

UHD FACULTY SENATE MEETING
May 2, 2006

CALLED TO ORDER: The final meeting for the 2005-2006 academic year of the UHD Faculty Senate was held in 1099N, One Main Street, Houston, Texas on May 2, 2006. The meeting convened at 2:30 pm. President Anjoo Sikka presiding, with Vice-President Michelle Moosally, and Secretary-Treasurer Gene Preuss.

Present: Anjoo Sikka (President), Michelle Moosally (Vice President), Gene Preuss (Secretary/Treasurer), Jeffrey Adams (MMBA), Austin Allen (SOS), Kris Anderson (SOS), David Branham (SOS), Youn-Sha Chan (CMS), Raquel Chiquillo (A&H), Andre Dekorvin (CMS), Ermelinda DeLaVina (CMS), Prakash Deo (FACIS), Marion Godine (UE), Jon Harned (ENG), Mian Jiang (NS), Mark Kellar (CJ), Aimee Kendall (ENG), Faiza Khoja (MMBA), Aaron Krochmal (NS), Nick Rangel (A & H), Tom Lyttle (A&H), Steve Maranville (MMBA), Shelley McIntosh (UE), Tyra Montgomery (NS), Angela Pedrana (UE), Lucille Pointer (MMBA), Randy Serrett (FACIS), Jorge Tito-Izquierdo (ET), Rahul Verma (FACIS), Shengli Yuan (CMS)

Absent: Linda Bressler (FACIS), Tony Chiaviello (ENG), Peter Li (SOS), Hong Lin (CMS), Rich MacMahan (FACIS), Johanna Schmertz (ENG)

Guests: UHD President Max Castillo, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Molly Woods, and Associate Vice-President David Fairbanks.

President Sikka declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 2:40 pm

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was no unfinished business

NEW BUSINESS:

Approval of Minutes: Secretary/Treasurer Lisa Morano announced that more than a quorum approved via e-mail the minutes of the April 18, 2006, meeting.

Officers' Reports:

President Sikka introduced herself, and the Executive Officers, and called for a General Introduction of New Executive Officers and New and Sitting Senators.

She thanked Janet Heitmiller and David Bradley for their assistance in making it possible to hold future Senate meetings in the Special Events Room.

Sikka encouraged Senators to continue dialogue with constituent faculty to bring important issues to the Senate. She explained plans for a policy expo, handed out and discussed importance of the Academic Shared Governance Policy (01.A.03) and Faculty Senate Constitution, encouraged tenured faculty to serve on the Curriculum, Faculty Affairs, and Academic Policies committees, and promised that the Senate President and Vice President will carry issues raised at Faculty Senate Meetings to the Academic Affairs Council. She reminded

the Senate that the Constitution (Art 3§3) calls for Robert's Rules of Order to govern the Senate meetings, and asked speakers to identify themselves so they could be properly recorded in the minutes.

Sikka made the following announcements:

1. University Planning Council Election Results: Peter Devries (COB) and Sandra Dahlberg (COHSS)
2. The Credentials and Elections Committee is holding an election for Academic Affairs Council. Results will be forthcoming.
3. Preuss's election to Secretary/Treasurer leaves one-year outstanding term in SOS. Replacement election will be necessary.

Vice-President Moosally thanked everyone for their responses to her emails about the committees. She discussed the upcoming elections for the Credentials and Elections Committee and that when the Committee on Committees is elected, it can prepare a slate for other committees (Curriculum, Faculty Affairs, and Academic Policies) but more candidates are needed. The Executive Committee would approve the slate during the summer. She hoped that the University President's Office would send out Letters of Appointment for all committee assignments by the end of the month so the committee work could begin early in the fall.

Secretary/Treasurer Preuss announced he will record the Senate meetings to check against the minutes, but will not archive the recordings. At the end of each semester, he will report on the budget.

Committee and Other Reports:

University Provost Molly Woods announced that during that morning's UHS Board of Regents Committee Meeting, the Board reviewed and the tenure and promotion list, and final list would be announced May 18, in Victoria. She reminded the audience that the Regents approve promotion, while the Chancellor approves tenure. She noted that there are new Regents. She announced that Michael Dressman made a presentation about the QEP to the Board of Regents. She thanked all those who had worked on Learning Outcomes. The Provost expected about 450 students, faculty, and guests at the evening's Academic Awards presentations, and invited everyone to attend. She also mentioned the upcoming Commencement exercises.

Chair of the Curriculum Committee, Akif Uzman, reported that the committee had been busy with an increased number of new courses and proposed degree plans. He announced that the committee established a shared folder that anyone can access. During questions, he said the committee would still accept proposals before the final spring meeting, but some proposals would be held over until the fall.

University President Max Castillo greeted the Senate, and congratulated the new senators and executive officers. He noted the construction on the new College of Business building, and planned library expansion. He announced that the State Legislature did not appropriate tuition revenue bonds as it has in the past. UHD is the lead in the 290/1960 corridor plan, the president explained, and he said there is great potential for students in Northwest Houston, and UHD will work with the North Harris-Montgomery Community College and CyFair ISD to provide

teacher-training programs. He announced that he requested a 9% tuition increase from the Regents; an approximate \$166 increase for students taking 12 hours. The State of Texas provides almost 40% of the funds that run the university, down from 65% a decade ago. He stated that he originally asked for a 12% raise in tuition, but there was opposition from the Board, although it would have only meant a small increase (\$40), and that even with a 12% increase, UHD was still less expensive than other state universities. During questions, President Castillo said the new COB building should be finished by summer 2007 and ready for fall 2007 use. Sen. Pointer asked if UHD would be lead university in the NW initiative. President Castillo said it would be a gradual process, based on how we can grow the programs. He announced that he requested additional funds from the Board of Regents to facilitate the UHD strategic plan, but was not successful so the UHD presence in the NW initiative would not be as aggressive as he planned. He also explained university budget projections are based on 3% enrollment growth, in first-time student, re-enrollments, and transfer students. The past year UHD did not realize the projected growth, but he hoped for a promising future.

Chair of Senate Task Force on Research Support, Faculty Retention and Recruitment, Margaret Shelton, reported thanked Senators and Officers for their dedication and announced that Vice President of Administration and Finance David Bradley agreed to be on committee. She stated that the committee identified at the first meeting teaching, research, and service workload demands as priorities; identified other similar universities to compare with our workload requirements; and would assess different departmental research expectations, service requirements and compile a list of all departmental committees and their workload. The committee, she explained, would make long-range plans and she hoped that faculty would understand that change would not be immediate. During questions, she explained that there is much anecdotal for why candidates don't join UHD, and why faculty leave, but tracking this information it is a secondary concern, however, she would be willing to place greater importance if the faculty feels it important.

Dr. Woods offered to delay her report so elections for the Credentials and Elections Committee and the Committee on Committees could proceed.

President called for nominations from the Senate floor for the COB and Science and Technology to serve on Executive Committee. Ermelinda DeLaVina and Lucille Pointer self-nominated, and were approved by the Senate. A ballot for elections to the Committee on Committees was distributed. However, due to an error in the ballot, final results could not be announced. Sikka stated that a follow-up election would be conducted by placing the ballots in senators mailboxes.

At 3:30 pm, Sikka announced that quorum was lost.

Dr. Woods continued her report, noting the success of the Red Rose Ball that raised over \$400,000 for scholarships, and recognized the academic achievement of 25 Red Rose Scholars. Academic Affairs Council approved PS 10.A.05 and PS 10.A.09. She explained the Faculty Performance Evaluation Policy will affect how faculty reports and how the departmental chair evaluates faculty annual evaluation. This policy will become effective January 2007, pending Dr. Castillo's approval of the final revisions. Subsequent Enrollment 3.A.09 is also under consideration, and will be discussed during the May 10 meeting. She also stated that she would

like to send policies under consideration to the Faculty Senate for comment before the Academic Affairs meetings.

Vice-Provost David Fairbanks discussed the SACS accreditation report, the QEP, and the University's response to the accreditation's committee report. He explained that the March on-site visit went well, and reported that we were in compliance with all but four of the standards of accreditation, 1) Adequacy of Library resources, especially for off-site campuses; 2) the QEP was too ambitious; 3) not all departments submitted learning outcomes assessment programs; and 4) and concerns over the General Education learning outcomes. The deadline to respond is August 11. Fairbanks addressed questions, and stated that the QEP is to prepare students to be successful in college, and many students need to understand university environment and procedures, study skills, active learning, and provide students with the opportunity to participate more fully in college. He identified three bottle-neck courses that had high enrollment and high failure rates, HIST 1305, Math 1301, and English 1302. Successful students will provide supplemental instruction, working with current students, peer tutoring, and conducting study sessions. Nell Sullivan commented that chairs are working with the steering committee and faculty would be prepared for upcoming changes.

Faculty Affairs Committee chair, Nell Sullivan, reported on the committee's work noting that including revising rank and tenure, faculty workload, and the grievance committee revisions. She noted that most of the revisions had progressed through Academic Affairs, although the revisions to the grievance policies are not completed. She explained the idea for 1) a faculty Ombudsman position, or 2) a Grievance Advisory Committee selected by Senate as resource to assist in focusing grievances. The current policy has become onerous, because it is in effect a "two-trial system."

University Planning Council chair, David Fairbanks, stated that the committee made recommendations to the University President for Higher Education Assistance Funds (HEAF) allocations, but only \$443,000 out of \$63 million remains after mandates and they will have to decide which of 9 programs to fund. Likewise, non-HEAF funds began at \$9.2 million, but only \$300,000 remains after mandates, although there are budget requests from the four vice-presidents for over \$2 million, so he reported it was "not a good year."

Credentials and Elections Committee, Chair Shohreh Hashemi, briefly reported on the committee's activities, stating that they had completed their work, although a few elections remained. (See attachments)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The bi-annual Faculty Climate Survey will be conducted in Spring 2007.

Sikka Asked Senators to contemplate issues for the 2007 year, as she would like Senate meetings to alternate between business and special issue meetings, so she asked Senators to please email any issues to the Executive Committee. She then thanked everyone and wished Senators a wonderful summer.

ADJOURNMENT: David Branham (SOS) moved for adjournment. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm.

Date of Approval

**Secretary/Treasurer
UHD Faculty Senate**