APPROVED AND CORRECTED MINUTES

These minutes are disseminated to provide timely information to the Academic Senate. They have
been approved by the body in question, and, therefore, they are the official minutes.

ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING
March 25, 2015

Present: Hobson Wildenthal, Naofal Al Dhair, Frank Anderson, Karen Baynham, Kurt
Beron, Judd Bradbury, Matthew Brown, R. Chandrasekaran, David Cordell, George
Decourcy, Gregg Dieckmann, Vladimir Dragovic, Nicholas Gans, Yulia Gel, Lev
Gelb, Jennifer Holmes, Mustapha Ishak-Boushaki, Joe Izen, Wieslaw Krawcewicz,
Carie Lambert, Vance Lewis, Jason McAfee, Matthew Polze, Viswanath
Ramakrishna, Tim Redman, Scott Rippel, Christopher Ryan, Liz Salter, Betsy
Schlobohm, Richard Scotch, Michael Tiefeldorf, Tres Thompson, Tonia Wissinger,
Alejandro Zentner

Absent: David Daniel, Zalman Balanov, Poras Balsara, Gail Breen, John Burr, Eugene
Deluke, John Ferguson, Andrea Fumagalli, M. Ali Hooshyar, Murray Leaf, Michele
Lockhart, Dennis Miller, Emire Muslu, Jin Yong Na, Jared Pickens, Ravi Prakash,
Mark Salamasick, Murat Torlak

Visitors: Andrew Blanchard, Karl Wolff, Molly Vaughn, Abby Kratz, Inga Musselman, Chris
Parr, Suresh Radhankrishnan,

1. Call to Order, Announcements and Questions
   Provost Wildenthal called the meeting to order at 2:04 PM. President Daniel was out of town.
   There were no announcements, and Provost Wildenthal opened the floor to questions. A
   question was raised about how the gun bill that was passed by the Senate would affect the
   university. The response was a wait and see if the governor will sign the bill, and then proceed
   accordingly.

2. Approval of the Agenda
   Matt Brown moved to approve the agenda. Vance Lewis seconded. The motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes
   Greg Dieckman submitted a series of small corrections prior to the meeting. Judd Bradbury
   moved to approve the amended minutes. Matt Brown seconded. The motion carried.

4. Speaker’s Report – Tim Redman
   Everything was on the agenda.

5. Non-Substantive changes to UTDOPI007 – Faculty Senate By Laws
   Tim Redman proposed updates to the Senate by laws that were non-substantive. All
   changes were intended to bring the bylaws in line with current Senate practices. The motion
   to approve was made by the Council, and therefore did not require a second. The motion
   carried. The changes will return to the Senate for a second vote.
6. FAC/ TXCFS Report- Richard Scotch
   Report on the Texas Council of Faculty Senate spring meeting.
   Murray Leaf.

   The meeting was held at the Embassy Suites, Austin, February 27 and 28th. Murray Leaf and
   Richard Scotch attended as the representatives of UT Dallas.

   The first speaker was Ross Ramsey, editor and cofounder of the Texas Tribune. He presented
   an informative and not too depressing view of the prospects for higher education with the
   new governor and legislative mix. The assembly was appreciative, both of what Ramsey said
   and of the Tribune’s coverage of higher education. This coverage will continue.

   The next event was a panel titled Collegiality, Bullying, and the Academy. What was meant by
   bullying turned out to be aggressive, unmanly, and uncivil behavior. The problem was what
to do about it. Each speaker represented a different approach. Michael Fisher, VP for
   Academic Affairs at Trinity University, described the way they developed a very simple policy,
   essentially consisting of three statements that required civil behavior. The key was in the last
   statement that referred uncivil behavior to a peer assessment process. So the touchstone is
   actually to compel people whose behavior is uncivil to face community consensus. Marbury
   Anne Oliver, Professor of Counseling at Texas A&M College Corpus Christi, represented a
   kind of soft therapeutic approach, focusing on one-on-one consultations. Mary Steinhardt,
   Prof. of Health Behavior and University Faculty ombudsman at UT Austin, talked about her
   office. She is bound by a commitment to the code of ethics of an association of ombudsmen.
   This requires the process to be entirely confidential unless the ombudsman had the permission
   of the complaining person to involve others. Her experience has been that a large number of
   people feel better simply talking about the problem and they do not want her to do anything
   further. For the rest, she generally does get permission to involve others and does so. The
   panel did not reach a conclusion on their own but I suggested one that they accepted. This
   was that the way to rein in uncivil behavior was to get it out in the open and make it subject
to faculty consensus. If the campus did not have a mechanism for doing this, they should
   develop one.

   Next, Peter Hugill, Prof. of Geography at Texas A&M and past president of the Texas AAUP,
gave an overview of the AAUP’s development in the hundred years since it was founded in
1915.

   The banquet speaker was Texas State Representative Travis Clardy, from Nacogdoches. He
   is a member of the House Higher Education Committee, and also on the Calendar Committee.
   Like Ramsey, the general sense of his presentation was that the support for higher education
   will be stronger in the coming political term than in the last. Gov. Abbott has expressed his
   appreciation of research and the legislature will agree. Everyone seems to appreciate the need
   for authorizing TRB’s. He thinks there will be a bill allowing concealed weapons on campuses,
   but seems to think that greater support would be for a version that allowed campuses to opt
   out. He also thinks there will be some amendment of the Hazelwood act reducing the number
   of dependents of veterans eligible for tuition support. The discussion focused almost entirely
   on the concealed carry issue. Clardy’s response at the very end of the discussion session was
to call attention to this distraction and say that he wished he had heard more about more directly educational matters.

The campus reports seemed to present a change in tone from previous years. The most conspicuous feature was that this year there were no stories of presidents doing outrageous things. Instead, a large portion of the institutions had new presidents replacing less satisfactory previous presidents. These new presidents were also replacing their top administrative staff, and asking faculty governance bodies to become more involved in reviewing or writing academic policies. About a third of the governance organizations now seem to be engaged in policy writing and review.

On Saturday morning, the members discussed the general themes from the campus reports and agreed on two items for the next meeting. First, we would try to get a panel of presidents who were involving faculty in policy writing to discuss their views of shared governance. Second, with less enthusiasm, we would expand the use of the website as a policy repository that the member campuses could refer to. There was some discussion of trying to determine “best practices,” but in the end the consensus was that it would be better to collect accounts from campuses of their discussions of what their policy should be and why.

The meeting was exceptionally well attended and levels of satisfaction as reported in the evaluations seem to be increasing.

7. **Student Government Liaison Report – Karl Wolff and Molly Vaughan**

Nancy Fairbank was unable to attend but sent Karl Wolff and Molly Vaughan in her stead. March 24th was the most recent Student Government meeting. SG has a lengthy discussion regarding campus carry. The end result was that SG voted for a resolution in favor of campus opt-out. This is in support of the amendment from the House. To gauge student sentiment, surveys were sent out to students, and there was a broad range of opinions expressed. 700 students responded, which is high for this type of survey. Out of the 700, 83% said they do not own a firearm, 17% say they do. On the question of whether they agreed or disagreed with allowing concealed carry on campus, greater than 70% said they disagree or strongly disagree. On the question of whether public universities should be able to opt out of concealed handgun carry laws, 78% said yes. With this overwhelming response from students, SG passed a resolution in favor of allowing campus opt-out.

An ad hoc committee was formed for a drug and alcohol policy. They are continuing to meet with various bodies on campus. Other meetings continue on ‘Bring your own bottle’ and other related policies continue.

8. **CEP Proposals**

The Chair of the Committee, Suresh Radhakrishnan, presented the following committee report

A. Status of 4 MATH Undergraduate Courses

A meeting about four MATH courses was held back in February to allow for gathering more information. There was one core class, MATH 2306; and three Mathematics major core courses, MATH 2370, 2399, and 3323. All are new courses. MATH 4930 was replaced by 2399. CEP moved to approve. The motion carried.
B. Mid-Cycle course additions- Undergraduate
Three new courses have been added; two from ATEC, and one from ECS. ATEC 4322 will be offered in spring 2016. ATEC 4356 will be offered in fall 2015. BMEN 3325 will be offered in fall 2015. CEP moved to approve. The motion carried.

C. Mid-Cycle course additions- Graduate
Seven new courses have been added; one from BBS, three from ECS, and three from JSOM. The BBS will offer COMD 6V09 in summer 2015. Out of the three ECS requested courses one course, SYSE 6V80, is a repeatable course. BMEN 6342 will be offered during spring 2016. In JSOM, two of three new courses will be added under the new courses prefix ENGY. This is for the new MS in Energy Management. The third course is for the Executive Education program. All other courses will be offered in the fall of 2015. CEP moved to approve. The motion carried.

D. Fast Track Policies and 2015 Undergraduate Catalog Sections
UT Dallas has a second monitoring report due to SACs on April 1, 2015. As part of the report the Fast Track language needs to be made clearer in the undergraduate catalogue. The CEP and CUE made changes and revision extensively across the document. The main changes were: Students must be university core complete before they apply to the fast track program. Both the undergraduate associate dean and the graduate advisor must be involved in the decisions. All other changes were to streamline the Fast Track language so as to be consistent across schools.

The document lists the fast track sections for each school. Each school program has a short description which will be in the catalog. It was streamlined and made consistent across schools. CEP moved to approve. The motion carried.

E. Informational: Core Curriculum and Transitional Core Curriculum Lists.
The list noted which courses are under each category of learning objectives. One course was reclassified, COMM 1311. There was no change to physical and life science or history. MUSI 2322 was reinstated as core in Creative Arts. MATH 4390 was removed and replaced with MATH 2399. GOVT 2301/2302 were removed from Government. SOC 2300 was reinstated and cross listed with GST 2300. The transitional core classes will continue through the summer of 2016. There were a few changes to the titles of the courses. All of the courses were approved before but this was simply a consolidation of information. The purpose of the list is to assist advisors.

9. Non-Substantive Changes to local UTS 180
The document was sent by Tim Shaw. It was reviewed by Murray Leaf and Tim Redman and appears acceptable. There are no differences that affect the faculty. The updates bring our local UTS 180 in line with UT System’s. Betsy Schlobohm move to approve changes. Tonia Wissinger seconded. The motion carried.

10. Amendment to UTDPP 1019- Committee on Committees
The suggested updates were made to reflect the addition of the new school. E. Chandrasekaran and Matt Brown suggested for future amendment to committee charges that whenever possible the wording “one person from each school” be used so that in the future
additional changes will not need to be made when additional schools are added to the university. Joe Izen moved to approve the amended document. Liz Salter seconded. The motion carried.

11. Adjournment
There being no further business, Provost Wildenthal adjourned the meeting at 2:44 PM.

APPROVED: ________________________________
Tim Redman
Speaker of the Faculty

DATE: 6-7-15