

**SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY**  
**Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**Wednesday, Nov. 2, 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, Rajat Deb, Dennis Foster, Kevin Hanlon, Michael Hawn, Grant Hayden, LiGuo Huang, Leanne Ketterlin-Geller, Elfi Kraka, \*Paul Krueger, John Lamoreaux, Jody Magliolo, Luigi Manzetti, \*Brian Molanphy, Pavel Nadolsky, \*Abigail “Abby” Pruitt, Dan Reynolds, \*Thomas Ritz, Tim Rosendale, Elizabeth Russ, Susanne Scholz, Susana Solera Adoboe, \*Jeanne Stevenson-Moessner, presiding, Heather Stobaugh, \*Joshua Tate, Halit Uster, Steve Weisenburger

**Absent:** Karen Baker-Fletcher, Alan Brown, Daniel Buraczeski, Betty Gilmore, Susanne Johnson, Francesca Jones, Tom Knock, Choon Lee, Tamara Lewis, Matt Lockard, Cheryl Mendenhall, Andrew Quicksall, Meghan Ryan, Canan Savaskan-Ebert, \*Pia Vogel, Matthew Wilson

**Ex Officio:**

**Visitors:** Doug Reinelt, Kathleen Tibbets, Vice President Chris Regis, Stephen Rankin, Kumar Venkataraman, James Linck, Kelly Thurman

1. The meeting was called to order by President Jeanne Stevenson-Moessner at 3:10 PM.
2. The minutes of the Senate meetings on Oct. 5, 2016 and Oct. 19, 2016 were approved. Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting on Sept. 28, 2016 were reviewed.
3. Chris Regis, SMU Vice President for Business and Finance, reported to the Senate to provide additional information regarding the University finances, in response to questions from senators. She explained how savings from OE2C are currently being allocated, with the largest amounts being devoted to the structural budget deficit, general academic reinvestment, and high performance computing. About 140 positions were affected by OE2C, some of which were vacant positions. Some of the employees who were laid off as a result of OE2C have been able to secure employment in other positions at the University. Regarding continuing education, she stated that SMU is at the low end of the normal range for revenue, and we are hoping to raise new revenue from that source.

Vice President Regis provided information about how the restricted endowment has been allocated. As of Fiscal Year 2016, 32.58% of the restricted endowment’s fair market value is devoted to educational program support, 30.96% to scholarships and other student aid, and 24.99% to chairs and faculty support. Only two of the new buildings on campus (the Simmons buildings) have an endowment to cover maintenance costs. A very small percentage of the endowment is unrestricted. As we move into the next campaign, we will need to make sure that a sufficient amount of money is raised to cover the ongoing costs of new buildings and programs. The endowment for athletic program support is only 0.52% of the restricted endowment’s fair market value. It is very rare for universities today to receive

major gifts that are not restricted in some way. Vice President Regis reminded the Senate that much of the information in her report is available on the Operational Excellence website.

President Stevenson-Moessner thanked Vice President Regis for her report.

4. The Faculty Senate voted on two changes to the committees. Professor Sean Griffin was elected to be the Meadows representative on the Libraries Subcommittee, and Professor Jody Magliolo was elected to be the Chair of the Benefits Subcommittee.
5. Professor Magliolo reported to the Senate on behalf of the Benefits Subcommittee. Professor Magliolo does not think that we should oppose the elimination of the \$1,000 deductible Health Care plan. Unless you are incapable of saving, there is a cash flow benefit to choosing the higher deductible. If we want to ensure that lower-paid employees are not disadvantaged by the higher deductible, we could ask that they receive some subsidy in their FSA or HSA.
6. Professor Dennis Foster reported to the Senate on behalf of the Athletic Policies Committee. The Big 12 Conference decided not to add SMU or any other university as an additional member. No conference changes are expected for at least the next five years or so. The athletics programs are able to continue because they take \$8-9 million a year in gifts. An article was circulated during the Big 12 expansion discussions highlighting planned large expenditures, including the planned indoor training facility. The current expenditures are expected to amount to around \$50 million.
7. President Stevenson-Moessner announced that there will be a Safety and Light Walk on Nov. 15 at 7 p.m. by the flagpole. She also noted that the Student Senate has about \$200,000 available for scholarships.
8. Rev. Stephen Rankin, the University Chaplain, spoke to the Senate to introduce himself. The position of Chaplain must be filled by a United Methodist clergyperson, which the Rev. Rankin is. His role within the church is to extend the church's ministry within the academic setting. That is a challenging task, because the academic environment is pluralistic.

The Chaplain's Office oversees all religious life groups on campus. Any recognized religious life group needs to be vetted and approved by the Chaplain's Office. Most of them are Christian campus ministry groups with their own paid staff. Other groups include Hillel and the Muslim Students Association. Any group of students can form an organization. The role of the Chaplain's Office is to make sure that groups active on campus are legitimate organizations and that the proper procedures are followed. The Chaplain's Office has a website listing the various programs and religious life groups.

9. The Faculty Senate went into executive session to discuss and vote on the recommendations of the Honorary Degrees Committee, and to discuss President Turner's responses to our recent resolutions.
10. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joshua Tate