

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

February 9, 2017
3:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.
LSC 304

Members Present (23): Irfan Ahmed (COBA), Donald Albert (COSET), Burcu Ates (COE), Jonathan Breazeale (COBA), Donald Bumpass (COBA), James Crosby (CHSS), Jennifer Didier (COHS), Brandy Doleshal (COSET), Karla Eidson (COE), Andrea Foster (COE), Donovan Haines (COSET), Michael Hanson (NGL), Debbi Hatton (FAMC), Renee James (COSET), William Jasper (COSET), Santosh Kumar (COBA), Eric Marsh (FAMC), Karen Miller (FAMC), Melinda Miller (COE), Stephen Rapp (CHSS), Stacy Ulbig (CHSS), Anthony Watkins (FAMC), Ryan Zapalac (COHS)

Members Not Present (6): Nancy Baker (CHSS), Madhusudan Choudhary (COSET), Donna Cox (COE), John Domino (CHSS), Randall Garner (CJ), Jeffrey Littlejohn (CHSS)

Called to Order: 3:34 PM in Lowman Student Center (LSC) – Room 304 by Chair Elect Jonathan Breazeale.

Approval of Minutes. The January 26 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Special Guest. Dr. Heather Thielemann – Admissions Standards

Fall 17 acceptance standards were presented to the senate. Rank has been removed from admission standards, as ranking has not proven to be a consistent indicator for all schools, especially smaller schools.

Admissions has taken GPA from every high schools and converted it to the 4.0 scale. The 1.9 entry threshold has been raised to 2.24, as admissions determined that many lower GPA students simply weren't prepared for college course work.

SHSU is the only public school not currently using rank, moving toward a private school model. Due to the lack of clarity GPA provides, SAT and ACT tests are reemerging as a valid assessment of preparedness.

SHSU historically receives up to 30,000 applications, which are up about 14% over last year. Approximately 8,000 will be accepted and 2,200–2,400 will enroll.

The university will purchase lists from consulting companies in effort to locate potential students.

Students are assessed a risk ranking of low, medium, and high risk. Discussion will continue what to do with this ranking.

While transfer students with 30+ hours have proven more successful in terms of graduation, transfer credit application has been problematic due to credits not applying to all selected majors.

