

Faculty Association Minutes

Date	Friday, August 26, 2016
Location	Wharton-Horton Foote Theater
Time	Meeting convened at 10:30am

Attendees

Role	Name
Chair	Elizabeth Rexford
Minute Taker	Marissa Saenz
Attendees	All Faculty in attendance at Convocation
Guests	None

Information Items

	Description
1.	Elizabeth Rexford welcomed attendees and introduced Faculty Council Officers: Chair-Liz Rexford, Vice-Chair-Jennifer Jeffery, Secretary-Marissa Saenz. Faculty need to elect 2 at large members during today's meeting.
2.	Elizabeth Rexford thanked President McCrohan for raises this year. Rexford also recognized the faculty for teaching overloads, contributing to WCJC's increased enrollment. Rexford also thanked VP Collins for working on the part-time pay increase which should help recruit more part-time faculty.
3.	Faculty Council is continuing to address two issues with Administration: longevity pay and security and safety concerns, including the implementation of Campus Carry.
a.	<p>Longevity</p> <p>Faculty representatives on the Longevity Task Force are Jennifer Jeffery and Franci Bay.</p> <p>The task force is gathering data to support a request for longevity increases to be competitive with comparable institutions.</p> <p>A survey was conducted over the summer to add to the information already gathered through HR last year. The results will be shared with the task force members in the fall.</p>
b.	<p>Security and Safety</p> <p>Danny Terronez, Director of Security and Public Safety addressed many concerns about campus safety during the professional development workshops:</p> <p>The Security and Safety Task Force has reviewed and implemented the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving lighting on all campuses with brighter, longer lasting lights, and the addition of new lighting in dark areas currently not lighted. • Installing security cameras on each campus is being discussed-at entrances and exits to all buildings. Current plans will not cover each floor nor will cameras be located near faculty offices.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installing new locks on all doors so they can be secured from inside an office or classroom. • Contracting with a new alert system-Rave. The new system will have more options for sending alerts. <p>Faculty raised questions about the timing of notifications. Considering that many faculty are on the road commuting between campuses and many students are driving from home or work, messages need to be timely. In the morning, alerts may need to be sent out before 6:30am. It was suggested that the security workshops held during professional development should be held on each campus during the semester to address security issues, especially Campus Carry which is in effect on the Sugar Land campus, but not yet on the other WCJC campuses. The rules can be confusing when faculty and students travel between campuses.</p> <p>In regards to SB 11 (Campus Carry) research is being conducted on gun free zones. Recommendations are being accepted. Examples of excluded areas allowed for in the law are the testing center, which has a contract with a third party (Pearson) that prohibits firearms during the administration of exams. Other examples include the offices of licensed professional counselors and meeting rooms when grievance hearings are being held.</p> <p>The WCJC Policy is being drafted and will follow the University of Houston's example.</p> <p>Questions raised by faculty:</p> <p>Q. During New Student Orientation, were students notified about the campus carry? A. Yes, and remember that the law applies to those 21 or over. Many of our students are younger.</p> <p>Q. How are adjunct/part-time faculty to be made aware of this law? A. Meetings will be held to discuss policy changes. Heads of departments are responsible for encouraging part time faculty to attend. All faculty, staff, and students are also informed via the WCJC web page and WCJC email. Part-time faculty is also given a presentation on Campus Carry at the mandatory orientation at SL.</p> <p>Reminder: if the firearm is not on your person, it needs to be locked in the glove box or the trunk of your car or needs to be locked inside your desk or office, where it cannot be seen.</p>
4.	<p>Miscellaneous</p> <p>Parking At Sugar Land</p> <p>Q. When is the new driveway in Sugar Land going to be completed? A. Not sure, there were delays due to the heavy rains.</p> <p>Q. Are there plans for improving the parking situation at the Sugar Land Campus. A. It's beyond our control, not our campus, belongs to UH.</p> <p>A statement was made about park and ride impacting the number of available spaces. Park and ride is a city driven initiative, not a college one.</p>

	<p>Strategic Plan The strategic plan was finalized. Money is available to implement plans in alignment with the strategic plan. Faculty is unsure of the process for obtaining funds. Also, faculty should review the plan to see if mentioned and are responsible for something in the plan. The faculty council will look into answering these questions once the first meeting is held in September.</p> <p>Forwarding Student Concerns Q. Who should faculty refer students to when raise issues beyond their control? A. Refer to the student government association. They have an impact. For example, this past year they brought to the administration's attention the unreliable wireless internet connection in the dorms which resulted in upgrading the technology. They also brought to the administration's attention, the conflicting dorm closure schedule with the holiday schedule where dorms were closing before classes were through. There was a brief discussion about the Richmond campus and what would be happening with the available space.</p> <p>Acknowledgements Jennifer Jeffery recognized Liz Rexford for her efforts as chair this past year.</p>
5.	<p>Elections – 2 new at large members to serve a 2 year term.</p> <p>Allyson Matheaus was nominated and seconded; accepted nomination. Marissa Saenz was nominated and seconded; accepted nomination.</p> <p>It was moved to close nominations.</p> <p>Chair, Liz Rexford called for a vote.</p> <p>Allyson and Marissa were elected by acclamation.</p>
6.	<p>Faculty Council Roster listed by division</p> <p>Allied Health –Shelly Mayfield, Debbie Lutringer Communications & Fine Arts – Anna Patrick, Jeff Tix Math, Readiness, & Justice –Dale Neaderhouser, Amanda Celaya Science – Amanda Smith, Jennifer Jeffery Social & Behavioral Sciences – Liz Rexford, Wiley Parkman Technology & Business – David Woods, Natalie Pittman Vocational Science – Frank Becak, Willie Myles At Large – Jeff Shine, Sharla Walker, Allyson Matheaus, Marissa Saenz Academic Counselors & Professional Librarians – Susan Denman Briones</p>

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned 11:15am

Chair _____

Date _____