

**FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY
September 28, 2006**

Chair Philip Morris called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Members Present: Tracy Bilsing; Doug Constance; Peggy DeMers; Yasser Djazaerly; Bill Edgington; Stacey Edmonson; Mark Frank; Mary Gutermuth; Debbi Hatton; Joan Hudson; Renee James; Rosanne Keathley; Gerald Kohers; Paul Loeffler; Brian Loft; Bill Lutterschmidt; Philip Morris; John Newbold; Debra Price; Tracy Steele; Jay Whatley; Yan Zhang.

Members Absent: Jim DeShaw; Ann Jerabek (professional conflict); Jerry Dowling

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the September 14, 2006 meeting were approved.

Chair Report:

Chair Philip Morris called the meeting to order. He reported on items discussed at the APC meeting held on September 20, 2006.

- **SACS**
Chair Morris shared information about SACS accreditation. He indicated that Town Hall meetings will be held to give faculty an opportunity to provide input on the QEP (Quality Enhancement Plan). Specific information is attached to minutes about the QEP.
- **Town Hall Meetings**
In addition to Town Hall meetings about the QEP, additional town hall meetings will be held to discuss the 120 hour rule.
- **UH-Tomball:**
There is nothing new to report at this time.
- **AAUP Information**
Sam Houston State University's salary information (by rank) did not make it into the latest AAUP report on salaries across the country. Chair Morris gave a handout that showed SHSU's salary breakdown. A copy will be posted on the Faculty Senate Web page.

Old Business:

- The Graduate Faculty Policy issues were forwarded to Dr. Muehsam, but Chair Morris has yet to receive a response.
- In the case of member inactivity, the Senate decided to give an inactive Senator a semester before seeking his/her removal according to Senate By-laws. We will have a discussion about whether or not the By-laws need to be changed to address this issue.

New Business:

- **120 Hour Rule-** Attached to the minutes is specific information about the 120 hour rule including the legislation as written. There was a very lively discussion about how this rule might affect the CORE requirements. The Senate encourages everyone to attend the

Town Hall meetings about the 120 hour rule in order to provide input. The 120 hour rule takes effect with incoming freshmen, fall of 2008.

- The QEP was discussed. Chair Morris reported that the QEP must be implemented successfully at the university level and that it must improve student learning. Again attendance at the Town Meetings was encouraged.
- The Faculty Handbook. Chair Morris, Chair Elect Price and Associate VP Dick Eglsaer have made an initial study of the faculty handbook to determine an organizational structure that will make the handbook easier to use and update. It was recommended that the existing Faculty Handbook Committee be doubled in size and that the committee chair work with Chair Morris, Chair Elect Price and Dr. Eglsaer to finish this process. The Senate approved the appointment of additional members to the Faculty Handbook Committee.

Committee Reports

- **Committee on Committees**
Members to serve in place of people who are unable to serve on committees for this year were nominated and elected.
- **University Affairs**
Committee Chair Loft reported that the committee is in the process of determining how we stand in compliance with the American Disabilities Act when it comes to handicapped parking. This is specifically an issue with all the new construction. The ADA Committee has not previously addressed faculty concerns, but will attempt to do so.
- **Faculty Affairs**
Chair Hatton reported that the committee is in the process of gathering information on how faculty leaves are handled at other universities and if there are policies that cover the use of long-term substitutes for faculty.
- **Academic Affairs**
Chair Loeffler reported that the committee held a virtual meeting in which names for committee chair and recorder were placed in nomination and a vote was taken. Senators Loeffler and Edmonson accepted appointments to the respective positions.

Senate Input:

Students who video classes and post on the web may be guilty of copyright infringement, especially if professors are using textbook or publisher materials (overheads, etc). Chair Morris is in the process of locating the intellectual property policy.

Chair Steele reported on the H&SS Senator meeting with their new dean, Dr. DeCastro. She indicated that Dr. DeCastro is eager to hear about and address faculty issues.

The Faculty Senate adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Debbie Price, Chair-Elect.

DRAFT