

Faculty Senate Meeting
Wednesday, September 9th, 2015
AAB 114/116

Meeting was called to order by Dr. Cheryl Burns, out-going Chair who introduced new 2015-16 Chair Dr. Lori Pounds, Associate Professor from the Department of Surgery, Division of Vascular Surgery.

- One of Dr. Pounds' goals for 2015-16 is to focus on making the Faculty Senate a stronger group. The Faculty Senate is mandated by the UT System and Dr. Pounds expressed the importance of working together.
- Dr. Burns to compile a list of agenda items such as the promotion and tenure workshop
- Dr. Pounds is attempting to get additional administrative support, to distribute minutes and keep group informed
- Dr. Pounds discussed the Faculty Advisory Committee which meets 3 or 4 times a year in Austin. Various groups from UT Austin, UTMB, UTSA, UT El Paso etc, from different disciplines meet to discuss what is important to each. At the latest meeting, they discussed the recent UT Intellectual Policy changes. Will forward meeting minutes to senate once they are received.
- Dr. Pounds would like to update the web site and create an email address for the Faculty Senate – FacultySenate@uthscsa.edu in case people have a specific question, the mailbox can be monitored by an individual that can respond accordingly. She would also like to create a Faculty Senate distribution list to go directly on the global address list.

Faculty Senate Awards Presentation

- Faculty Leadership Award was presented to Dr. Ramin Poursani, Associate Professor, Family and Community Medicine
- Administration Leadership Award was presented to Dr. Robin Zuniga, VP Academic Faculty and Student Affairs

Campus Updates – Dr. Jacqueline Mok, VP Academic Faculty and Student Affairs

9/10/2015

- Dedication of the New Center for Oral Health Care & Research, 11:00 a.m.
- Presidential Distinguished Lecture: Nobel laureate W.E. Moerner, Ph.D.
Reception, Noon, Lecture Hall Commons
Lecture, 1 p.m., Pestana Lecture Hall

- The annual State Employee Charitable Campaign (SECC) the opportunity to help make lives better, continues through Oct. 2. The Health Science Center goal this year is \$450,000. More than 500 organizations benefit from this campaign.
- The Academic Learning and Teaching Center should be complete December 29th. We will use the Spring Semester to “road test” the building. During the course of the spring semester, to get feedback from faculty regarding teaching space. The rooms are flat surfaced rather than tiered, in order to give better opportunity to work together as interactive groups. The LCME Guidelines and Undergraduate Medical Education decided to change the nature of instruction from being lecture based to more “team based.”
- At the end of the legislative session, the state legislature passed, and the governor signed the bill for public universities to allow carrying of concealed handguns. The Chancellor has instructed that each university engage in discussion through groups to develop what the implementation process would be on the campus. Each president is responsible for defining what will be implemented at their campus.

Election of Chair-Elect for 2015-2016

- Dr. Suman Challa, Assistant Professor, Comprehensive Dentistry volunteered to serve as Chair-Elect for the 2015-2016 academic year.

Welcome to New Faculty Senators

Dr. Pounds welcomed new faculty members: Ricky Joseph, MD, department of Occupational Therapy; Hassem Geha, DDS, MS, department of Oral & Maxillofacial Radiology; Suman Challa, BDS, MS; Benjamin Eaton, PhD, Barshop Institute, Raushan Kurmasheva, PhD, Greehey CCRI, Elizabeth Casiano, MD, department of OB/GYN and Shweta Bansal, MD, department of Medicine.

In closing, Dr. Pounds is still working on Faculty Senate Members and Committee Appointments; which will be Faculty Status & Welfare, Academic Affairs, Scholarly Activities & Service and Faculty Governance.