

DRAFT
FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
Meeting: October 21 2008

PRESENT: M. Moosally, B. Belbot, T. Davis, J. Caro, B. Christmas, J. Creighton, M. Cunningham, J. Flosi, B. Gilbert, O. Gupta, , S. Henney, L. Hignite, N. Leveille, P. Lyons, K. McLellan, C. Nguyen, , J. Pavletich, K. Pinkerton, N. Rangel, T. Redl, A. Rejaie, R. Robbins, K. Robertson, D. Ryden, C. Stewart, H. Wang, J. Yoon, Z. Zhou

ABSENT: J. Dutcher, A. Gomez-Rivas, T. Hale, A. Kane, D. Nino, S. Penkar, P. Simeonov

GUESTS: Provost M. Woods, VP P. Williams, VP D. Bradley, VP I. Montalbano, Library Director P. Ensor, G. Evans, J. Schmertz, A. Sikka, D. TeDuits

President Michelle Moosally called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m.

The minutes for the September 2, 2008 faculty senate meeting and the minutes for the September 23, 2008 faculty senate meeting were approved as presented.

Senate President Moosally's Report

President Moosally announced that the 35 faculty who were able to stay until the end of the assembly on October 14 voted nearly unanimously to hold another full faculty assembly on the topic of academic leadership. Senator Ryden asked that the faculty assembly not be held on the date of the presidential election.

President Moosally announced that UH-Victoria received approval from the Board of Regents to move forward with their expansion and that UH-Clearlake received permission for a new building in Pearland. UH has announced a new collaborative effort in the 249 area, working with Sam Houston State, Prairieview A&M, and Lonestar College System to offer some courses. At this time, UHD is not part of that initiative.

President Moosally pointed out that the new planning process is quickly approaching. The planning group has decided to focus on "some" of the strategic directions. The SPOC (Strategic Planning Oversight Committee) group hopes to send directions to departments soon. It was pointed out that the new mission statement had been sent forward to Provost's Council. However, Chancellor Khator wants to assure that language is included in the mission statements from all the universities in the UH system such that the universities are clearly differentiated from each other. President Moosally reported that Dr. Castillo believes that our mission statement does differentiate UHD and reflects a solid deliberation process.

President Moosally said that she and Senate Vice President B. Belbot will attend the meeting of the Texas Council of Faculty Senates (TCFS) meeting in Austin on October 24 and 25. Also, IT at UHD will have a cyber fair on November 7.

Senate Vice President B. Belbot's Report

Vice President B. Belbot reported that some departments are still in the process of selecting their representatives to the University Grievance Committee. The Criminal Justice Department and the Department of Natural Sciences have elected their representatives. Arts and Humanities and the College of Business are holding their elections now.

Vice President B. Belbot reported that the Senate subcommittee on assessment met on Monday, October 20. Senator N. Rangel is working on the job description for the Director of Assessment position and Senator S. Henney is researching the reporting system for the VP of Institutional Effectiveness, the Director of Assessment position, and the department assessment coordinators.

Senator R. Robbins brought up an issue of safety. She had observed a student in a wheel chair attempting to maneuver up the incline to One Main Street. VP D. Bradley asked her which side of the road the student was on. President Moosally said that FSEC would look into the issue of safety in regard to the area between One Main and the Shea Street Building.

Senator B. Gilbert made a motion that the Faculty Senate go into executive session. Twenty-one senators voted to move into executive session and 6 abstained. All visitors were asked to leave.

The Faculty Senate moved out of executive session at 4:05 p.m. and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy J. Davis