January 2006 Faculty Senate Minutes

Faculty Senate Minutes  1-18-06

Senators attending:  Brett Serviss, Randy Duncan, Linda English, Patty Miley, Larry Thye, Duane Jackson, James Engman, Kenneth Taylor, Beverly Buys, Georgine Steinmiller, Kevin Durand, Laura Storm, Carol Underwood, Rafael Bejarano, Martin Halpern, Fred Worth, Paula Leming, Don Wells, Brian English, and Jim Shuff.

Guests in attendance:  Vice President Robert Houston

President Jamie Engman announced the quorum and called the meeting to order.

The Minutes of the December meeting were approved as distributed.

Vice President Houston met with the Senate for discussion. (Details of this discussion follow this set of Minutes.)

Election of Officers for 2006/2007:
- President Elect:  Kevin Durand, by acclamation. Motion carried.
- Secretary:  Brian English. Motion carried.
- Representative to Board of Trustees:  Brett Serviss, by acclamation; Motion carried.
- Webmaster Elect:  Don Wells, by acclamation; Motion carried.
- Parliamentarian:  Don Wells. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:
- Building and Grounds:  No report.
- Academic:  No report.
- Procedures:  No report.
- Operations:  No report.

Old Business:  no old business.

New Business:
- Question was brought in regard to Individual or Group letters in regard to Tenure and Promotion Procedure within a department. After discussion, President Engman referred the question to the Operations Committee for investigation and report.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian English
Faculty Senate Secretary

Vice President Houston’s Discussion

Enrollment:  Recruitment from Texas appears to be up 187%. This seems to be a result of Justin Casey from Admissions spending a substantial amount of time recruiting in Texas. We have also seen an increase in new international
students, including students from Taiwan and Nepal. The level of English language skills in the entering Taiwanese students appears to be better than in previous years.

Assessment: In the upcoming year, HSU will need to continue its focus on assessment, particularly with the upcoming visit for accreditation. In particular, there needs to be some additional documentation on the progress that we are making in our assessment plans. Some areas have progressed further than others.

Retention: There is an ongoing problem with international students who are unable to pay their tuition.