

# UHD Faculty Senate

Minutes recorded by: Sandra Dahlberg

October 18, 2016; 2:30-4:03pm

Room A300

Attendance: Carolyn Ashe, Julio Canedo Soto, Luis Cedeno, Michael Connell, Travis Crone, Sandra Dahlberg, Michael Duncan, Trevor Hale, Jillian Hill, Pamela Hurley, Ruth Johnson, Robin Jose, Anne Kane, Stephanie Karas, Karen Kaser, Abigail Koenig (for Joan Wedes), Cynthia Lloyd, Kendra Mhoon, Creshema Murray, Mitsue Nakamura, JoAnn Pavletich, Anand Pore, Azar Rejaie, Jacqueline Sack, Clete Snell, Benjamin Soibam, Edwin Tecarro, Michael Tobin, Hsiao-Ming Wang, Pat Williams, Keith Wright, Zhenyu Zhang.

By Invitation: Interim Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Ed Hugetz, Vice President for Administration and Finance David Bradley, Associate Vice President for Information Technology Hossein Shahrokhi, and Associate Vice President for Facilities Management Chris McCall.

Regrets: None; Absent: None

Call to Order: The Senate was called to order at 2:30pm by Senate President Dr. Carolyn Ashe.

Minutes of the Senate meeting on October 4 were approved as corrected. The correction was to change (on top of page 2) 3 **hours** to 3 **days** in regards to the Child Watch Center.

## Announcements

- The open forum for UHD presidential candidate Dr. Adena Loston will be on October 20 at 2:30pm in the Robertson Auditorium. Dr. Yash Gupta will be on campus October 24. Senators were asked to attend these candidate forums and provide feedback to Senate leadership and/or the search committee.
- Comments about the revised Faculty Appointments Policies are due by October 19. The collected comments will be provided to Faculty Senate and the Faculty Affairs Committee. The comments will be discussed by Senate at the next Senate meeting and the Senate's recommendations then will be sent to the Faculty Affairs Committee.
- The Faculty Senate website has been updated, and Senate offices have been identified and are being remodeled.
- The theme for the UFEC conference at UHD on March 31, 2017 is Take us Higher: The Value and Future of Graduate Education. A call for presentations has been sent to all faculty.

## Comments/Presentations

Interim Provost Ed Hugetz:

- Announced that UHD would conduct a CUPA faculty salary review. The current CUPA data is based on 2015 numbers, and the 2016 study will be available in the early spring. He said that

the Provost's office will compare FY2016 UHD faculty salaries to the 2015 CUPA report, as well as the FY2017 (current year) salaries to the latest CUPA report when it is available around February of 2017. Hale noted that AACSB does not recognize CUPA.

- Provided an extended report about UHD's procedures to ensure the safety of visiting K-12 children doing campus tours while also complying with the requirements of the SB 11 Campus Carry Law. SB 11 allows for temporary signage for such events. Kane was concerned that some staff offices on campus were unaware of the requirements for SB 11.

Interim Provost Ed Hugetz and VP David Bradley:

- Presented maps showing the intended uses for the 17 acres UHD recently purchased north of the bayou. In addition to the new STEM building, there are plans for a student wellness center, a police office and recreational fields for soccer and other sports. The current Student Life Center is undersized for our student population. Students will need to approve a referendum for fees to construct the new Student Wellness Center, but studies show much student support for this type of facility. Bradley noted that UHD's plan takes into consideration TxDOT's plan to reroute I-45 and I-10 north of the Shea Street Building by 2024. UHD is also in the process of purchasing several small adjacent parcels of land to augment the 17 acre purchase. There are no plans for additional food services although the University is looking into food trucks at the business building. Rejaie asked about dorms, and was told that dorms are in the UHD Master Plan but that there is no plans for them now.

AVP Hossein Shahrokhi:

- Addressed technology concerns and noted that students' IT expectations drive technology decisions. In the past, the campus provided students with access to technology not widely available, whereas today students expect a more fulsome menu of technology offerings. Shahrokhi reviewed the IT mission statement, and focused on 4 key IT projects for this year: email upgrade to Exchange 2013 (complete); a wireless system upgrade (in progress); a network share system to avoid use of insecure external systems like Dropbox; and a review of the learning management system (Blackboard) as we are in the last year of a 5-year contract. Faculty were encouraged to talk to their representatives on the Academic Computing Committee about these processes.
- IT directors were introduced: Said Fattouh, User Support Services; John Lane, Technology Learning Services; and Miguel Ruiz, Computing/Telecom & Video. Lloyd asked about support for external products including TopHat (similar to iclicker) and was told that all faculty could present technology requests to the Academic Computing Committee for consideration. The Academic Computing Committee has faculty representation and is advisory to AVP Shahrokhi and Provost Hugetz.

AVP Chris McCall:

- Reported that UHD is in the last year of a 7-year contract for the company that cleans UHD offices and classrooms. Classrooms and labs are contracted to be cleaned daily and offices twice a week. These services include vacuuming, waste basket emptying, and some dusting. Nakamura noted that her lab is not being cleaned and Dahlberg noted that offices are not vacuumed. Rejaie noted that there is no phone or security device in the S-1100 art studio. Kane noted that many classroom projectors are not bright enough to view with the lights on in the

classroom. McCall said projectors are replaced on a 5-year rotation, and faculty should call the IT Help Desk to report “faint” projectors. Kane asked if dimming switches could be installed next to classroom screens and McCall said that could be done. Ashe noted that the clocks did not work in the Shea Building.

- Ashe asked faculty to send a list of deficiencies to FSEC or Dahlberg as Senate secretary, and that list will be forwarded to Facilities Management.

**New Business:**

Pavletich introduced a resolution regarding the new Faculty Appointment Policies (PS 10.A.03) for the Senate to consider:

Proposed Faculty Senate Resolution for  
Policy Revisions to P.S. 10.A.03

Whereas the system of tenure is the primary means by which faculty are assured the freedom and support to perform research, creative activities, service, and teaching to the best of their abilities,

Whereas UHD has experienced intensive but uneven growth in the numbers and types of faculty positions sought by the institution,

Whereas the proposed policy revisions to P.S. 10.A.03 significantly expands the types of faculty positions the institution may seek,

Whereas the proposed policy currently includes commitment statements that address diversity, quality appointments, and following established procedures,

The UHD Faculty Senate hereby resolves that the proposed revisions to P.S. 10.A.03 include a clear statement that affirms this institution’s commitment to the system of tenure and to long-term job stability for lecturers.

Unfortunately, since the resolution was not on the agenda, there was no time for discussion. Ashe said that the resolution will be addressed at the next (November 1) Senate meeting. Ashe reassured faculty that the Senate will have access to the comments submitted to the Qualtrics survey instrument (deadline October 19) and that Senate will have an opportunity to provide feedback on the policies to Faculty Affairs.

Pavletich asked for written confirmation from the Faculty Affairs Committee that the policies will not be approved or forwarded to the Academic Affairs Council until after the Senate’s discussion.

Senate was out of time, but Ashe welcomed the new senator from Mathematics and Statistics, Edwin Tecarro.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:03pm.

The next Senate meeting is on November 1, 2016.