

LAMAR STATE COLLEGE-PORT ARTHUR
Faculty Senate Minutes
December 3, 2021, 12:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting

Attendance:

Academic

Michelle Askew
 Jim Cammack
 *Dr. Tina Capeles
 Caitlin James
 Dr. Percy Jordan
 Dr. Michelle Judice
 Zeb Lowe
 Christina Wilbur

Technical

Maurice Abelman
 Doneane Beckcom
 Michael Betar
 George Bohn
 Brandon Buckner
 Dr. Blas Canedo
 Helen Fonteno
 Tonya Harbert
 Sarita Medhekar
 Matthew Roe
 Michael Sparrow

Staff: Ruth Nelson **Adjunct Rep:** Chelsey Galloway

Guest: LSCO, Dr. Ni Song

*Denotes Absence

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 12:00 PM by James Cammack

FYI: Faculty Senate meetings' minutes are available in the Teams folder for all members to review.

Approval of Minutes November minutes were approved.

Correspondence

Thank you for Tribute Fund donation that Faculty Senate made in honor of Kathy Guidry's daughter, Kimberly Guidry.

Old Business

- MyLamar log-in/log-out time issue being addressed by Samir, who said it might take a while.
- PAC air conditioning issue has been reported to Reed Richard, Physical Plant Director. Student Center 4th floor A/C problem has been fixed.

New Business

Student incivility: (student behaviors that negatively affect the learning environment) issue addressed in recent email from Dr. Tina Capeles. Aggression/bullying happening more with female instructors and more often in online classes. Spring 2022 Faculty Development will address this problem. Referral will be made to Dr. Capeles' committee.

Campus Security: new Director named, Joseph Trevino (former Peace Officer with graduate level degrees).

Seahawk Book Bundle: question about return date of these books. Email will be sent to Diana Crutchfield. LSCO representative, Dr. Song, said their campus told due date is December 14 & 15.

New Hire Notification: Could faculty be told of campus new hires so that emails are not avoided/unopened.

Committee Reports

Academic Issues: Christina Wilbur reported. Still working on Academic Integrity problems and the need for proctoring.

Facilities: George Bohn reported A/C issues being addressed in various campus buildings.

Faculty Development/Welfare: Tanya Harbert reported. Mental Health in the Age of Covid will be addressed at the Spring 2022 Faculty Development session. Dr. Millsap and Dr. Barbay will participate.

Faculty and Campus Relations:

Finance and Compensation: Michelle Askew reported. Still addressing inequities within faculty salaries: existing and new hires. Jim Cammack and Michelle Askew met with VP Mary Wickland and HR Director Tammy Riley on November 15. Wage compression discussed. Faculty Salary Determination (salary scale) handout reviewed (was adopted March 2020). LSCO and LIT salaries both higher than LSCPA. Possibility of developing a salary scale that is "grouped by discipline." Mary Wickland said she expects they can have a report on this in January 2022.

LU-B Faculty Senate: no report

LIT Faculty Senate: no report

LSC-O Faculty Senate: Dr. Ni Song, Anatomy & Sciences Professor, Faculty Senate President, reported they are having problems with Student Evaluations (of faculty) being

completed. Trying incentives such as drawing for gift cards and awarding extra credit points for students who take the online survey of their current courses.

Tribute Fund Report – Jim Cammack reported. Treasury duties will be turned over to Faculty Senate Vice-President Brandon Buckner. Zeb Lowe and Michelle Judice paid \$20 each into the Tribute Fund.

Executive Committee Report – Jim Cammack and Brandon Buckner and Michelle Judice met with Dr. Reynard and Dr. Milsap.

Executive Committee meeting: December 1, 2021

Faculty Handbook: the new faculty handbook has been approved and is now online at <https://www.lamarpa.edu/Lamar/media/Lamar/Files/Policies/Faculty-Handbook.pdf?ext=.pdf>

OER Incentives: Implementation or approval of implementation of OER course by December 2021 could qualify faculty for one-time incentive award. Here is the new information in the Incentive Awards Guidelines: [OER – Preparation of an Open Educational Resources \(OER\) course with no required textbook; approved by 5/1/2021 to be implemented in the 2021-2022 academic year: \\$150 per course](#) Note: This incentive award is available only to the faculty member who originally adopts OER for the particular course.

Add back appeal to regents for Tenure in policy manual? Dr. Reynard looked system policy and she sent question to legal counsel and hasn't heard anything; Dr Milsap pointed out sometime regents reverse tenure. Dr. Reynard will try to find out how that is handled by other campuses (She thinks the Board may have removed it a few years ago).

SACS: The Advisory SACS in-person campus visit for the Culinary Arts Program in November was a success; no recommendations were made. Annual meeting that was scheduled in Dallas will be virtual.

Proctoring Software Status: IT Department is moving website to a new Blackboard Ultra platform. Should take 16-18 months for the transition that could begin Spring of 2022. Sam Houston will be participating/handling LSCPA. Proctoring software probably spring of 2023. Because this is so far away, we asked if there is any way to see if we could do this sooner -- budget process for next year starts this February so we should talk to Roszella can request for budget for next academic year.

New Blackboard: Budget determines when it will begin. February is the start of the academic year budget.

Phone System: current system is no longer supported so existing components cannot be fixed or supported. New system is coming.

Log in/out times: frequent automated timer log-out issue being addressed by IT.

Calendar sync with partner ISDs: We asked about possibility of synching academic calendars with ISDs. Spring Break is the same with most districts. Start/end times of semester will always

differ. No Finals week is required; however, 48 contact hours per semester are required. If Thanksgiving Break were altered, those hours would have to be made up somewhere.

Allied Health Students: As of January 2022, St. Elizabeth in Beaumont will require students be drug tested. LSCPA cannot require students have proof of Covid vaccination but partner facilities can.

Pharmacy Tech/EMS Programs: Prospectus submitted by January 1, 2022.

Curriculum Review: proposal changes are coming.

TSUS: Sul Ross, Sam Houston, Texas State, and Lamar University President changes: resignations and retirements.

Plagiarism definition: Faculty Senate Committee constructing definition.

Announcements:

Monday, December 6, at 2:00 PM, Vice President Mary Wickland will give a State of the Funding presentation in Madison Monroe room 224. The session will address funding issues impacting LSCPA, where the college is spending money.

Commencement, next Friday, December 10, is mandatory for full-time faculty. Students will be each be given four tickets.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM by James Cammack