



PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

A Member of the Texas A&M University System

Faculty Senate Meeting

October 11, 2013 at 3:00pm (O'Banion 123)

MEETING MINUTES

Executive Committee Members in Attendance

M. Clay Hooper, Secretary
Megnon Stewart, Asst. Secretary (via TTVN)
Clement Glenn, Parliamentarian
Ross Wienert, Member-At-Large

Item I: Sign-In By College

College of Arts & Sciences

Innocent Aluka
Cleo Bentley
Orion Ciftja
Max Fontus
Terri Pantuso
Gloria Regisford
John Williams

College of Business

Qiang Fei
Emmanuel Opara
Ada Till
Yi Zhang

College of Education

Clarissa Booker
Douglas Hermond

College of Engineering

Alice Pendleton

College of Nursing (via TTVN)

Keshea Britton
Pamela Cormier
Antonea Jackson
Megnon Stewart

Item II: Greeting & Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by Acting Speaker Bentley at 3:15pm.

Item III: Elections Committee Report

- Senator Williams (committee chair) briefly summarized the contents of the Elections Committee Report (attached) that was distributed to all senators by email on 9/26/13. The committee was tasked with reapportioning the FS and did so using data provided by Human Resources and the Office of Institutional Research. Each college was allotted one senator for every ten full-time (100% effort) faculty members or fraction thereof, as per the FS Constitution (Item II.A.2 and Item II.B.1). As indicated on the report, the committee took steps to subtract senators from the delegations from Agriculture & Human Sciences, Arts & Sciences, and Juvenile Justice & Psychology and add senators to the delegations from Business and Engineering. The committee also served as a nominations committee in order to organize the pending elections for three open seats on the EC.
- Secretary Hooper (committee member) noted that the delegations from Juvenile Justice & Psychology and from Engineering each have one seat that remains unfilled.

- Senator Booker asked if all senators are full-time faculty members, and Senator Williams answered in the affirmative. Senator Booker then moved to adopt the Elections Committee Report as written and attached. Senator Pantuso seconded. The motion passed with 15 in favor, none opposed.

Item IV: Further Initiation of New Senators

- Parliamentarian Glenn initiated the new senators, Qiang Fei (Business) and Keshea Britton (Nursing).

Item V: Election of New Officers

- Secretary Hooper presided over the elections for the EC positions of Speaker, Vice Speaker, and Member-At-Large. Senator Booker stated that the FS Constitution stipulates that EC elections be conducted by secret ballot. An examination of the Constitution revealed no such language. Senator Booker moved that the candidates for each position leave the room while voting take place by secret ballot. Pendleton seconded. The motion failed with 5 in favor and 10 opposed.
- Senator Ciftja moved to commence voting by secret ballot but without the candidates leaving the room. Senator Zhang seconded. The motion passed with 15 in favor and 3 opposed.
- The elections were conducted via secret ballots counted by Secretary Hooper and Elections Committee Chairman Williams, overseen by other Elections Committee members. All ballots, including those emailed by absent senators and senators from the College of Nursing, will remain in the possession of Secretary Hooper. The results of the elections were as follows:

Speaker: Senator Glenn

Vice Speaker: Senator Opara

Member-At-Large: Senator Pendleton

- Speaker Glenn, vacating the position of parliamentarian, requested that Senator Bentley accept an appointment to serve in that position. Senator Bentley declined. Speaker Glenn requested the same of Senator Williams accept. Senator Williams accepted and was duly appointed.
- The senate body recognized the full Executive Committee:

Speaker: Clement Glenn (Education)

Vice Speaker: Emmanuel Opara (Business)

Secretary: M. Clay Hooper (Arts & Sciences)

Asst. Secretary: Megnon Stewart (Nursing)

Parliamentarian: John Williams (Arts & Sciences)

Member-At-Large: Ross Wienert (Architecture)

Member-At-Large: Douglas Butler (Education)

Member-At-Large: Alice Pendleton (Engineering)

Item VI: Approval of Previous Minutes

- Senator Booker moved to approve the minutes from 9/13/13. Pendleton seconded. No discussion was necessary to pass the motion.

Item VII: Committees

- Speaker Glenn emphasized the importance of the FS committee structure in rising to the demands of the changing climate of higher education, including the state-level movement from enrollment-based funding to outcome-based funding. Speaker Glenn charged the senate body with reexamining and reevaluating the existing committee structure and reaffirmed his own commitment to openness, transparency, and shared governance within the FS.

- **Faculty Handbook Committee:** Parliamentarian Williams (Arts & Sciences) will continue to serve as chair
 - **Student Recruitment Committee:** Senator Pantuso (Arts & Sciences) will serve as chair.
 - **Facilities Committee:** Member-At-Large Wienert (Architecture) will serve as chair.
 - **Promotion & Tenure Committee:** Senator Bentley is unsure whether he will continue to serve as chair.
 - **Enrollment & Retention Committee:** Senator Till will serve as chair.
 - **Academic Council:** Senator Booker will represent the senate on the Academic Council.
 - **Committee on Committees:** The function of this committee will be reviewed before appointing a chair. Referring to the FS Constitution, Senator Pantuso clarified that this committee is responsible for appointing faculty members to university-level committees and taskforces.
 - **Compliance of Rules:** Senator Bentley clarified that this is an ad hoc committee rather than a standing committee. No chair is necessary until a need arises.
 - **Taskforce on Rules, Procedures, Academic Freedom, Tenure, & Responsibility:** Speaker Glenn and Senator Bentley clarified that this was a special taskforce appointed by the Provost. It has executed its charge and is no longer necessary unless the Provost issues a new charge.
- Senator Ciftja inquired as to the process for creating and abolishing committees and suggested the creation of a Research Committee. Speaker Glenn supported the idea of a Research Committee and assured the senate body that revising the existing committee structure would be a priority for the next meeting.
 - Senator Pantuso asked for clarification of committee missions, particularly the mission for the Student Recruitment Committee. Speaker Glenn explained that the Student Recruitment Committee is responsible for assuring that the faculty plays a substantive role in shaping the university's recruitment policies and procedures. Senator Booker clarified that the Recruitment chairperson represents the FS at university-level meetings on recruitment.
 - Speaker Glenn suggested that the EC meet at 3pm on the first Friday of each month. With no objections to this suggestion, the next Executive Committee Meeting was scheduled for 3pm on 11/1 at the FS office in the Banks Building.

Item VIII: Additional Business

- Speaker Glenn will clarify what the FS budget is and how it is used. Senator Booker explained that, historically, the Speaker enjoyed the perks of a designated campus parking space and dining gratis at any campus diner.
- Senator Booker moved to adjourn the meeting. Pendleton seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:59pm. The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will take place on 11/8 at 3pm in O'Banion 123.