



PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

A Member of the Texas A&M University System

Faculty Senate Meeting

March 15, 2015 at 3:00pm
O'Banion, Room 123

MEETING MINUTES

Executive Committee Members

Clement Glenn, Speaker
Emmanuel Opara, Vice Speaker
M. Clay Hooper, Secretary
Ronald Goodwin, Parliamentarian
Gloria Regisford, Member-At-Large
Ross Wienert, Member-At-Large

Guests in Attendance

James Valles, Mathematics
Forrest Smith, Nursing
John Williams, Chemistry

Item I: Sign-In By College

College of Ag & Human Sciences

Teneinger Abrom-Johnson
Gbenga Ojumu

School of Architecture

Juanita Jimenez

College of Arts & Sciences

Innocent Aluka
Orion Ciftja

College of Business

Qiang Fei
Sanzid Haq

College of Education

Clarissa Booker (TTVN)
Douglas Butler
Douglas Hermond
Albert Johnson

College of Engineering

Jorge Gabitto
Lin Li
Sheena Reeves

College of JJPY

Aisha Asby

College of Nursing

Item II: Invocation by Dean Lewter

Item III: Greeting & Call to Order

1. Speaker Glenn introduced former Senator John Williams, present as part of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Faculty Handbook and President Wright's task force on using distance technology for recruitment purposes. Speaker Glenn explained that the Texas Education Agency has recently committed to providing financial support for recruitment efforts.
2. Speaker Glenn called the meeting to order, with a quorum, at 3:33pm.

Item IV: Senator Roll Call

Item V: Approval of Previous Minutes

1. Senator Booker clarified that, during the February meeting, she had requested that it be added to the

January minutes Provost Nave—not Senator Booker herself—had indicated that PVAMU’s \$8,000 in student fees is excessive (see Item V.1 of the February minutes and Item VI.f of the January minutes).

2. Senator Booker repeated her request that the members of the Ad Hoc Piper Award Nomination Committee be noted in official Senate minutes (see Item V.2 from the February minutes). Secretary Hooper reiterated his explanation that the members of that committee were noted in the November minutes (Item VIII.b).
3. Senator Butler noted that there is no record in the February minutes of the Graduate Council Representative report that he had emailed to Speaker Glenn to be delivered in his absence. Speaker Glenn explained that the emailed materials had been distributed to all Senators and can be appended to the official version of the February minutes.
4. Senator Gabbitto moved to pass the January minutes with minor revisions. Senator Butler seconded. The motion passed with 19 for, 2 against.

Item VI: Multiyear Contracts for Contingent Faculty

1. Secretary Hooper briefly summarized the draft of a Senate proposal to President Wright regarding multiyear contracts for contingent faculty members (see the revised version of the proposal appended). Secretary Hooper explained that the proposal derived from his recent conversation with President Wright, who had expressed a desire to reduce turnover among contingent faculty and was very receptive to the idea of multiyear contracts for high-performing contingent faculty members.
2. Senators Johnson, Abrom-Johnson, and Ojumu expressed their support for the proposal.
3. Former Senator Williams pointed out that TAMUS policy 12.07 allows institutions the option of providing multiyear contracts for contingent faculty. Speaker Glenn suggested that the policy be appended to the revised proposal.
4. Senator Haq suggested that the proposal include a recommendation that PVAMU create a tenure track for teaching faculty with terminal degrees. Such a track would include higher teaching loads and lower research expectations than the traditional, research-oriented tenure track.
5. Senator Ciftja moved to approve the proposal with the two suggested additions; Senator Johnson seconded the motion. Speaker Glenn called for additional discussion:
 - a. Senator Opara expressed concern that the proposal had not been duly vetted by the Executive Committee. Speaker Glenn explained that Secretary Hooper had presented the basic outline of the proposal to the Executive Committee, which had unanimously approved of the plan and encouraged Secretary Hooper to compose a draft of the proposal and send it via email to all senators for review prior to the present meeting.
 - b. Speaker Glenn closed the discussion period, and the motion passed with 17 for and 3 against. Senator Booker requested that the minutes reflect that she voted against the proposal for multiyear contracts for contingent faculty.

Item VII: Research and Recommendation for Advisement Resource Needs

1. Speaker Glenn asserted that advisement resources are a critical need across the campus but that advisement resource needs may differ from college to college and department to department. He suggested that the Senate may need to formulate an ad hoc committee to research the specific advisement needs of each college and department.
2. Parliamentarian Goodwin moved to create an ad hoc committee on advisement needs, and Senator Abrom-Johnson seconded. The motion passed with 17 for and 2 abstained.
3. Senator Abrom-Johnson volunteered to chair the ad hoc committee and Senators Opara, Hooper, Regisford, and Aluka volunteered to serve under her.

Item VIII: Speaker’s Report on Texas Council of Faculty Senates and African American Legislative

Summit

- a. Speaker Glenn attended the 2015 African American Legislative Summit (March 1-3) and reported on his experience. During a session on HBCUs, the central question addressed was: What needs to be done to train the next generation of students? Speaker Glenn raised the additional question of what must be done to train next generation of parents, since student success depends so highly on parental involvement.
- b. Reporting the recent meeting of the Texas Council of Faculty Senates, Speaker Glenn explained that one important topic of discussion was that large community college systems like Lone Star are looking to become four-year institutions, which would dramatically affect recruitment for existing four-year colleges and universities. Speaker Glenn also reported that TAMUS Vice Chancellor James Hallmark noted a system-wide problem with customer service. Speaker Glenn noted that the faculty mentoring program requested by the Senate and approved by President Wright would, if implemented, improve customer service and student retention. Finally, Speaker Glenn noted that another topic of discussion was workplace bullying and that, in his capacity as Senate Speaker, he had recently been approached with two complaints of bullying from faculty members.

Item IX: Committee Reports

1. *Committee and Senate Elections*: Senator Reeves (chair) noted that Vice Speaker Opara's name was mistakenly left off of the recently distributed list of senators who were completing their second term. Vice Speaker Opara objected to his inclusion on the list, arguing that he is not in his fourth consecutive year of Senate service. Senator Reeves indicated that the matter would be further investigated.
2. *Committee on Communication*: Member-At-Large Regisford reported that A Faculty Senate Newsletter was distributed on March 4. The next newsletter will go out after the Senate's elections in May. Member-At-Large Regisford also reported that President Wright would be the keynote speaker at the Senate luncheon in April.
3. *Graduate Council and University Academic Council (UAC)*: Senator Butler reported that the Graduate Council was attempting to model its new procedures after the UAC's procedures. Senator Butler noted that the day of the current meeting (3/15) was the deadline for undergraduate and graduate programs to submit curriculum changes for Fall 2015.
4. *Committee on Faculty Research & Development*: Senator Butler (chair) noted that more funding is becoming available for research and that PVAMU mini-grant recipients have been announced. Senator Butler also noted that the Center for Teaching Excellence is sponsoring a series of presentations to help faculty members do a better job of addressing student needs. Finally, Senator Butler reported that the Department of Curriculum and Instruction presented a poster on diversity and a recent TAMU conference on the climate of cultural differences.
5. *Committee on Student Recruitment*: Vice Speaker Opara articulated the need for PVAMU to increase its presence at community colleges and among the non-residential student population. He also recommended the use upper-level students for recruitment, including shadow programs where prospective students can follow current students to classes and other activities. Vice Speaker Opara indicated that a report from the recruitment committee would be emailed to the full Senate.
6. *Enrollment*: Speaker Glenn reiterated the fact that Senator Booker's faculty mentoring program had been approved in 2009 and needs to be implemented to address shortcomings in how faculty members deal with cultural differences with their students.
7. *Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Handbook*: Parliamentarian Goodwin (chair) reported that the committee is reviewing first section of the revised handbook and will review the second section and beyond in upcoming weeks. The purpose of the review is to determine whether the content is acceptable to faculty. The committee will meet on March 25th.

Item IX: Additional Business

1. Senator Booker reported that the Whitlowe R. Green College of Education is hosting the Education Job

Fair on March 24th and the Honors Convocation on March 25th.

2. Senator Booker moved to adjourn the meeting; Senator Butler seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:19pm.