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Gulf Coast Faculty Council Minutes

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USM Gulf Coast Faculty Council

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THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI
GULF COAST

Gulf Coast Faculty Council Meeting Minutes
Friday, March 20, 2015
1:30pm – 3:00 p.m. Hardy Hall 214

Members in attendance: Lin Agler, Jorge Brown, Danielle Greenhow, Tom Rishel, Eric Saillant, Rebecca Fillmore, Allisa Beck, David Holt, Kenneth Zantow.

Proxies: Casey Maugh Funderburk (David Holt), Lance Hopkins (Ken Zantow), Tom Lansford (Ken Zantow), Marie Leonard (Tom Rishel), Heidi Lyn (Tom Rishel), Maxim Van Norden (Danielle Greenhow)

Absent: Danielle Fastring, Karen Rich, Robert Griffitt.

1. Call to Order
President-Elect David Holt called the meeting to order.
2. Approval of past minutes
Suspended the approval of the minutes so that Dr. Vinzant could begin speaking. Minutes were approved after Dr. Vinzant finished his talk.
3. Officer Reports
 - President (no report)
 - President-elect (Discussed several issues pending in the Faculty Senate: Resolution for Gender Equity Pay and Protection of Existing Faculty Salary (inversion and compression). There is also a recommendation to the provost to make the annual evaluation process transparent by the deans. A suggestion is being made that when evaluations are returned each year, the scores are posted (with no names attached) so that everyone can see how many 4s, 5s, etc. are given with the department. A recommendation has also been made that all faculty CVs be made public and posted online. The other one is about the LGBTQ resolution. This has been expanded to include all diversity issues (religion, race, etc.).
 - Secretary (no report)
 - Secretary-elect (no report)
4. Guest Speakers – Dr. Doug Vinzant along with Dr. Steve Miller.

Q: Would the money from Gulf Coast fees stay on the coast? A: Yes. The money from the new parking fees for Gulf Coast would stay on the coast. The first improvements would be safety-related and handicapped access and could be done in the first year. After that it would be sidewalks, paving, crosswalks, etc.

Emergency phones are the first priority. Lighting is also a major issue.

Q: Where do parking fees currently go? A: Into a general Gulf Coast fund.

Q: How is that fund currently being used? A: It is used for many purposes. Security and parking are in the same 'pot', so they compete for what resources there are.

Q: Where do parking ticket fees go? A: It goes into an account and is used by both security and parking.

In the past, funds for improvements were taken out of the operating funds and there was competition for the money.

One concern raised was that the increase is very high compared to past years, and that any vote would mean that the Gulf Coast would be outvoted.

There was a question as to whether or not the Council should create an action item re: the new fee. Dr. Vinzant said that if a list of concerns/questions is compiled within this next week and submitted to him, that this would be sufficient.

5. Old Business

- All Tenure & Promotion (CAC) committee composition to include Gulf Coast faculty. David Holt read the draft of the resolution (which was sent to all members). David asked if the group wanted to approve as is, to make minor changes or to send back for more changes. David Holt made a move that we approve pending any changes suggested via e-mail. Danielle Greenhow seconded. The motion passed with no objections.

6. New Business

- Dead Week proposal--The proposed policy was discussed.
- Smoke-free campus—Issue has been brought forward by the students. The question is whether or not the council wants to support this proposal.

7. Announcements

- Officer elections will be held next meeting
- A new ship has been acquired by the University (with the help of the Department of Marine Science faculty).

8. Adjourn: Jorge Brown made a motion to adjourn; Lin Agler seconded; there were no objections, meeting was adjourned.

Upcoming Events/ Meetings: Faculty Council Meetings: April 17, 2015; May 8 (if needed)