**SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY**

**Faculty Senate Meeting**

**Wednesday, October 3, 2018 – 3:10 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Hughes-Trigg Ballroom West**

**Present:** Adriana Aceves; Sabri Ates; Dick Barr; David Bertrand; Neil Bhattacharya; Rhonda Blair; \*Michael Braun; James Coleman; Michael Connolly; Carlos Davila; Rajat Deb; Dennis Foster; Amar Gande; Kevin Hanlon; \*Grant Hayden; Francesca Jones; \*Paul Krueger; John Lamoreaux; \*James Lee; Steven Lindquist; Luigi Manzetti; Beth Newman; \*Dayna Oscherwitz, presiding; Saltuk Ozerturk; John Potter; Andrew Quicksall; Meredith Richards; \*Tim Rosendale; Elizabeth Russ; Susana Solera Adoboe; Herve Tchumkam; Aurelie Thiele; \*Pia Vogel; Kathleen Wellman; \*Matthew Wilson; John Wise; Yunkai Zhou

**Absent:** Sreekumar Bhaskaran; Marcus Butts; Jing Cao; Frank Coyle; Sean Griffin; Susanne Johnson; Robert Kehoe; Tamara Lewis; Cheryl Mendenhall; \*Brian Molanphy; Abby Pruitt; Candace Walkington

**Ex Officio:**

**Visitors:** Doug Reinelt

1. The meeting was called to order by President Dayna Oscherwitz at 3:11 PM.
2. The agenda was approved.
3. The minutes of the Senate meeting on September 5, were approved.
4. Peter Moore, Associate Provost for Curricular Innovation and Policy, reported on the Common Curriculum vote, and its timeline. The vote will be a simple majority vote, and all full-time faculty are invited to participate. He highlighted the importance of increasing participation. Concerns were raised about having only one more forum presentation on a Tuesday-Thursday schedule, and it was requested he add another presentation on an MWF schedule. Peter Moore proceeded to talk about the updates to the Common Curriculum (CC) on:
   1. Critical reasoning
   2. Interdisciplinary Course Work
   3. Simplified Breadth Structure
   4. Prefix Flexibility
   5. Civic and Individual Ethics
   6. Personal Responsibility and Wellness, PRW
5. Professor Paul Krueger updated the Faculty Senate on the status of the Proposal to Fund Health Insurance for Graduate Students, it was asked for the proposal to be resubmitted, and to draft a resolution in support of the proposal.
6. A question was raised about the procedures and timing of Disability Accommodations & Success Strategies, DASS. It seems some notifications are not being received in a timely manner and students are suffering some added stress. It was requested to inquire about this important issue.
7. Michael Hites, Chief Information Officer, reported on the Office of Information Technology (OIT)
   1. Dr. Hites presented the document “OIT 2018 Progress Report” that reviews the results of this office and its efforts on (1) Harnessing Technology to Unleash Academic Innovation, (2) Adapting Technology to Enhance the Student Experience (3) Supporting the University for Continued Ascent (4) Looking Ahead, and (5) Metrics.
   2. He talked about the Academic Technology Council and the OIT Governance framework, and how faculty can navigate the services and support provided by OIT. He also discussed some projects in-progress and some new tools.
   3. Dr. Hites reported on the integrated future of OIT and the library services through research and data sciences.
   4. And to close his presentation he spoke about the OIT strategic plan: (1) Research and Data Science, (2) Data Warehouse and Data Analytics, (3) Identity and Access Management, (4) Classroom Technology, (5) Administrative Process Improvement and Service Delivery, (6) Security, (7) Governance, Portfolio, and Project Management, and (8) Fundraising.
   5. He responded to questions from senators about increasing accessibility on Canvas by activating features to work offline, classroom presentational tools, and granting alumni email addresses for life to facilitate communication.
8. Sheri Starkey, Associate Vice President and Chief Human Resource Officer, and Ashley Mason from HR reported to the Senate regarding changes to benefits package for Plan Year 2019. BCBS of Texas will continue to administer the medical/pharmacy plan, in addition to the dental plan. $2,000 PPO option, $2,700 HDHP with HSA option and $5,000 HDHP with HSA option will continue to be offered. Medical plan premiums will increase 2%. Dental Plan and VSP Vision Plan will continue to be offered. Dental plan premiums will remain the same, and there will be an increase of 6% (1st increase in 8 years) in Vision Plan. Ms. Mason talked about the importance of utilizing preventive care, and other benefits as MDLive and Compass, she reminded Annual Benefits Open Enrollment runs October 11th - 31st and invited everybody to attend the HR Fair on Wednesday, October 10th from 10.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m. Questions were raised about flu shots and the difficulty of finding information about the personal travel insurance benefit.
9. The Faculty Senate meeting was adjourned at 5:02pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susana Solera Adoboe