TO: Members of the Faculty Senate

FROM: Dr. Daniel Nathan, Faculty Senate President

RE: Agenda for meeting #322, March 20, 2013
Meeting starts at 3:15 p.m. Senate Room 132 Student Union Building

I. Call to order – Dr. Aliza Wong, Faculty Senate Vice President called the meeting to order at 3:18pm.


III. Guests were: Patrick Hughes, Cathy Durhan, Juan Munoz, Jennifer Hughes, Michael Farmer, Tara Miller, John Howe. Senators elect-Ron Milam, Laura Heinz, Mark McGinley, Hendrika Buelinckx, Carolyn Tate, Jordon Berg.

IV. Approval of minutes, Meeting #321, February 13, 2013. Minutes approved as written.

V. Speakers:

3:20pm to 3:35pm Dr. Cathy Duran, Associate Vice Provost for Student Affairs-Faculty Survey of Student Engagement

Dr. Duran presented a new faculty survey that will assess the level of student engagement on campus and invited senators to participate in the survey that will be distributed electronically.

3:35pm to 3:50pm Dr. Patrick Hughes, Associate Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education-Committee on Academic Advising and Retention (CAAR) Strategic Plan
Dr. Hughes spoke on the vigorous efforts of his office to improve the quality of advising to students, facilitating communication between colleges, making the advising process more efficient, and helping students to make the right academic choices in order to graduate on time. After some discussion Dr. Hughes invited those interested to attend the next meeting which will be held next Tuesday, March 28, TLPDC room 152.

VI. Old Business: University Councils/Committees & Liaison Reports:

Michael Farmer, Texas Council of Faculty Senates Report and provided two handouts.

VII. New Business: Revisiting of Previous Senate Resolutions on:
Guns on Campus – Senator Cochran presented the proposed new resolution. After much discussion (which is available on the CD in the Faculty Senate office) the final proposed resolution passed:

Whereas the State of Texas and Boards of Regents across the State recognize the need for special considerations for the student adult population by university administrations and professors; and

Whereas the student population in academic study is an adult population that exhibits a high incidence of serious accidents and suicide risk; and

Whereas classroom discussions on controversial matters are likely to be less free and open due to the implicit intimidation that the presence of guns would provide; and

Whereas campus police officers across the State of Texas oppose by strong majority extending concealed weapons access to the campus population,

Be it Resolved,

It is the sentiment of the Faculty Senate that we strongly oppose all legislation currently before the Texas Legislature that would prohibit university administrators from regulating or prohibiting the carrying of concealed handguns on university campuses in Texas.

Child Care discussion– hold until next meeting.

Ombudsman discussion – hold until next meeting.

VIII. Announcements: New Raise Structure in Connection with Promotions – will go be effective this year for fall salaries
Officer Election-Nomination Committee- Update-
Beginning the election process for Faculty Senate
officers for 2013-2014, looking for candidates,
election to be held in April. Nomination committee is
Wendy Ross, Fanni Coward and Alan Barenberg
Ross announced the current slate of nominees.

Elections will be held in April. if you would like to run let the Nomination
committee know.

IX. Adjournment – 4:48pm