**FACULTY SENATE**

**October 4, 2017**

**MINUTES**

**Present**: Amber Brown, Rashid Bazlur, Carol Carman, Stephen Cherry, Thomas Garcia, Lisa Gossett, Laura Guerrero, Rajib Hasan, Amanda Johnston, Michelle Kahn, Heather Kanenberg, Nick Kelling, Hakduran Koc, Pat McCormack, Mike McMullen, Tim Michael, Alex Milam, Shanshan Pan, Alfredo Perez-Davila, Michelle Peters, Thomas Schanding, Cengiz Sisman, Brian Stephens, Ishaq Unwala, Troy Voelker, Christine Walther, Paul Withey, Faiza Zalila

**Absent**: Elizabeth Beavers, Pradeep Buddharaju, Caroline Crawford, Frank Matthews, Denise McDonald

**Others Present**: Robert Bartsch, Glen Houston, Ju Kim, Amy Lucas, Dilani Perera-Diltz, Rick Short

**MINUTES APPROVAL – SEPT 6 MEETING**

Changes were made to those present and absent. Minutes were approved.

**PROVOST’S REPORT**

Dr. Houston reported that the College of Education received approval yesterday for them to offer the Ed. D. in Ed Leadership at the Pearland Campus.

Academic Partnerships will be coming to UHCL next week to meet with each of the colleges to talk about what the possibilities are if we choose to work with them.

Dr. Houston informed the faculty that the Coordinating Board will have a meeting on October 26th. He is waiting for the agenda to come out, in hopes that the B.S. in Mechanical Engineering will be listed as a topic of discussion. When the last proposal for this program was submitted, it was put out for public comment, which ended September 21st. It is currently listed with a status of ‘pending’.

Dr. Houston presented the Fall Term (2-year) Comparison report. This report will be sent out with the meeting minutes for all faculty to take a closer look at. The impact of Hurricane Harvey is noticeable when you observe the numbers for late enrollment this year, compared to last year, although, it is not as bad as it could have been.

**FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

The Faculty Senate membership assignments were presented for 2017-18. Drs. Shanshan Pan (Research & Teaching) and Laura Guerrero (University Life) were added to the committees. Drs. Koc and Guerrero switched places on the University Life Committee. Dr. Guerrero is now a member and Dr. Koc is now listed as an alternate. Committee assignments were approved.

**SENATE AD HOC COMMITTEE**

The Senate Ad Hoc Committee mission was presented. The Committee was approved.

**FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Budget Committee**: Dr. Withey reported that they will be meeting next Wednesday at 1:00p. Provost Houston will be giving a report at their meeting on an overview of the budget. Please send questions you would like them to ask Dr. Houston. The Committee will also be looking at the possibility to use endowments to have a retirement scholarship. They will be discussing this with Rhonda Thompson and Biller Satterfield.

**Teaching & Research Committee**: Dr. Christine Walther reported that the Committee met with Web Communications to discuss the inefficient navigation to get to teaching and research information on the website. The meeting was very productive. There are few places on the main UHCL page where they are going to add information and links to make finding the Faculty Senate page easier. Karen Barbier also attended the Teaching & Research meeting to remind faculty to send anything they are currently working on, whether it is research, events, teaching methods, etc. to her so that she can consider publicizing them for UHCL.

**Faculty Life Committee**: Dr. Heather Kanenberg reported that the Committee is working on Promotion and Tenure policy. They are in their final round of edits. They hope to have something for approval next month. These are changes that have been approved since May 2016. The Committee is also working on the Grievance and Workload policies. If faculty have comments or questions, please present them to your colleagues that are serving on Faculty Life.

**Governance Committee:** Dr. Lisa Gossett reported that this is a new Committee and they have not met yet. They will be looking at a change policy that spontaneously appeared on the University and had not gone through Shared Governance. It will now go through Faculty Senate and Shared Governance process beginning with the Committee. This has to do with policies and changes that are required to go through a Shared Governance process. The Committee is seeking to be more active in recommending membership to University Committees. A positive response has been seen this year, in that regard. The Governance Committee will continue to be more involved in this process. The other thing the Committee is looking at will be application of university policies within the various colleges. There seems to be inconsistent application of policies in colleges, so they will be helping to add clarification to how these policies should be followed.

**Curriculum Committee**: Dr. Amanda Johnston presented a three action items to Faculty Senate. All three were name changes for programs.

1. Name change: Masters of Psychology concentration of Applied Cognitive Psychology– request to change the name to, “Human Factors Psychology”.

2. Name change: Masters of Arts Degree in Cross-Cultural Studies – request to change the name to, “Cross-Cultural Global Studies”.

3. Name change: Minor in Writing – request to change the name to “Minor in Professional Writing”.

All changes were approved.

Dr. Johnston’s Committee will meet again on October 17, 2017 to look at three, new program proposals. They have received two from CSE. One is a Masters in Industrial Hygiene and Safety, the other is a Bachelors in Occupational Safety and Health. They have also received a COE program proposal for a Masters in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. If they all pass out of Committee, Dr. Johnston will bring them to the next Faculty Senate meeting in November for consideration.

**SHARED GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Facilities & Support Services Committee (FSSC)**: Dr. Bazlur reported that they will meet on October 17th. They are working on sub-committees so that they can get started as soon as possible.

**Planning & Budgeting Committee (PBC):** Dr. Tim Michaels was re-elected chair at the kick-off meeting on September 21st. Next meeting will be at 12:30p on October 18th, where they will hear budget updates from Provost Houston. Tuition and fees will be set this year (end of a 2-year cycle). Presentation for any schedule changes will go to SGA on November 7th. There will be Town Hall Meetings on November 7th and 8th to discuss and questions these changes. On November 14th, the Committee will meet to discuss what the student recommendations are. Dr. Michael will have more information to bring in at the November Faculty Senate meeting.

**University Life Committee (ULC)**: Dr. Carol Carman has been elected Chair of University Life. The next meeting will be October 26th 10-11:30a. Dr. Carman will meeting prior to the meeting with Dr. Blake, our new president, to catch her up on what University Life is tackling. Dr. Carman also hopes to answer any question and receive feedback from her on what she may have in mind for University Life Committee. This will include current statuses on university policies such as the smoking policy, recycling, transportation, childcare, and other issues.

**QLT UPDATE**

Dr. Amy Lucas was elected the Chair of the QLT. The QLT and QEP are undergoing a transition this year. They are now housed out of the Center for Faculty Development. There are now four representatives (one from each college). Dr. Lucas is HSH’s representative. Other representatives are, Leroy Robinson (COB), Bun Yue (CSE), and Randy Seevers (COE). In terms of planning, Cohort 6 will begin tomorrow. There is a new schedule and plan in place. There is a new model, where the Cohort will meet four times in a semester. Each workshop will be on a Thursday 1-3:00 p.m. The sessions will be led by faculty members who have taught ACT courses. There are currently nine faculty signed up for Cohort 6. The last Cohort 5 session is taking place this Friday at 9:00a. If you are a part of Cohort 6, you will receive $300 for attending six out of eight of the trainings. You will also receive $200 when you complete an endorsed syllabus. Please direct any questions to Dr. Lucas, your college’s representative, or the Center for Faculty Development.

**CENTER FOR FACULTY DEVELOPMENT**

Dr. Bartsch presented ten different, upcoming faculty development activities for faculty to take part in within the next month.

Learning Innovators: Thursday, October 5th 12-1p

Research Tools – Office Mix: Tuesday, October 10th 2-3p

Full Professor – Thursday, October 12th 11-12p

What’s New in Info Literacy: Thursday, October 12th 12-1p

Research & Scholarship Colloquium – Health: Monday, October 16th 2-3p

Research Tools – Finding Collaborations: Monday, October 23rd 2-3p

Other offices that are offering opportunities are: Disability Services is offering programs to assist faculty with creating accessible documents. Library’s Open Access week. An announcement will come soon with dates and times. Office of Institutional Effectiveness are holding Core Curriculum workshops for each of the core objectives throughout the year. Digital Humanities is doing a Technology Camp in early November. They are very interested in involving computer science experts. On October 19th, there will be a diversity event called, ‘Hawks Embracing Diversity’. This will involve a student and faculty panel that will discuss diversity in and out of the classroom at UHCL.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dr. Kim Case presented information about the American Association of University Professor (AAUP). The mission of this association is to advance academic freedom and shared governance. There will begin to be discussion of starting a chapter here at UHCL. There is a minimum amount of AAUP members you must have on campus to have a chapter. We are close to this number, but the goal is to be well over it. It is a hope that AAUP will work with a positive and collaborative effort with Faculty Senate. If you would like to get involved, please see Dr. Case. There will also be an AAUP Conference in Austin, TX on October 27th and 28th.

Dr. Heather Kanenberg brought up that Faculty Senate should seek out more information about the Resident Life contracts. There have been rumors circulating at UHCL about a delay in opening the residence life building. If the proper committee(s) could find out more information and report to Senate, it would be appreciated. Dr. Houston will also be consulted about this.

Dr. Mike McMullen brought up current meetings scheduled with Academic Partnerships. The Senate had a lengthy discussion in regards to this matter. Several Senate members were able to share their personal experiences at other Universities as participants in programs that were handled by Academic Partnerships. Some of these experiences are good and some are less-than-satisfactory. It is the consensus of the Senate that faculty should investigate on their own by questioning colleagues from other colleges that you know have done business with Academic Partnerships. It is also the feeling of Faculty Senate that we need to make sure that appropriate items to do with this venture, are still approved by shared governance.

The date for the fall 2017 Faculty Assembly will be moving to a Thursday, due to scheduling issues. Dr. Stephens is working with Cherie Devine to plan the event. If a Thursday date will not work, then we will look at moving the assembly to a Friday. More information to come on a date, time, and location for our Faculty Assembly meeting.

Dr. Stephens reported that he and Drs. Gossett and McMullen met with the other Faculty Senate Presidents at USEC last week. There are budget issues for other campuses due to Hurricane Harvey. They will be discussing Tenure and Non-Tenure Track policy with the other campuses at their next meeting.

Dr. Stephens reminded everyone to please sign-in so that we will have an accurate listing of who is present at each Faculty Senate meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 2:17P.