

# **Faculty Senate Policy Committee**

Meeting Minutes

May 4, 2016

3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** Martha Muller (Co-Chair), Kimberly Gauderman (Co-Chair), Barbara Hannan, Marsha Baum, Leslie Oakes, Jamal Martin, and Lee Brown

**Ex-Officio:** John Trotter, HSC Vice Chancellor Emeritus, and Kimberly Bell, Deputy University Counsel, University Counsel Office

**Members Absent:** Melinda Tinkle

**Ex-Officio Absent:** Carol Parker, Senior Associate Provost, Office of the Provost & EVP for Academic Affairs, Vivian Valencia, University Secretary Emerita, Office of the Secretary, and Leslie Morrison, HSC Vice Chancellor

**Staff Present:** Candyce Torres, Office of the Secretary, Administrative Coordinator  
Carol Stephens, Office of the Secretary, Professional Consultant

**Guest Present:**

## **Meeting began at 3:30pm**

- 1.** The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate (FS) Policy Committee was called to order at 3:30PM on Wednesday May 4, 2016 in Scholes Hall, Room 101 by Co-Chairs, Kimberly Gauderman and Martha Muller.
- 2. Approval of Agenda.** Approved unanimously
- 3. Approval of Minutes.** Approved unanimously
- 4. Updates: C60 “Visiting Scholars”; C220 “Holidays”; C225 “Professional Development”; C260 “Religious Accommodations” approved by Faculty Senate.** Co-Chair Kimberly Gauderman announced that she responded to the faculty member who submitted the one comment in response to the proposed revisions to C220. At the last Policy Committee meeting it

was decided that in fact this policy should remain flexible so that a diversity of experiences could be provided for. Chair Gauderman did write Dr. Lisa Whalen about the Policy Committee's determination. Additionally, Chair Gauderman also took the policies to the Faculty Senate for approval and all policies were approved.

5. **A60 “Faculty Bylaws”**. Marsha Baum and Carol Stephens worked on an update to A60 which is significant because the Faculty Senate restructured the organization considerably, which resulted in considerable changes to the faculty Bylaws. Marsha Baum and Carol Stephens had a few questions. Marsha Baum met with the Faculty Senate Operations Committee and received some answers to inquiries. One of them was in the reorganization table, the Faculty Senate Ethics Committee was eliminated. Marsha Baum was able to get confirmation that the Ethics Committee is going to be a standalone Committee, like the Policy Committee. It is not going to come under any of the Councils. She also confirmed that the original reorganization document stated that the Councils had decision making authority but then it was followed by a sentence asserting that anything they decided had to go to the Faculty Senate for ratification. In essence, they do not have decision making authority. Additionally, based on the fact that the document stated the Councils had decision making authority, a sentence also reflected that the Councils were subject to the Open Meetings Act. Marsha Baum had the discussion with Operations and the determination was made that the Councils do not have decision making authority and because they do not they are not subject to the Open Meetings Act. Carol Stephens rewrote the revision to the Bylaws to reflect this. Marsha Baum also indicated that the Faculty Senate was also supposed to issue a report. The Faculty Senate is currently working on finalizing this report. This will not impact the changes that were made to the Faculty Bylaws. This is just to ensure that the process for approving the reorganization has followed all the required avenues.

**Action- A60** is on hold until Fall 2016. Marsha Baum will follow-up with Operations about the Faculty Senate reorganization report and Faculty Senate Bylaws Task Force.

6. **C07 “Faculty Disciplinary Policy”**. Marsha Baum indicated that AF&T will be talking about this again on Friday. Language is being worked on by AF&T and it will go out to the various group to get feedback over the summer. There is nothing to present on this policy for the June meeting.
7. **C09 “Respectful Campus”**. This Task Force has been a very diligent Committee. Chair Kimberly Gauderman provided an update. This Task Force has been meeting frequently, sometimes twice a week. The Task Force is near completion but did run into a road block this week which has to do with the status of mediation in the context of the policy on Respectful Campus. The disagreement is that some of the Task Force members feel that the informal resources, such as CARS, OMBUDS or SHAC, should be considered a resource, and be placed at the end of the policy for moving forward with an official complaint. Faculty representatives from OMBUDS and CARS wanted to highlight the resources that are available for people to informally work out their grievance before filing an official complaint. The disagreement stems from an ongoing concern that has been expressed that there are some grievances that actually should go into policy. They should not go through OMBUDS. Sometimes grievances need to go forward and if someone has done some type of action that is in violation of the policy sometimes you don't want to mediate. Putting the mediation resources before the actual policy is

communicating to the complaint that an informal policy should be carried out before a formal complaint should go forward. The concern from the OMBUDS perspective was that by putting the mediation resources at the back of the policy, it minimized the efforts for the kind of services available to help mediation. The other representative from SHAC informed the Task Force that the rationale for not wanting resources at the end of the policy stems from the belief that people should try to mediate and talk to each other before they move forward in policy. A meeting is scheduled for next week to finalize this discussion and the policy revisions.

**Action-**The C09 policy will come back to the Policy Committee.

- 8. Research Policies E40 and E 90 updates.** The Research Policy Committee (RPC) has only looked at E40. RPC met in April for their last meeting of FY15/16. RPC circulated E40 by email for review and comment. Chair Hanson emailed Chair Muller that an electronic vote will produce an electronic recommendation by the end of the week regarding E40. RPC is waiting on E90 as they do not have an official request. The Policy Committee is currently waiting for comment from Dr. Larson regarding E90. This is because the proposed changes to E90 drastically impact the Regent policy. Therefore, someone would have to take this policy to the Regents with a recommendation. John Trotter will review his communication with Dr. Larson about this policy.

**Action-** Carol Stephens and John Trotter will touch base about this policy and E90 will be placed on the June meeting agenda.

## **9. Work Status Table and Committee on Governance Recommendations Status Table**

**Next Meeting:** June 1, 2016 11:00AM-3:00PM

**Adjourn:** 5:00pm