Minutes of the Meeting of the Faculty Senate
February 13, 2008

In Attendance: Bennett Amaechi, Deborah Baruch-Bienen, Krista Bowers, William Clark, Sally Combest, James Evans, Christopher Franka, Keith Krollick, William Morgan, Mark Nadeau, Barry Norling, Catherine Ortega, Mickey Parsons, Rajeshwar Rao Tekmal.

Absent: Margaret Brackley, Peter Gakunga, Rebecca Garcia-Michels, Daniel Johnson, Catherine Robichaux, Helen Sorenson, Leticia Vargas, Ronald Verrett, David Vines, Renee Yew.

Convened: 4:05 PM

University Topics
Dr. Theresa Chiang, Vice President for Academic Administration

School of Medicine (from Tom White)

- Thomas L. Matthews, MD, has accepted the position of Assistant Dean for Student Affairs.

- Mr. Edward L. Grab, President and CEO of our practice plan (UT Medicine San Antonio), will resign his position effective March 2, 2008.

- Sharon B. Murphy, MD, Director, Greehey Children’s Cancer Research Institute, has elected to step down later this spring.

Graduate Dean search

- The search for a replacement for soon-to-retire GSBS Dean Dr. Merle Olson has begun. Dr. Cigarroa has charged the search committee and a search firm has been identified.

SACS re-accreditation process coming to a close

- SACS onsite review is to occur February 19-21, 2008; the site visit team will be meeting with numerous members of the administration and the faculty. The Faculty Senate has been involved in many aspects of the preparations for this visit.

- The Faculty Senate applauded Dr. Chiang’s excellent leadership through this complicated and very important process.
Update: Wellness Programs and Policies
Dr. Pedro Delgado, Dielmann Professor and Chairman, Department of Psychiatry
Associate Dean for Faculty Development and Professionalism
School of Medicine

Dr. Delgado discussed programs and proposed policies concerned with faculty wellness in the Medical School, particularly with regard to disruptive or otherwise non-professional faculty behavior.

Although policies that provide guidance to UTHSCSA faculty who are also physicians with specialty-specific issues are important, some discussion by senators concerned how these Medical School-specific policies relate to institutional policies, and if they can be considered a subset of policies that apply to us all. There may be some value in attempting to organize and structure policies that refer to expectations placed on our faculty from all schools so that they may be found in a single place, and that encourages committees that are discussing and developing such policies to communicate with each other.

Report from the UT System Faculty Advisory Council
Dr. Keith Krolick
Chair, UTHSCSA Faculty Senate

- The timeliness of receiving appointment letters was again discussed.

- A recommendation to create a Faculty Regent position was sent to Regents for consideration

- Regulatory over-reaching by Department of Education; faculty governance organizations from around the country to be engaged; V. Chancellor for Federal Relations William Shute to be engaged

- 6-dropped courses policy for all baccalaureate programs questioned – Will affect SON and AH

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.