



PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

A Member of the Texas A&M University System

Faculty Senate Meeting

May 2, 2014 at 3:00pm (O'Banion 123)

MEETING MINUTES

Executive Committee Members in Attendance

Clement Glenn, Speaker
Emmanuel Opara, Vice Speaker
M. Clay Hooper, Secretary
Ross Wienert, Member-At-Large
Douglas Butler, Member-At-Large

Item I: Sign-In By College

College of Ag & Human Sciences

Teneinger Abrom-Johnson
Oluwagbeniga Ojumu

College of Arts & Sciences

Innocent Aluka
Orion Ciftja
Jeffrey Freeman
Ronald Goodwin
Michael Nojeim
Terri Pantuso
Gloria Regisford
Jan Taylor

College of Business

Qiang Fei
Sanzid Haq

College of Education

Clarissa Booker
Albert Johnson

College of Engineering

Jorge Gabitto
Lin Li
Sarhan Musa
Yongpeng Zhang

College of JJPY

Aisha Asby

College of Nursing

Keshea Britton (TTVN)
Pamela Cormier (TTVN)

Item II: Invocation by Speaker Glenn

Item III: Greeting & Call to Order

1. Speaker Glenn called the meeting to order, with a quorum, at 2:20pm.

Item IV: Senator Roll Call

Item V: Induction of New Members

1. Speaker Glenn inducted the new members: Jeffrey Freeman, Ronald Goodwin, Jan Taylor, Sanzid Haq, Jorge Gabitto, Lin Li, Yongpeng Zhang, Aisha Asby.

Item VI: Ratify Action Items from April Session & Approve Previous Minutes

1. Secretary Hooper briefly reviewed the action items that passed during the April meeting without a quorum (see attached). Senator Pantuso motioned to ratify the actions; Senator Nojeim seconded. The motion to ratify passed with 20 for, 1 against.
2. Senator Nojeim moved to approve the combined minutes from the February, March, and April meetings (the February and March meetings were suspended rather than adjourned); Senator Cormier seconded. The motion to approve passed with 20 for and 1 against.

Item VII: Executive Committee Elections

1. Elections were held via secret ballot to fill all positions on the Executive Committee for the 2014-2015 Faculty Senate Session. The results were as follows:
 - o **Speaker** – Clement Glenn
 - o **Vice Speaker** – Emmanuel Opara
 - o **Secretary** – M. Clay Hooper
 - o **Assistant Secretary** – Terri Pantuso
 - o **Member-At-Large** – Pamela Cormier
 - o **Member-At-Large** – Ross Wienert
 - o **Member-At-Large** – Gloria Regisford
 - o **Parliamentarian** – Ronald Goodwin

Item VIII: Committee Reports

1. **Senate Representative on the University Academic Council:** Senator Booker reported that the UAC had recently approved curriculum additions and deletions proposed by the School of Architecture, curriculum additions proposed by the College of Arts & Sciences, and degree requirement changes proposed by the College of Engineering. She also reported that UAC bylaw changes are being discussed within individual colleges. Senator Nojeim asked if the UAC had changed any of its bylaws before being brought into compliance with its existing bylaws. Secretary Hooper noted that the bylaws listed on the UAC website had changed and asked if this was a result of a vote within the UAC. Vice Speaker Opara (also a faculty representative on the UAC) asserted that there had been no vote on bylaw changes in the UAC. Senator Nojeim pointed out that any vote that the UAC takes while out of compliance with its existing bylaws would be illegitimate; Senator Aluka echoed this sentiment. Speaker Glenn assured the Senate body that he would seek clarification on the matter in an upcoming meeting with President Wright. Senator Booker explained that UAC members are supposed to report back to their colleges and then bring any request for bylaw changes back to the full UAC for discussion. She then reaffirmed Vice Speaker Opara's assertion that no vote had been taken in the UAC to change its bylaws. Senator Nojeim requested that Speaker Glenn remind President Wright of the ways in the UAC is out of compliance.
2. **Committee on University Facilities:** Member-At-Large Wienert reported that he had been in contact with Vice President Bradford concerning the possibility of establishing a Senate liaison to the governing body within the Office of Business Affairs that handles facilities issues. Vice President Bradford explained that there is no centralized facilities committee within the Office of Business Affairs and that facilities decisions are handled across many different governing bodies. Since it is impractical to establish Senate representation on each of these governing bodies, Member-At-Large Wienert assured the Senate body that he would continue to consider how the Senate might best ensure its participation in decision-making processes related to university facilities.
3. **Committee on Enrollment, Retention, & Matriculation:** Speaker Glenn reported that President Wright's task force for increasing enrollment and retention in the College of Education's graduate programs has developed a set of initiatives that have not yet been implemented. He explained that

TAMUS has mandated that PVAMU's enrollment increase to 9,000 in 2014-2015 and 10,000 the following year. \$20 million has been appropriated for Academic Development Initiatives, but the administration has not developed a plan for spending these funds. Senator Hooper asked if the Faculty Senate's Committee on Enrollment, Retention, & Matriculation had met or taken any actions. Speaker Glenn responded that information about a proposed mentoring program had been distributed to committee members but that no feedback had been received yet. Senator Abrom-Johnson mentioned that peer-to-peer mentoring had been successful in the College of Agriculture and Human Sciences. Vice Speaker Opara asserted that the Senate must put pressure on the administration to act upon the SWOT analysis that had been performed by the Office of Academic Affairs. Senator Ciftja argued that the most important thing moving forward is to clarify the division of recruitment/retention responsibilities between the administration and faculty.

Item IX: Additional Business

1. On behalf of the Committee on Committees, based on its recent meeting, Secretary Hooper proposed that Senate create a new position, Liaison to the Office of Government Relations. The liaison would be tasked with meeting regularly with the Governmental Affairs Officer and reporting back to the Senate on any issues that may require its attention. Senator Nojeim motioned to create the position; Member-At-Large Wienert seconded. The motion passed with 20 for and none against.
2. Senator Booker nominated Member-At-Large Butler to replace her on the UAC. Secretary Hooper moved that a period of open nominations be followed by a formal election for the position; Senator Nojeim seconded. The motion passed with 16 for and none against.
3. Senator Glenn suggested that the Senate hold a luncheon for members to close out the year.

Results from the General Session on April 25, 2014

The general session for April was conducted without a quorum. As there are currently 34 sitting senators, 18 senators are required for a quorum, but only 16 were present at the April session. Following Robert's Rules, the senators in attendance decided to conduct business as usual and then bring the results up for ratification at the next general session with a quorum. This document summarizes the results that must be ratified by the full Senate, but senators are also encouraged to review the December minutes closely.

- 1) Secretary Hooper presented a draft of a proposal to be sent to President Wright calling for a comprehensive equity study conducted by an external agency. The full proposal is attached to the end of the Feb/March/April minutes. The senators in attendance at the April meeting voted unanimously to adopt the proposal and send it to the president.
- 2) The senators in attendance at the April meeting voted unanimously to create a position within the Senate titled, Liaison to the Center for Teaching Excellence. This position would be held, *ex officio*, by the chair of Committee on Research and Faculty Development. This liaison will be expected to meet with decision-makers in the Center for Teaching Excellence on a regular basis.