

**Faculty Senate Minutes**  
**December 11, 2019 #371**

**Senators present were:** Barnes, Cox, Meyers, Perl, Brittsan, Held, Ladeira, Nathan, Novotny, Ramkumar, Rider, Cook, Romi, Jones, Louis, Bayne, Parameswaran, Jai, Weiser, Cochran, Watts, Callender, King, Gotlieb, Eko, Calamoneri, Decker, Flueckiger and Forrest.

**Senators excused were:** Farmer, Sharma, Buelinckx, Al-Hmoud, Bishop, Borshuk, Collopy, Franklin, Gilson, Grair, Johnson, Jonsson, Juan, Kleinhans, Pare, Pihlaja, Skidmore, Thompson, Walter, Wang, Williams, Boal, Hawley, Baker, Darwish, He, Bradatan, Huston, Shumway, Cassidy, Weiner, Langford, and Donahue.

**Guests were** Rob Stewart-Senior Vice Provost; Richard Meek- recording meeting; CassiDe Street-IRB liaison; Parliamentarian Ryan Litsey.

**3.19 PM: President Cochran** called the meeting to order and introduced the guests.

As there was no quorum, minutes of the November meeting could not be approved. December meeting was conducted without any formal business activity.

**President Cochran** asked for any committee reports for information purpose only.

Senator Callender briefed about the administrators evaluation survey and encouraged faculty to participate.

**Senator Gotlieb** presented updates from Study Committee A, which is working on revisions to the Third Year Review policy OP 32.38.

Language that reflects the purpose of third year review to be a mentoring process at the base unit level is included. The revision will also focus on the role of the college level committee and the Dean of the college. Discussions ensued in the Senate on the revisions to this OP. The committee is still working at revisions and revised draft will be presented to the Faculty Senate. President Cochran requested Senators to send comments to the committee.

**Senator Eko** reported that the International Affairs Office's emphasis on study abroad. One college (Engineering) has mandatory study abroad requirement.

**Announcements:**

**Secretary Ramkumar** reported the recent activities of the AAUP-TTU chapter. Requested Senators to provide inputs on the criteria for equity pay raises. AAUP-TTU chapter is working on a draft to be delivered to the Provost by January 2020. The draft will be discussed in the January 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the AAUP-TTU Chapter.

**President Cochran** reported about a committee working on the Request for Proposals (RFP) for new bids for campus bookstore. Senator Held asked about the contract terms for the bookstore. President Cochran stated after 7 years, there would be a new RFP issued.

**President Cochran** requested participation in the Student Success and Retention Task Force. Faculty Senate needs representation in the committee.

**President Cochran** briefed about his recent discussions with the President and Provost with regards to fall and spring semesters calendaring issues. This semester, drop date was after the last date for course evaluation. President Cochran is working to correct such situations.

**Dr. Tara Stevens** will brief about Faculty Ombudsperson office charter in the January meeting.

**President Cochran** received a notification about 8.30 AM today (December 11, 2019) with regards to the adoption of revisions to OP 40.03 (Sexual Harassment, Sexual Assault, Sexual Misconduct, and Title IX Policy and Complaint Procedure). Faculty were left out of the process and so President Cochran expressed his concerns to the administration. Victor Mellinger, deputy general counsel responded to President Cochran that if faculty found anything objectionable in the policy that would be adopted by Board of Regents in December, it would be revisited. President Cochran will send the revised OP to the Faculty Status & Welfare Committee to have a good look at it.

**Senator Held:** Requested clarification from Dr. Rob Stewart, Senior Vice Provost, as it affects tenure.

**Senior Vice Provost Stewart:** Board will be adopting it as Regents Rule.

**President Cochran:** Law requires that Regents meet January 1 deadline and hence they want to adopt it.

**Senator Held:** The committee will do their best and look at the revised OP.

**President Cochran** reported about the Staff Senate's activity to create a funding mechanism to support staff in terms of personal financial emergency. Staff Senate is working on enhancing their site with google translator to have information in multiple languages, as a matter of diversity. It will be good for the Faculty Senate as well.

**President Cochran** adjourned meeting without a motion due to lack of quorum.