

Report on the Academic Council's Recent Activities

Student Government Association (SGA): SGA is active in campus engagement and has hosted notable campus-wide activities recently such as meeting with Texas Secretary of State Carlos Cascos and Presidential debate watch party. It is creating a commission on student veterans and non-traditional students and a report will be made available to Student Senate in February 2017. A point that is of interest to Faculty will be that call for nominations to serve as student regent or student representative in THECB are put forward to SGA.

Academic Council approved a proposal to consolidate B.S. in Zoology with B.S. in Biology. However, specialization in Zoology would be available for B.S. in Biology.

Academic Council approved a proposal to increase semester credit hours (SCH) for Bachelor of Music degree from 121 to 124 in compliance with THECB SCH hours limitation for that degree.

THECB approved M.S. in Finance.

An ad-hoc committee is working on issues related to grades "X" and "I." Of particular concern is an increasing number of unresolved grades of X and I on student transcripts.

College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources is working on a new concentration on companion animals. The concentration will be available to Animal Science majors.

Convocation committee has adopted a policy that would allow marriage proposals in private spaces before or after commencement ceremony but not allowed during the ceremony.

Associate deans were encouraged to promote more applications of faculty, especially mid-career faculty to various teaching awards, such as the state-wide Minnie Stevens Piper Professor award.

Respectfully submitted,

Seshadri Ramkumar (aka Ram)

November 7, 2016