

# 2020-2021 AY Faculty Senate

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Faculty Senate President



# Student Success

- ▶ Discussed implementation of admission deadlines for Spring semesters to assist incoming students
- ▶ Streamlining advising process for incoming freshmen
- ▶ Extension of graduation deadline for the Spring
- ▶ Midterm progress reports are important as delays result in lost time for intervention, and
- ▶ Early identification of students with limited chances of success in their chosen majors.



# Arts and Performance Complex Advisory Committee

- ▶ Reviewed the budget
- ▶ Cowan Center and its management is efficiently run
- ▶ Committee consists primarily of non-music faculty and unaware of the complexity of the Cowan Center's operations
- ▶ Committee recommends reviewing the necessity of this remaining a university committee as the committee doesn't really have an effect and the Cowan Center is professionally operated.



# Emeritus Committee

- ▶ Recommended four faculty members for the honor of receiving Emeritus status:
- ▶ Drs. Duke, Ellinger, Ford, and Pieper



# Graduate Council

- ▶ Many changes pertained to aligning graduate programs with various accrediting and/or licensure/certification requirements.
- ▶ An ad hoc graduate admissions appeal committee was created to be called upon as needed.
- ▶ Grad Council developed overarching thesis/dissertation guidelines for the university.
- ▶ There was significant ongoing conversation on the funding of graduate study, particularly creating task forces to explore increased GRA funding.
- ▶ Policies and procedures for graduate program coordinators were developed
- ▶ A new mission/vision/goals statement was developed
- ▶ Additionally, a lot of work surrounding aligning policies and procedures between the academic campus and the HSC



# HOP

- ▶ Fall was a little slow as focus was on the upcoming merger with the Health Science Center
- ▶ Spring merged HOP committee
- ▶ Promotion and Titles
- ▶ Merged Faculty Senate
- ▶ Much work ongoing integrating the academic and HSC polices together

# Undergraduate Council

- ▶ Discussed Fall 2020/Spring 2021 Pass/Fail options
- ▶ Voted in December 2020 on 2021-22 academic calendar
- ▶ Worked on a proposal for a combined university curriculum committee (including undergraduate and graduate members)
- ▶ Voted on a change in course catalog regarding graduation ceremonies (and clarifying that summer graduates can participate in Spring ceremonies with college Dean permission)
- ▶ Voted to Change the President's Honor Roll policy to include all undergraduate degrees and not just the first bachelor's degree
- ▶ Voted to change catalog language regarding the acceptance of transfer courses from regionally or nationally accredited institutions of higher education to comply with U.S. Department of Education requirements
- ▶ Voted to amend the Grade Appeal policy to a common one for undergraduate and graduate students
- ▶ Voted to change catalog language regarding the requirements for the Dean's list to include students earning an additional bachelor's degree
- ▶ Reviewed the Syllabus Module that will be in Canvas for the Fall semester



# Student Appeals

- ▶ Changed name from Student Financial Appeals to Student Appeals due to committee hearing appeals beyond financial appeals.
- ▶ Met twice a month during the Fall and Spring semesters
- ▶ Met once a month during the Summer



# Student Engagement

- ▶ An increased awareness of what each college was doing to successfully engage students as a result of the pandemic. Challenges as it relates to teaching in different environments
- ▶ A decrease in student organization participation both academic & social groups.
- ▶ Recommendations:
  - ▶ Increase awareness within the colleges on the use of Patriots Engage. Event Check-In
  - ▶ Assessment of Learning Outcomes
  - ▶ Paths



# Research Council

- ▶ Met at least once every month
  - ▶ Addressed questions of the role of research and scholarship
  - ▶ Input provided regarding the University's Distinguished Professor rank
  - ▶ Advised on internal grant awards
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# Institutional Audit and Faculty Affairs

- ▶ Institutional Audit: Faculty Senate representation is ceasing due to membership on the Executive Cabinet
  - ▶ Faculty Affairs: Merger and COVID delayed this process. Awards will be given at convocation. Next year integrated award ceremony as one institution.
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# Parking Citation Appeals

- ▶ Five meetings this year
- ▶ Reviewed 56 citations, granted 37 and denied 19
- ▶ Online Zoom process was efficient and effective



# Advisory Boards

- ▶ Patriot Military Advisory Board
  - ▶ Created in the Fall 2020 to better coordinate advocacy efforts for military affiliated students and better inform the policies and procedures of the MVSC
  - ▶ Very active in assisting the MVSC get UT Tyler be recognized as a Military Friendly School for 2021-2022
- ▶ Student Media Advisory Board
  - ▶ Senior Mass Communication major Zoe McGhee, Editor-in-Chief of the Patriot Talon
  - ▶ Solid student-led presence on campus



# Highlights of other Accomplishments

- ▶ Involved in numerous other committees and groups such as
  - Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
  - Executive Cabinet
  - IRT
  - Search committees for VP for Development, QEP Director, Instructional Design
  - Reimagining transfer student orientation
  - SACSCOC visit
  - Ad hoc committees on Family Leave and Free Speech



# Highlights of other Accomplishments (cont.)

- ▶ Continued partnership with USAC
- ▶ Involved in the discussion of merging graduate admissions with undergraduate admissions
- ▶ Intervened on behalf of a faculty member complaint
- ▶ Input on administrative matters such as Pass/Fail option, extending tenure for those hired this year, spring break-no spring break, campus conditions during winter storm