

SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY
Faculty Senate Meeting
Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2016 – 3:10 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Hughes-Trigg Ballroom West

Present: Adriana Aceves, *Sabri Ates, Richard Barr, *Amit Basu, Neil Bhattacharya, Michael Braun, Daniel Buraczkeski, Rajat Deb, Kevin Hanlon, Michael Hawn, LiGuo Huang, Susanne Johnson, Francesca Jones, Elfi Kraka, *Paul Krueger, John Lamoreaux, Choon Lee, Matt Lockard, Jody Magliolo, Luigi Manzetti, Cheryl Mendenhall, *Brian Molanphy, Pavel Nadolsky, Andrew Quicksall, *Abigail Pruitt, Dan Reynolds, *Thomas Ritz, Tim Rosendale, Elizabeth Russ, Susanne Scholz, Susana Solera Adoboe, *Jeanne Stevenson-Moessner, presiding; *Joshua Tate, *Pia Vogel, Matthew Wilson

Absent: Karen Baker-Fletcher; Alan Brown, Betty Gilmore, Leanne Ketterlin-Geller, Tom Knock, Tamara Lewis, Meghan Ryan, Canan Savaskan-Ebert, Heather Stobaugh, Halit Uster, Jessica Dixon Weaver (on leave), Steve Weisenburger

Ex Officio:

Visitors: Grant Hayden, Julie Forrester, Dr. Pamela Anthony, Doug Reinelt, Kathleen Tibbets

1. The meeting was called to order by President Jeanne Stevenson-Moessner at 3:12 PM.
2. The minutes of the Senate meeting on Apr. 27, 2016 were approved. Minutes of the Executive Committee meetings on May 13, June 22, and August 18 were reviewed.
3. President Stevenson-Moessner introduced the Executive Committee and the new senators for 2016-17. She thanked all senators for their service and then updated the Senate on the developments over the summer. One of our greatest accomplishments last year was to preserve the SMU Preschool and Child Care Center, and a celebration was held at the Preschool which Senators attended. The Senate was also represented at the memorial service for SMU Police Officer Mark McCullers.

The Executive Committee had three formal meetings over the summer, and also met twice informally to discuss issues relating to campus safety. Progress has been made on revising the University Curriculum. The faculty will be receiving a survey on Sept. 26 relating to Operational Excellence. Human Resources will be announcing some changes relating to faculty benefits. Most of those are minor; however, the \$1,000 deductible will no longer be available. Because Doug Reinelt has been appointed as an Associate Provost, the Executive Committee appointed Santanu Roy to replace him on the Board of Trustees Finance Committee, and also elected Pia Vogel to the Executive Committee.

4. President Stevenson-Moessner and President-Elect Paul Krueger presented members of the Senate with lapel pins to wear to official events. Senators were also given cards for free meals at residential dining halls in order to meet with our constituents in the schools and discuss their concerns.

5. The Senate went into executive session to approve the committee policy charges and memberships. After discussion and amendments, the charges and memberships were approved.
6. President Stevenson-Moessner introduced Provost Steve Currall, Dedman College Dean Tom DiPiero, and Associate Dean Peter Moore, who came to speak to the Senate regarding the process of updating the University Curriculum. Provost Currall explained that one of his first tasks as Provost has been to respond to the Faculty Senate's request to update the University Curriculum. Last spring, Provost Currall held a town hall on the subject where he argued that faculty in every unit on campus should have a voice in the deliberations about the University Curriculum regardless of whether they teach courses that are part of the UC.

Although Peter Moore is an Associate Dean in Dedman College, most of his time is spent on University matters. Going forward, the Provost plans to have Dr. Moore report directly to him as an Associate Provost, which would allow Dean DiPiero to have two full-time associate deans in Dedman College. Dean DiPiero agrees with the Provost that the UC is a University-wide program, and that it would therefore make more sense for Peter Moore to report to the Provost. Dr. Moore explained how his reassignment would help establish a better and more stable curriculum.

In response to questions from Senators regarding the broader implications, Provost Currall explained that the new arrangement is intended to be permanent, but will not increase the administrative burden from a budgetary perspective. The members of the curriculum council will continue to be voted on by the members of the schools. Provost Currall is deeply committed to liberal arts education, and if it becomes necessary to replace Dr. Moore at some point, Provost Currall would certainly want to replace him with another person who is equally committed to the liberal arts curriculum.

Provost Currall thanked the Senate for inviting him, Dean DiPiero, and Dr. Moore to speak. President Stevenson-Moessner expressed her appreciation for the dialogue.

7. President Stevenson-Moessner introduced Dr. Pamela Anthony, the new Vice President for Student Affairs. Dr. Anthony talked about her background before coming to SMU as well as the many responsibilities in her new role. Prior to coming to SMU, Dr. Anthony held positions at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks, Spelman College, and Iowa State University. She started her position at SMU in February.

The goal of Student Affairs is to ensure that students succeed outside of the classroom and have a comprehensive experience while they are here. Student Affairs is responsible for a myriad of programs on campus, including the Dedman Center for Lifetime Sports, the Hughes-Trigg Student Center, and the new Bob Smith Health Center. Student Affairs is also currently supervising the Preschool and Child Care Center. The students have been interested for some time in modernizing the Hughes-Trigg Student Center, and Student Affairs is looking to re-engage them in that conversation. Student Affairs is also

responsible for educating our students about sexual violence, and is continually reevaluating those educational programs.

Faculty members play a vital role in recognizing problems that students may be facing, and Dr. Anthony encouraged the faculty to continue to bring any concerns to the attention of Student Affairs. We need to continue to have difficult conversations regarding diversity and cultural intelligence, and Maria Dixon-Hall will be helping us make progress in that regard in her new position. We all share a collective responsibility for helping the students succeed.

President Stevenson-Moessner thanked Dr. Anthony for speaking to the Senate.

8. The Faculty Senate discussed issues relating to campus safety.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joshua Tate