**SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY**

**Faculty Senate Meeting**

**Wednesday, September 6, 2017 – 3:10 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Hughes-Trigg Ballroom West**

**Present:** Adriana Aceves; Dick Barr; \*Sreekumar Bhaskaran; Rhonda Blair; Michael Braun; Daniel Buraczeski; Rajat Deb; Dennis Foster; Sean Griffin; Kevin Hanlon; Grant Hayden; LiGuo Huang; Susanne Johnson; Leanne Ketterlin-Geller; \*Paul Krueger, presiding; John Lamoreaux; Luigi Manzetti; Stan Markov; Cheryl Mendenhall; \*Brian Molanphy; Beth Newman; \*Dayna Oscherwitz; Saltuk Ozerturk; \*Victoria Palacios; \*Abigail “Abby” Pruitt; Dan Reynolds; Tim Rosendale; Elizabeth Russ; Susanne Scholz; Susana Solera Adoboe; \*Jeanne Stevenson-Moessner; Aurelie Thiele; \*Pia Vogel; Candace Walkington; \*Matthew Wilson; John Wise.

**Absent:** Sabri Ates; Karen Baker-Fletcher; Neil Bhattacharya; Richard Briesch; Carlos Davila; Francesca Jones; Robert Kehoe; Tamara Lewis; Matt Lockard; John Potter; Andrew Quicksall; Joshua Tate; Halit Uster; Steve Weisenburger;

**Ex Officio:** Steve Currall

**Visitors:** Daniel Eady; Elsie Johnson; Evelyn Ashley; Harold Stanley; Anthony Cuevas

1. The meeting was called to order by President Paul Krueger at 3:12 PM.
2. The Senate voted to reorder the Agenda and the Agenda was approved.
3. The minutes of the Senate meeting on May 3, 2017 were approved.
4. President Krueger introduced the new Senators and they were presented with Faculty Senate pins.
5. Elsie Johnson and Dr. Evelyn Ashley presented on student concerns covered by the Office of the Dean of Student Life. They discussed and disseminated information about the Caring Community Connections (CCC) program, student conduct, academic honesty, and sexual misconduct.
6. Provost Currall introduced his remarks, Enhancing the Academic Quality and Stature of Southern Methodist University, with information about the incoming first year students. The Provost discussed his activities during AY 2016-2017. His office conducted two dean searches and hired Stephanie Knight, Dean of the Annette Caldwell Simmons School of Education and Human Development, and Matthew B. Meyers, Dean of the Cox School of Business. Also, he created several fact-finding task forces to collect data on General Education, Continuing Education, Scholarly Research and Creative Impact, Data Science and Analytics, and the Future of Libraries at SMU. He also drafted a document “*Enhancing the Academic Quality and Stature of SMU.”*  Provost Currall said he would release the preliminary document along with the task force reports this semester, after collecting feedback from the Academic Deans. In the spring of 2018, Provost Currall will release the finalized *Enhancing the Academic Quality and Stature of SMU* document.

Provost Currall explained that *Enhancing the Academic Quality and Stature of SMU* document provides evidence-based analyses and case studies of other universities to facilitate a campus-wide dialogue and a dialogue with the Board of Trustees. He said that with the spring of 2018 SMU his office will begin implementation of the recommendations about:

1. Leveraging SMU’s academic vitality for service to the North Texas region.
2. Determining key opportunities for strengthening SMU’s academic quality and stature relative to other universities.
3. Assessing SMU’s quality and stature relative to other universities
4. Defining Academic “Quality”

The Provost invited comments and questions. Senators asked for information on Task Forces’ findings and OE2C spending. Provost Currall reported that some of the funds have gone to graduate student fellowships, Maneframe II and that some funds will be used in 2018. Provost Currall reported that the Task Force on Data Science and Analytics recommended building an Institute on campus that is in the works and asked some other task force members to comment on preliminary findings.

Senators discussed the concern that schools within SMU may have different peer and aspirant programs, departments and schools than University-wide peer and aspirant universities and wondered how this would affect comparative data. Provost Currall emphasized that both are valuable to examine.

The Provost was asked to identify his primary goal at this point. Provost Currall responded that he would like SMU to coalesce to become a greater research university.

1. President Krueger and Jeanne Stevenson-Moessner presented a Resolution on access to Faculty Salary Data. The resolution requests that blinded, individual-level faculty salary data be provided annually to the President of the Faculty Senate, the Chair of the All-University Finance Committee and the Chair of the Subcommittee on the Economic Status of the Faculty. Doug Reinelt reported that the Provost’s office has proposed convening a joint task force with faculty members that would involve shared governance and develop a framework for assessing inequities in salary data. The Senate voted to approve the resolution.
2. The Senate voted to approve the committee rosters for AY 2017-2018.
3. The Senate voted to approve the committee charges for AY 2017-2018.
4. In executive session, the Senate voted to approve the confidential Honorary Degree Roster for AY 2017-2018.
5. President Krueger reported on the Executive Committee business over the summer.
6. The meeting was adjourned at 5:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Abigail Pruitt