

**Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**April 2, 2009**  
**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Michael Zeitler; Andrea Shelton; Edieth Wu; Mammo Woldie; Howard Beeth; Rita Saylor; MacJohn Akpaffiong; Nina Saha; Dianne Mosley; and Lalita Sen

The meeting was called to order and conducted by Vice Chair Lalita Sen due to Chairman Alex Swan's absence. Minutes from the March, 2009 Faculty Senate meeting were distributed and approved.

**Agenda Items**

**Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)** – Dr. Vera Hawkins and Dr. Jacqueline Fleming presented information about Texas Southern University's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). This plan is a requirement for SACS accreditation and is designed to help meet the mission of the university as well as enhance the environment of the institution. Ideas for QEP topics are sought from the faculty. The QEP team would like to be placed on the agenda of various faculty meetings to be held in August.

**Scientific Misconduct Policy** - A letter was sent to President John Rudley, with a copy to Provost Sunny Ohia and Faculty Assembly/Senate Chair Alex Swan, asking questions raised by Senators attending the emergency meeting on March 12, 2009 about TSU's Scientific Misconduct Policy and recent actions taken using this policy. The following questions were asked in this letter:

- 1) Who originated and formulated the Scientific Misconduct Policy?
- 2) What date was the policy formulated and approved?
- 3) Who or what body approved the policy?
- 4) Which committee/parties were involved in formulating this policy and how was the group constituted?
- 5) When was the policy placed on the TSU website?
- 6) When was the policy approved by the university faculty?
- 7) When is the effective date of the university policy?

As of the date of this meeting, no response from President Rudley to this letter had been received. It was moved and seconded that Vice Chair Lalita Sen meet with the Provost and inform him no response to the letter to President Rudley has been received and ask him what we can do. No vote was taken on this motion.

There is a hearing committee meeting scheduled for April 24 to address the termination of Professor Dittmer in Airway Science. Professor Dittmer's dismissal does not involve the Scientific Misconduct Policy. Oscar Criner stated in a preliminary meeting of the hearing committee that he was appointed chair of this committee by

President J. Timothy Boddie. It was suggested that Dr. Sen write a letter to the hearing committee informing them that chairs are to be elected by faculty and should not be awarded this position in any other way. Professor Edith Wu cautioned that this letter should not be written until the committee is contacted to determine if they selected Dr. Criner to chair the committee by acclamation after he was appointed by President Boddie. If this were the case, according to Senator Wu, then a letter from Dr. Sen would be out of order.

**Rank, Tenure, and Promotion Guidelines** – New guidelines for rank, tenure and promotion are being developed and faculty members should be given an opportunity to vote on guidelines in their colleges and schools. A concern was raised that this might not be taking place in all colleges and schools.

**Electronic Evaluation of Deans** - A copy of the instrument Provost Ohia will use to conduct an electronic faculty survey of the performance of deans was distributed and discussed. It was pointed out that some items referred to “his” performance when there are female deans on campus.

**Faculty Assembly/Senate Election and Nominations Meetings** – Dr. Sen stated that only 2 people showed up for the election committee meeting and we need at least 2 people at the polls at all times to avoid any accusations of irregularities or impropriety. Senators were asked to sign a schedule of times they could monitor faculty voting. Some Senators signed the schedule and others needed to check their schedules before committing to a specific time. Many time slots were left blank on the schedule.

**The meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm.**