritus/Emerita Status policy was approved as presented. The Faculty Senate approved a motion to table the Summer Pay policy.

**Research Committee:** Dr. Gossett reported that the committee discussed issues such as support services for research and teaching-library resources, databases, access from home issues, and accessibility to research with UH. A fireside chat will be held in February to discuss those issues. Librarians will be invited to participate. The Committee is gathering information on computer usage/life cycle, research equipment, and access to specialized software. Some faculty view the purchasing order policy and reimbursement minimums as unnecessary barriers. Relevant state and local policies will be reviewed.

**Shared Governance Committee Reports**

**Facilities and Support Services Committee (FSSC):** Dr. Larson gave an overview of discussion topics from the last FSSC meeting. By 2020, there are plans to construct a student dorm, a Science and Academic building and a student welcome center. Also, plans include the construction of a parking garage near the Delta Building and installation of a modular building near the EIH/NOA offices.

**Planning & Budgeting Committee (PBC)**: Dr. Michael reported that PBC received cost estimates for the new building, but had not seen estimates for the student dorm. PBC discussed Four-Year Initiative (FYI) and reviewed a summary of estimates. PBC will meet with FYI committee Chairs to discuss the estimates.

**University Life (ULC):** Dr. Davila said that ULC discussed initiatives to make the campus greener. SOE forwarded an issue regarding the smoking area near the Delta Building. Children participating in SOE programs have to walk through smoke after being dropped off near the Delta Building. Bus drivers are now refusing to drop them off near Delta. Students will be dropped off near the Arbor building and will have to walk to Delta Building. This poses a problem in the event of bad weather. There were comments about making UHCL a smoke free campus because some federal grants are only available to smoke free campuses.

**QEP Report:** Dr. L. Jean Walker reported that the QEP workshop on critical thinking was held on October 26-27. It focused on the conceptual framework of critical thinking and how to adapt it across the schools. 18 faculty members from BUS, 10 from SCE, & from HSH and 6 from SOE participated. The Library, Student Success Center, Provost Office and Disabilities Services were also represented. The Senate acknowledged members who participated in the workshop. The next workshop for cohort one will be February 15, 2013. RSVPS are due to Kevin Barlow by November 09, 2012. The workshop will focus on syllabus development and assessment. Cohort two, scheduled for fall 2013, will primarily be for HSH and SOE, but faculty from BUS and SCE can participate. A faculty senator asked if faculty could attend the second workshop if they had not attended the first workshop. Dr. Walker responded that the workshops are sequential. She also said there is a stipend for attending the workshops. Dr. Ley asked if faculty who attend the QEP sessions are obligated to teach a critical thinking class and participate in QEP data collection. Dr. Walker will seek clarification and provide a response at the next meeting.

**Announcements**

Dr. Michael reported that the grade deadline was moved to Thursday, December 20 for courses with exams late in exam week. Dr. Michael commented that course caps for spring are currently higher for online courses. This increase will affect faculty workload. He urged faculty contemplating teaching online course to be mindful of the increase.

Dr. Pat McCormack presented enrollment data dating 1974-1990. He asked senators to review the data and forward questions and comments to him and Dr. Ley.

Dr. L. Jean Walker invited members to a workshop titled “Developing Teamwork Modules” on November 16 at 11 a.m. in B1104.

The meeting adjourned at 3 p.m.