FACULTY SENATE MINUTES SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

March 7, 2013 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. LSC 304

Members present:

Nancy Baker (H&SS); Helen Berg (COE); Tracy Bilsing (H&SS); Kevin Clifton (FA&MC); Donna Cox (COE); Tom Cox (H&SS); James Crosby (H&SS); Mark Frank (COBA); Randall Garner (CJ);

TCFS and TSUS Report – Both bodies met in Austin on March 1 and 2, and were attended by Chair Steele, Chair-elect James and Permanent Representative Frank. The following items were of note:

- SHSU is growing more than other universities in the Texas State University System (system wide enrollment is only up approximately 1%)
- -Tuition Revenue Bonds are possible this year. SHSU has asked for money for two buildings.
- -A bill has been put forward by Rep. Lewis that would provide \$30 million to cover unfunded exemptions such as Hazelwood. If it passes, it would be distributed proportionally to affected universities. This would be a one-year only fix. We were told that in addition to fixing this funding problem, there was also talk of doing some research to find out why the forecast was incorrect when it was initially put forward.
- -Unfunded Exemptions may have restrictions placed such as requiring a certain GPA, requiring full-time status, or requiring students who qualify for other programs such as the GI Bill or Pell Grants to exhaust those first.
- -HB25- Outcomes based funding. Representative Branch, R-Dallas, spoke specifically on issues presently before the Texas Legislature. He has backed HB 25 which he expects to pass, but it would be more like HB 10, in that ten percent of formula funding would be distributed based on 16 criteria including retention and graduation rates. He is optimistic this will pass. According to Provost Hebert, this will help SHSU since we do well in these criteria.
- -Contingency faculty. These are lecturers and possibly clinical faculty, but not part-time adjunct faculty. There was a major discussion of protecting their rights. We were given a survey to fill out in advance, but they did not provide a clear definition or idea of what type of faculty contingent faculty may be. SHSU did not provide very good data for that reason. The issue is one of their rights: Can contingency faculty serve on faculty senates? What are their roles within their departments? TCFS will address this at a later meeting.
- Post Tenure Review SHSU's own Debra Price and Frank Fair discussed the origins of this policy. TACT and TCFS will conduct a state-wide survey on how it is being implemented across campuses.
- -Agenda for TCFS You do not have to be a member of the board for TCFS to give suggestions for the Agenda for the TCFS meetings. SHSU needs to explore this for future meetings.

Approval of Minutes: February 21 minutes were approved.

Core Curriculum Report: None.

Committee Reports:

Academic Affairs Committee (see attached).

The two-day IDEA visit reveale(e) -3 645 -3 361 -3T.6363.046.1224 (m) -0 150 45 4 (on)op4 (y) 5 (t) 4 (i) 4 (

It was mentioned that different departments use different numbers from the IDEA form, and indeed some department chairs use whichever number is highest. This practice was deemed arbitrary and unfair, and faculty should know in advance whether the scores used are the raw scores, adjusted scores, compared across disciplines, etc. The use should be the same across the board. One complication is the frequent changes in administration, and new chairs or deans might apply a different method. Given the strong impact this evaluation system has on the lives of faculty members, it was felt that Faculty Senate should endorse a specific system in order to keep the bar from shifting across departments and across time.

Senator Longmire is currently serving on the Faculty Evaluation Committee, which has met to discuss the possibilities. He outlined the following issues and recommendations:

- -The committee encourages university-wide use of IDEA for <u>formative</u> use in pre- and post-tenure review.
- -There is no evidence that chairs or other administrators