

understood that in those cases, faculty were to be reimbursed by one-time payments which means that tax and other deductions would reduce the amount to be reimbursed. This issue was assigned to the University Affairs Committee. University Affairs was also asked to consider this in reference to the efficiency committee's report from last spring

Update: HAVEN LGBTQ Training Fall 2012 – Chair Steele e-mailed to Senators the announcement and application for Fall Training. For additional information, Faculty should contact training leaders Maryam Ilahi, Shannon Reed, or Jenna Wright at org_haven@shsu.edu or call (936)294-1720 for more information or to view the flyer<http://www.shsu.edu/mailer/Haven_Flyer.pdf>.

Chair Steele asked for questions to be submitted to Texas Council for Faculty Senates. Sheryl Murphy-Manley's Academic Affairs Committee has prepared several questions with particular focus on Low Performing Programs.

Debbi Hatton was ill, but filed a report and clarifications for deadlines for courses to be submitted for consideration for the CORE Curriculum. Senator Hatton's

Hammon, Associate Vice President for HR and Risk Management, to discuss hostile workplace issues with the Senate. Senator Bilsing will make arrangements.

Committee Chair Mark Frank reported the Faculty Affairs study of overloads and independent studies. The Senate accepted the Committee's recommendation that Vice President for Information Technology, Mark Adams, be invited to the Senate to discuss SHSU policy on the number of devices faculty are allowed and other issues related to IT. Chair Steele noted that Senator Hatton had submitted an item related to IT, specifically the Security Training then being carried out online by an outside company that often arrives in "spam" files. The Senate would like to discuss this with VP Adams also.

Senator Sheryl Murphy-Manley reported on the President's Roundtable held on October 3rd on Customer Service. Faculty discussed a number of areas where students deserve better customer service including insuring that their transcripts are accurate and shortening the lag time between when a professor posts course grades and when, days later, grades are available for review by students.

The Senate had previously voted to express support for a SHSU Food Pantry. Senator Baker who initially introduced the

Academic Affairs Committee Report

Sam Houston State University

Submitted by Sheryl Murphy-Manley, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee

October 4, 2012

Members: Sheryl Murphy-Manley (CFAMC), Kevin Clifton (CFAMC), William Jasper (COS), Paul Loeffler (COS), Rick White (COS), James Crosby (CHSS), Doug Ullrich (COS)

I. Online Courses

The Committee will explore issues concerning online courses this semester by:

1. Gathering information relevant to our charge from Distance Learning (we are constructing a list of questions)
2. Surveying the chairs of each department (our questions will be based on the data we receive from Distance Learning)
3. Inviting faculty who teach online courses to speak with us as a committee about their concerns

II. The issue of Graduate Support and Low-Producing Programs (LPP) in Texas is of primary concern for the Committee.

The committee has forwarded questions that they would like answered during the

meeting. They will be meeting with the chancellor and vice-chancellors and can get information specific to our system. They then can pose the same questions to the Coordinating Board staffers who will address the group in the afternoon.

B. Following the report from Chair Steele from TCFS, the AA committee will explore options about how to approach this topic, including inviting Kandi Tayebi and/or Provost Hebert to a future sub-committee meeting.

C. The following questions will be presented to the TCFS.

1. How are these LPP programs specifically determined? What is concrete in this determination, and is there flexibility in situations? Have the graduation requirements changed since this issue was last presented in 2010?

2. What has been considered concerning those graduate programs that contribute to departments in which much of the substantive undergraduate education is experience-based, and often provided by graduate students (science labs for one)? [For example in contrast, for on-line, coursework masters programs with little operational interaction between learning-community members, little mentoring occurs. The progress of the student

IV. The committee stated that it would like clarification on the issue of faculty lines.

- A. Are faculty lines dissolving, and if so, at what level?
- B. Is this issue a matter of reporting budgets in a different way?
- C. Does this amount to a hiring freeze for departments with struggling budgets?
- D. What does this mean for departments and the hiring of new faculty?
- E. At the Faculty Senate Meeting on November 10, 2011, Chair Hatton reported that there was a new law ruling that “we” were not allowed more adjuncts or contingent faculty than 25% of FTEs. (Dean de Castro seemed unfamiliar with this ruling when asked about it informally earlier this week, although he speculated that the figure would apply University-wide. The committee would like to know details of this policy.)
 - 1. What is the status of this ruling?
 - 2. At what level does this apply? Department? College? University?

RECOMMENDATION:

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