

**FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY**

November 3, 2016

3:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Austin Hall – Second Floor

Members Present (18): Irfan Ahmed (COBA), Donald Albert (COS), Burcu Ates (COE), Jonathan Breazeale (COBA), Donald Bumpass (COBA), Madhusudan Choudhary (COS), Donna Cox (COE), Jennifer Didier (COHS), Brandy Doleshal (COS), Andrea Foster (COE), Donovan Haines (COS), Michael Hanson (NGL), William Jasper (COS), Melinda Miller (COE), Karen Miller (FAMC), Stephen Rapp (CHSS), Stacy Ulbig (CHSS), Anthony Watkins (FAMC)

Members Not Present (11): Nancy Baker (CHSS) [on leave for fall 2016], James Crosby (CHSS), John Domino (CHSS), Karla Eidson (COE), Randall Garner (CJ), Debbi Hatton (FAMC), Renee James (COS), Santosh Kumar (COBA), Jeffrey Littlejohn (CHSS), Eric Marsh (FAMC), Ryan Zapalac (COHS) [on leave for fall 2016]

Called to Order: 3:35 PM in Austin Hall by Chair, Dr. Donna Cox

Approval of Minutes.

The October 20 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Chair-Elect Report

Dr. Breazeale submitted a report to the Senate summarizing the meetings of the Texas State University Council of Faculty Senates (TSUS CFS) and the Texas Council of Faculty Senates (TCFS), both held in Austin on October 28 and 29. Themes of the meeting were shrinking legislative apportionments for higher education statewide, faculty compensation, and prolific turnover of presidents and provosts.

Chair's Report

Dr. Cox distributed information about the Texas Association of College Teachers [TACT] and summarized the role of their organization in higher education – including their lobbying efforts.

Committee Reports

None

Old Business

External Faculty Salary Study. Several senators reported that many faculty are inquiring about the study. Dr. Cox indicated that she is meeting with the Provost, David Hammonds, and other interested parties to discuss whether or not the study can be salvaged.

New Business

President's Forum on Designated Tuition. Senators who attended the Forum were shocked to hear the President respond to a student question about the tuition increase and what the use of those funds should be. Dr. Hoyt responded that the increase would be used for faculty raises and new

faculty positions. A senator believed that the president skirted a question of why online and distance-learning students are required to pay the fees required of face-to-face courses.

People and Pet Food Drive. November 30 (10:00 AM – 2:00 PM) Dr. Cox distributed a sign-up sheet for senators to work a shift or multiple shifts.

Food Pantry Sustainability Council. This new council would potentially include a faculty member appointed through the university Committee Book to support the Food Pantry. One senator asked which student organization manages the pantry, but there was no specific information about the party.

Meeting adjourned at 4:54 PM.