

**DRAFT**  
**FACULTY SENATE MINUTES**  
**Meeting: March 23, 2010**

**PRESENT:** M. Moosally, T. Davis, C. Bedard, R. Beebe, R. Chiquillo, D. de la Pena, H. Eliassen, T. Emeka, J. Flosi, B. Gilbert, A. Gomez-Rivas, S. Henney, G. Jackson, K. Jegdic, J. Johnson, P. Lyons, C. Nguyen, J. Paskelian, R. Pepper, P. Simeonov, , N. Sullivan, F. Williams, Z. Zhou

**ABSENT:** B. Belbot, J. Caro, J. Creighton, O. Gupta, A. Hewitt, J. Pavletich, D. Pence, N. Rangel, T. Redl, D. Ryden, J. Schmertz, S. Singletary, T. Workman

**GUESTS:** P. Ensor, L. Pointer

President Michelle Moosally called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m.

President Moosally called attention to rankings of Texas universities for safety; UHD ranked #16 for safety. She announced that the Faculty Awards Ceremony is April 6 and encouraged everyone to attend. She said that we will honor and recognize Provost M. Woods for her many years of service to UHD.

President Moosally announced that UHD has been selected to participate in the Hispanic Quiz Bowl (team of 5 students); they will be participating in Chicago around April 10. Only 8 universities were selected from across the US to participate in the Hispanic Quiz Bowl.

President Moosally drew attention to the issue of courses being set up in Vista for faculty when the faculty do not know about it. She said that Vista is intended for regular class uses as well as online classes. There were questions about classes that are outside of regular courses offered by UHD.

President Moosally informed the Senate that COB Emeritus Jim Tinkler passed away on the previous Friday. Professor Tinkler had been instrumental in setting up the Petroleum Land Management program at UHD.

President Moosally said that Senator T. Workman sent her an email about helping faculty deal with issues such as suicide prevention. She said that there is a free webinar that faculty may be interested in attending.

President Moosally announced that Senator D. Ryden's survey was sent to Senators. Please review and send back to President Moosally with your comments, so that the survey can be sent out and results discussed at the last Senate meeting of the current Senate.

Senator C. Nguyen asked about issue of having one tenured faculty member for senator when a department has more than one senator. He wanted to know how that would affect the evaluation of service, since in the COB that Senate service is considered an important opportunity for tenure-track faculty President Moosally noted that the requirement is only for 1 tenured senator and encouraged everyone find other kinds of quality university service for our junior faculty.

Secretary T. Davis asked permission to use abbreviated minutes for the February 16, 2010 minutes. There was a long discussion of the form and purpose of minutes. Generally, senators want a detailed transcript of discussion that occurred at Senate meetings. President Moosally said that FSEC will review the detailed minutes from the February 16 meeting before they are sent out to all faculty. Minutes for February 16 and March 2 were tabled.

In the absence of Vice President B. Belbot, President Moosally announced that faculty officer election ballots will be coming out soon.

Senator C. Bedard asked whether the two Urban Education senators who were elected for 2-year terms would continue to serve, even though they are not tenured. President Moosally said that they would continue to serve as they had already been elected for the 2-year term.

President Moosally then moved to discussion of changes to the Constitution as follows:

1. Article 1, Section 6—Removal of Senators—in the event that a Senator misses 3 meetings during a semester, the Senator’s department would be notified. The part of this policy that is being clarified is about who informs whom when senators are not adequately representing their departments. Senator N. Sullivan asked whether the letter sent to the department should state “cause.” President Moosally said there were questions about what constitutes “cause.” Senator C. Bedard asked if there is a provision in the Constitution where a senator can resign. President Moosally said there is not a process for resigning, but there is a process for replacing a senator who resigns. Senator R. Chiquillo said that the department chair should find a replacement. Senator G. Jackson pointed out that removal is really based on absences. President Moosally said the removal option was in the old constitution so we are just clarifying. Senator P. Lyons suggested attendance just be one cause and that this could be put into the terms of the office. Senator B. Gilbert moved and Senator J. Flosi seconded that Section 6 material be moved to Section 4 and included in Section 4 in terms of the office. The motion carried with 1 opposed and 1 abstention. Senator G. Jackson moved that we change the sentence to read “to initiate a removal vote after three absences.” The motion was not seconded.
2. Article 2, Section 2—Officer Elections—this just adds the “...secure and anonymous...through electronic balloting...”. Secretary T. Davis suggested that tenure not be required for any officers because it would significantly limit the pool of candidates; Senator S. Henney moved that President and President-elect officer positions be staffed by tenured faculty. The motion passed with 2 opposed, 2 abstentions.
3. A motion was made to move all election-related material to Article 2, Section 2; the motion passed unanimously.
4. Article 3, Section 1: Meeting schedule: put in a clause that allows change of meeting time—passed unanimously.
5. Article 3, Section 3: Roberts Rules of Order: instead of saying the “latest”, say the version by FSEC—2 abstentions, no opposed.
6. Article 3, Section 5: Faculty Assembly—The current Constitution requires two a year; it is recommended that it be changed to “once a year”. The motion passed with 2 abstentions.
7. Article 3, Section 5: The secretary of the Senate shall serve as secretary for Assembly meetings.

8. Article 3, Section 5: A question on quorum: do you have to have a quorum to pass something at a Faculty Assembly meeting—or do you just have a majority of the members present? Senator R. Beebee said that you cannot take a vote without a majority as determined by a quorum. Senator P. Lyons said that an action might have to go before the full Faculty Assembly. Senator N. Sullivan said a quorum at Faculty Assembly meetings should be a majority of the Faculty Assembly. At Assembly meetings, if less than a quorum is present at the time of the vote, then any resolution has to be referred to the Credentials and Elections Committee. The motion was made that voting at the Faculty Assembly required a quorum of the Assembly (not just members present). The motion and all other changes in this section passed unanimously.
9. Article 4, Section 3: Removing the mandatory nature of the two standing senate committees--The General Education and Budget --passed unanimously.
10. Article 4, Section 3: Committee on Committees—will now be chaired by the President-elect; would like to extend the membership to two-year staggered terms. Also, included clarifications about how nominees are sent to FSEC/Senate for a vote. We are doing this because sometimes nominations come to Senate with 4 or 5 people from a particular college, so we are allowing the Committee on Committees to whittle down the list. Senator N. Sullivan said that back in her day they worked with FSEC and Committee on Committees to make sure that they are not overburdening people with committee work. This change would allow the Committee on Committees to review the amount of committee assignments put on any given faculty member. The motion passed unanimously.
11. Article 4, Section 4: Committee on Credentials & Elections—there’s an error currently regarding the number of colleges; the goal is also to set up two year staggered terms for membership to ensure continuity of processes----A motion was made to correct the error. It passed unanimously.
12. Article 4, Sections 5 & 6—A motion was made to eliminate the committees that we eliminated in earlier sections. The motion passed unanimously.
13. Article 5, Section 2: Change terms of service for University Standing Committee members from May to May.
14. Article 5, Section 2: The constitution specifies that “no department should be represented by more than one person on any standing committee. A senator noted that this language is ambiguous, so clarification was made and all changes in this section approved.
15. Article 2, Section 2—the amendment process....by electronic means. Passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tammy J. Davis  
Secretary