

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

Present: Adriana Aceves, *Sabri Ates, Richard Barr, Michael Braun, Alan Brown, Rajat Deb, Dennis Foster, Kevin Hanlon, Michael Hawn, Grant Hayden, LiGuo Huang, Susanne Johnson, Francesca Jones, Elfi Kraka, *Paul Krueger, John Lamoreaux, Matt Lockard, Luigi Manzetti, Cheryl Mendenhall, *Brian Molanphy, *Abigail “Abby” Pruitt, Dan Reynolds, Tim Rosendale, Elizabeth Russ, Canan Savaskan-Ebert, Susanne Scholz, Susana Solera Adoboe, *Jeanne Stevenson-Moessner, presiding, *Joshua Tate, Halit Uster, *Pia Vogel, Steve Weisenburger, Matthew Wilson

Absent: Karen Baker-Fletcher, *Amit Basu, Neil Bhattacharya, Daniel Buraczski, Betty Gilmore, Leanne Ketterlin-Geller, Tom Knock, Choon Lee, Tamara Lewis, Joseph Magliolo, Pavel Nadolsky, Andrew Quicksall, *Thomas Ritz, Meghan Ryan, Heather Stobaugh

Ex Officio:

Visitors: George Finney, Kathleen Tibbets, Ellen Shew Holland, Jim Walters, Lee Arnig, Doug Reinelt, Sheri Starkey, Chris Regis, Ashley Mason, Rick Shafer

1. The meeting was called to order by President Jeanne Stevenson-Moessner at 3:11 PM.
2. The minutes of the Senate meeting on Sept. 7, 2016 were approved. Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting on August 31 were reviewed.
3. President Stevenson-Moessner thanked the Senate for all the committee work that we are doing in between Senate meetings. She announced that Grant Hayden was elected by the faculty of Dedman School of Law to replace a faculty member who is on research leave.
4. The Faculty Senate discussed a proposed resolution on the issue of campus safety. Following discussion and amendment, the Senate unanimously approved the following resolution:

Faculty Senate Resolution on Campus Safety

Whereas, Southern Methodist University “is committed to maintaining an educational environment that supports safety and well-being through University policies, resources, education and prevention programs” (Message from President R. Gerald Turner, Sept. 30, 2016), and

Whereas, “no campus is free of crime,” but it is the responsibility of all members of the University community to “take reasonable precautions and work together to make our campuses secure environments” (SMU 2015 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report, page 1), and

Whereas, it is a comprehensive standard of accreditation set forth by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools that “the institution takes reasonable steps to provide a healthy, safe, and secure environment for all members of the campus community” (SACS Principles of Accreditation, 3.11.2), and

Whereas, the SMU Faculty Senate “bears the responsibility of speaking and acting for the General Faculty in matters affecting the University as a whole” (Faculty Senate Constitution, Preamble), and

Whereas, during the three-year period from 2013 to 2015, on the SMU Main Campus and the contiguous surrounding area, there were eleven forcible sex offenses reported to police and an additional four forcible sex offenses reported to other campus officials (SMU 2015 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report, page 24), and

Whereas, during the same three-year period, there were four reported incidents of robbery, six reported incidents of aggravated assault, sixteen reported incidents of burglary, and numerous other reported criminal offenses (SMU 2015 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report, page 25), and

Whereas, during a single week in April 2016, two robberies and an attempted robbery on campus were reported to the SMU Police (Message from SMU Aware, April 23, 2016), and

Whereas, on July 7, 2016, a group of police officers was ambushed and fired upon in downtown Dallas, resulting in the deaths of five officers and injuries to nine others (Dallas Morning News, “Dallas police shooter killed 4 officers on the street, 1 through a second-floor window,” July 14, 2016), now therefore be it

Resolved, that the Faculty Senate of Southern Methodist University requests the administration to:

- (1) review current emergency and security procedures;
- (2) take all necessary steps to keep pace with changing safety concerns; and
- (3) report to the Senate by the end of the Fall 2016 semester on the current status of SMU’s security measures, a comparison of SMU’s status with other urban universities of similar size, and steps that have been taken to address deficiencies.

5. President Stevenson-Moessner reported on some items of good news made possible thanks in part to the Faculty Senate’s representation on the OE2C Executive Committee. First, Dr. Pamela Anthony has agreed to absorb the expenses associated with our Faculty Senate

meetings into the Student Affairs budget. Second, Provost Currall is very concerned about our research needs, including travel, and is putting together a task force to consider those concerns. President Turner also immediately assigned an additional \$100,000 to the URC fund for this year.

6. President Stevenson-Moessner announced that the Student Senate will have a joint social with us in the Hughes-Trigg Ballroom at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 18. She also reminded senators that President Turner will be holding an extra session with us on SMU finances on Oct. 19, from 4 to 5 p.m. in the Hughes-Trigg Ballroom. President Stevenson-Moessner and members of the Senate discussed how best to communicate with President Turner and the Board of Trustees regarding the academic mission of the University.
7. The University's Emergency Management Team, led by Ellen Shew Holland, Associate Vice President & Chief Risk Officer, along with Rick Shafer, SMU Police Chief; George Finney, Chief Security Officer for the Office of Information Technology (OIT); Jim Walters, Assistant Police Chief; and Lee Arning, Executive Director of Emergency Management for the Office of Risk Management (ORM), made a report to the Senate. Vice President Holland, Chief Shafer, and Officer Finney provided an overview of emergency procedures at SMU and the respective roles played by the SMU Police, ORM, and OIT. Senators asked questions of the Emergency Management Team and Vice President Chris Regis regarding the appropriate steps to take in the event of an active shooter situation. Police Chief Shafer encouraged any faculty who would like walkthroughs of particular classrooms to call him so that he can make appropriate arrangements.
8. Sheri Starkey, Associate Vice President and Chief Human Resource Officer, reported to the Senate regarding changes to our benefits package for Plan Year 2017. The \$1,000 Deductible Plan will no longer be offered in 2017. The \$2,000 PPO or \$2,600 and \$5,000 HDHPs will continue to be offered and the plan design will remain the same; however, the premiums will increase 2% over the 2016 amounts.

Last year, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that same-sex couples have the right to marry throughout the United States. Historically, SMU has offered same-sex Domestic Partner coverage, but with the new regulations Domestic Partner coverage will end on Dec. 31, 2016. SMU will continue to provide coverage for legally married opposite-sex and same-sex spouses. Vice President Starkey reminded senators that Open Enrollment will run from Oct. 14 to Oct. 31.

9. President Stevenson-Moessner encouraged senators to attend the welcome reception for Rakesh Dahiya, the new SMU Treasurer and Chief Investment Officer, on Tuesday, Oct. 11.
10. The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joshua Tate