

Minutes of the Meeting of the Faculty Senate September 10, 2008

In Attendance: David Vines, Catherine Ortega, Barry Norling, Joe Connor, Keith Krolick, William Morgan, Renee Yew, Daniel Johnson, Sally Combest, Mark Nadeau, Rajeshwar Rao Tekmmal, Daniel Johnson, Margaret Brackley, Sara Gill and Catherine Robichaux

Absent: James Evans, Donna Gardner, Bennett Amaechi, Peter Gakunga, William Clark, Nandini Ghosh Choudhury, Krista Bowers, Christopher Franka, Leticia Vargas, and Rebecca Garcia-Michels

Guests: Dr. Theresa Chiang, VP for Academic Administration
Dr. Brian Herman, VP for Research

Convened: 4:05 PM

University Topics: Updates

Dr. Theresa Chiang, VP for Academic Administration

1. SECC Campaign: kicks off Sept. 2 and will run through Oct. 3. Mrs. Cigarroa is the Honorary Chair. The goal is \$380,000. On-line donation is highly encouraged and you can do payroll deduction.
2. Fitness Center groundbreaking: noon on Thursday, Sept. 11 out in the Pavilion by the track. Dr. Cigarroa and other key leaders will break ground for the facility. Faculty, staff and students are invited. Refreshments served. Spectrum will do some on site demonstration.
3. Fitness Center membership drive: Spectrum rep will be happy to come to individual departments to sign up membership. For more questions, contact Chiang's office.
4. HSC will have an event at 1 p.m. on 9/11 to commemorate 9/11 event, it's scheduled in Parman Foyer.
5. Graduate Dean's search: 65 applicants, 7 possible candidates coming in Sept. and Oct. for campus visit. With 3 finalists to Dr. Cigarroa.
6. Presidential Excellence Awards deadlines: Teaching; 9/12, Research; 10/3 and clinical; 10/8
7. Green initiatives: The HSC has a task force looking at various ways to turn the campus green.

8. Academy of Master Teachers: October 1, induction of 80 inaugural class of 80 teaching award winners.

Faculty Leadership/Administration Leadership Awards

Dr. Krolick presented Dr. Theresa Chiang with the Administration Leadership Award.
Dr. Norling presented Dr. David Cappelli with the Faculty Leadership Award.

University Topics: Discussion on Proposed changes to the Research Space Allocation Policy

Dr. Brian Herman, VP for Research

The executive council on space management (ECSM) forwarded a change in policy 7.9.1 to the Senate for review. The proposed changes to the policy are attached. The Faculty Senate's biggest concern was the increase from 33% to 75% as the targeted research space productivity index (RSPI). The ECSM thought that they need a higher RSPI in relation to available space for research in order to have the space resources to adequately reward exceptionally well-funded investigators so that they could grow their programs. There was discussion concerned with how this might have a negative impact on faculty that may be struggling due to the severe funding climate. This change could also impact the physician/scientist whose research time is limited due to demands in the clinic. Dr. Herman reminded the Faculty Senate that the space decisions remained in the hands of the Chairs and Deans. The Senators were asked to email any other concerns related to the space allocation policy to the chair of the Senate so that these concerns could be shared with the President.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.