

## FACULTY ASSOCIATION MINUTES

<b>Date</b>	Friday, January 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2020
<b>Location</b>	Wharton-Horton Foote Theater
<b>Time</b>	Meeting convened at 10:30 a.m.

### Attendees

Role	Name
<b>Chair</b>	Peter Anderson
<b>Minute Taker</b>	TK Krpec
<b>Attendees</b>	All Faculty in attendance at Convocation

### Information Items

	Description
1.	<b>Welcome-</b> Peter welcomed everyone back and wished them a good semester.
2.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Longevity</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Peter reiterated that the longevity proposal was approved and urged faculty to thank the president, Board of Trustees, and Executive Cabinet.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. <b>Summer/Mini Pay</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Pay for summer or mini semesters will be given at the end of the month in which class has ended.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. <b>Student Awards</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Peter urged that student awards and nominations be sent to the department heads as soon as possible. He urged faculty to attend the ceremony and support our outstanding students.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. <b>Strategic planning</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Questions were raised as to when strategic planning will be installed and implemented. \$500,000 has been spent on planning and little has been done to increase our services or facilities. There is a feeling of apathy and concern amongst the faculty when we talk about the next plan to do something we believe never will be acted on. There was some discussion about the importance of expanding our presence in the Fort Bend area.</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. <b>Department Head/Program Director Pay</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Voting on the proposal is taking place. Currently, the "yes" voters are in the lead. Those who haven't responded to the poll and were requested to, please vote as soon as possible. If you do not vote it is inferred that you are either for, or at least not against the proposal and we will proceed forward with that understanding.</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. <b>Lab Practicum Pay</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. FC is still trying to collect information on the amount of extra hours each department puts forth for labs, clinics, practicums and studios. If you have not sent in your information yet, please do so. This likely will be tabled, if faculty does not participate, and respond to previous inquiries made of them.</li> </ol> </li> <li>7. <b>Parking Passes</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Questions were raised as to whether or not the school would be paying for parking passes in Sugar land during the upcoming 2020-21 school year, or if</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

	<p>the burden would be put on the instructors. FC will inquire of the administration what will happen in future years.</p> <p><b>8. Student IDs</b></p> <p>a. Student IDs for all students have been mentioned as a necessity for multiple reasons including the safety of the students, use as identification for students in on-line classes and discounted extracurricular activities. If any other reasons come to mind, please email those to a Faculty Council member.</p> <p><b>9. Security Issues</b></p> <p>a. During an incident at a Wharton bank, the Wharton high school was on lockdown to ensure safety. Questions were raised as to why the college wasn't on lockdown too, since its location is closer to the bank.</p> <p>b. The new monitors installed for safety will be functional when the president approves a layout that is functional and works with the current portal.</p> <p>c. Several new cameras have been installed on the campuses and security is also working on making sure the parking lots are lighted.</p> <p>d. Peter reminded faculty to sign up for Rave and have their students do the same.</p> <p><b>10. Step Increase</b></p> <p>a. Peter mentioned that an increase to the step system pay has been brought up multiple times by numerous faculty and staff. A vote took place on whether or not to pursue the issue. The vote ended in a resounding "yes."</p> <p><b>11. Final's Week Grading Timeline</b></p> <p>a. Some faculty members expressed a concern that the current amount of allotted time for grading during finals week is insufficient. Fine Arts and Communication asked for Thursdays and Fridays of finals week to be grading days only. Rexford explained that, if this change is made, we would have to either give up a holiday or start earlier to make sure that we meet the state requirement for the proper number of instructional days. Most faculty are against a change to the current schedule. Patrick Rawls asked that faculty dismiss the thought immediately without giving it some thought. Archana Bahnsin proposed a dead date. Jodie Hutchinson proposed sending out an email to survey. FC will design a survey and send it out during the spring semester.</p> <p><b>12. ADA Issues</b></p> <p>a. Several faculty members stated that they would like some clarification on current accommodations. It was also mentioned that at times the response from the ADA office has not been provided or seems to be in conflict with other college policies. It was suggested that a presentation from the ADA office might clear up some of these issues. It was suggested that the presentation could be made on the professional development day during convocation week and that attendance of the faculty be made mandatory. TK motioned that Faculty Council get with Disability Services to create a survey on possible presentation times and questions faculty members may have. Ken Grubb provided a second.</p>
6.	<p><b>Conclusion</b></p> <p>Faculty Association concluded at 11:15 AM with Peter wishing everyone a good semester.</p>

**Action Items**

	Description	Responsible Party	Due Date/Status
1.	Summer pay for DH/PD responses needed ASAP	DH/PD	As soon as possible
2	Lab, clinic, studio and practicum hours need ASAP	Lab Instructors	As soon as possible
3.	Create a survey for possible finals week schedule changes	Faculty Council	At next FC meeting
4.	FC get with Disability Services to create survey or have ADA come and do sessions at convocations in Fall and Spring during professional development days).	Faculty Council	At next FC meeting
5.	Ask admin. About parking passes in future semester	Peter Anderson	As soon as possible
6.	Step increase	Faculty Council	Next Meeting

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned 11:15 a.m.

Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_