

Faculty Senate Meeting
Wednesday, January 13, 2016
MED 4.409L

Meeting was called to order by Dr. Lori Pounds, Chair – Faculty Senate

- Announcements – Dr. Lori Pounds
 - The website is up and going. You can now access minutes and presentations from previous meetings.
 - Access to distribution list was granted to Dr. Pounds in order to send agenda items to all faculty.
 - We will use room 4.409L for remaining Faculty Senate meetings, until we can either get 3.309L again or somewhere at the Academic Learning and Teaching Center.
 - The next Faculty Advisory Council meeting will be held January 21st and 22nd in Austin. Will present updates as soon as possible.
 - The Medical School Faculty Assembly has put forth an initiative to change the ratio of how the senators for the School of Medicine are distributed.
- Campus updates - Dr. Jacqueline Mok, Vice President for Academic, Faculty and Student Affairs:
 - Information regarding expectations for Accreditation Processes was distributed to senators. Accreditation for the institution is every 10 years with a check-in point at the 5th year. There are 90+ standards that the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools-Commission on Colleges (SACS-COC) on compliance. Our site visit will be March 27th-29th, 2018; however a report due September 2017. We are currently looking at educational programs and assessment needs. The data collection period is now part of the academic year in order to put together a self-study (handout attached).
 - The Academic Learning and Teaching Center will officially be dedicated on Tuesday, February 16th, 2016 from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. The building will be open for you to tour the lobby and food service area on Tuesday, January 19th, 2016. There will be an open house for faculty members, teaching assistants, and educational development specialists on Wednesday, February 10th, 2016. We will be hosting Dr. Phillip Wong from UT Austin and will be doing a keynote speech about new technology physical spaces to enhance active team-based learning and how a faculty member approaches the development and delivery of their courses. There will be a tour afterward for the faculty of the different classrooms.
 - Monday, January 25th, 2016 is the President's Town Hall in the Pestana Lecture hall at noon.
 - Monday, February 29th, 2016 the Shanghai Quartet will be performing in the Holly Auditorium at noon. This ensemble features Chinese instruments. President Henrich noted that one of the members of the quartet is the featured musician of an instrument called the pipa.

- Conversations have been taking place state wide related to campus carry. The Attorney General is still making distinctions between “open carry” vs. “concealed carry” on campuses. The President has asked for the report to be delivered to him sometime in the middle of January. The deadline for making a final decision has been pushed back as we wait for the Attorney General to weigh in on some critical opinions about mixed used buildings, residents’ halls, classrooms; what is and is not allowable. Open carry is available in the state, however NOT allowable on campuses. Dr. Pounds has sent out emails to Faculty Senate at other campuses regarding campus carry and has gotten very different opinions.
- Educational Assistance Programs: Michael Black, MBA, Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer and Michael Tesh, Vice President for Human Resources
 - The Education Assistance Program provides tuition reimbursement to eligible employees to help defray the cost of tuition.
 - The Education Assistance Program Committee is responsible for accepting, reviewing and approving/denying all applications on a quarterly basis.
 - The Committee determines all application deadlines, which will be posted on the program website (see attached presentation).

Members Present: Ricky Joseph, Brent Shriver, Greg Ernst Hassem Geha, Norma Partida, Helen Parsons, Arthur Chang, Elizabeth Casiano Evans, Anand Prasad, Manoj Panday, Shweta Bansal, Maxim Eckmann, Rebecca Bonugli, Lisa Cleveland, Danet Lapiz-Bluhm, Carol White

Members Absent: Cheryl Burns, Cara Gonzales, Suman Challa, Barbara Christy, Benjamin Eaton, Raushaun Kurmasheva, Brian Eastridge, Rajeshwar Tekmal

Next meeting Wednesday February 10th, 2016.