

DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GENERAL FACULTY FOR 2016-2017

Following are the minutes of the General Faculty meeting of Monday, October 10, 2016.



Hillary Hart, Secretary
General Faculty and Faculty Council

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The regular meeting of the General Faculty for the academic year 2016-17 was held on Monday, October 10, 2016, at 2:15 p.m. in the Main Building, Room 212. President Gregory L. Fenves presided over the meeting. After calling the meeting to order, the president invited Secretary Hillary Hart (Distinguished Senior Lecturer, Civil, Architectural, and Environmental Engineering and Director of the Faculty Innovation Center) to present the minutes of the previous meeting held January 25, 2016.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Secretary Hillary Hart asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. Since there were none, she called for a vote to approve the minutes as posted. The minutes of the 2015-16 regular meeting of the General Faculty, which was held on January 25, 2016 (D 14639-14643), were unanimously approved by voice vote.

II. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FACULTY COUNCIL, 2015-2016.

Secretary Hart presented an overview of the annual report, which was published as D 14669-14715 and posted on the Faculty Council website. She reported that the proposal to change the criteria to determine the voting rights of faculty (D 14482-14489) had received final approval. She noted that the approval of the legislation affected mostly non-tenure track faculty members such as clinical faculty who would now be able to participate in the General Faculty elections. She suggested that clinical faculty should check the election site early this coming spring to confirm that their names were listed as eligible to vote, and if not listed, she said they should contact the Office of the General Faculty. The secretary then reported that last year, President Fenves had appointed eighteen memorial resolution committees, and that seventeen resolutions had been completed, and twenty-one were still pending completion. She said more than 300 proposals to change the *Undergraduate Catalog* had been considered by the Faculty Council last year and all but two had received final approval. The secretary noted that the two items pending approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board included the addition of an Environmental Engineering Degree Program and the addition of a Computational Engineering Degree Program in the Cockrell School of Engineering. Finally, she reported that the Faculty Council had approved multiple resolutions concerning Campus Carry, in addition to resolutions supporting graduate students' rights and responsibilities and the recruitment and retention of underrepresented students. The secretary asked if there were questions or comments on the report. There were none.

III. DISCUSSION OF ANNUAL REPORT—None.**IV. COMMENTS BY AND QUESTIONS TO THE PRESIDENT.**

No formal questions had been submitted to the president prior to the meeting, but he welcomed questions from the floor. There were none. President Fenves deferred making comments until the Faculty Council meeting, which immediately followed the annual meeting of the General Faculty.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS—None.

VI. REPORTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY, COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS, AND COMMITTEES.

- A. Committee to Nominate a Candidate for Secretary of the General Faculty.
Jody L. Jensen (Committee Chair and Professor, Kinesiology and Health Education) announced that Dr. Hart had accepted the position as Director of the Faculty Innovation Center and reported that Professor Alan W. Friedman (Department of English) was the Committee's choice for the Secretary position. She introduced Professor Friedman and gave a brief history of his experience in shared governance on campus:

He has twice been chair of this body, back in 1988 when it was called the Faculty Senate and more recently in 2011-12—and of course for each of those terms, he served as Chair-Elect and as Past Chair. He has been intimately involved in Faculty Governance serving on at least six of the major committees of the General Faculty Standing Committees and has shown himself to be well versed in UT Faculty Governance and also the guidelines of AAUP and regularly advises us. So, it is the recommendation of the Faculty Council Executive Committee that Alan Friedman stand for election for Secretary of the General Faculty.

Also serving on the Nomination Committee were Drs. Hillary Hart, Andrea C. Gore (College of Pharmacy), Steven D. Hoelscher (Department of American Studies), Prabhudev C. Konana (Department of Information, Risk, and Operations Management), Christine L. Julien (Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering), Jennifer Moon (Biology Instructional Office), and Martha G. Newman (Departments of Religious Studies and History).

VII. NEW BUSINESS.

- A. Election of the Secretary of the General Faculty.
President Fenves asked if there were any nominations for Secretary from the floor. Since there were no other nominations, he called for the vote. Professor Friedman was unanimously elected to serve through August 31, 2017. President Fenves extended his congratulations and gratitude to Professor Friedman for his willingness to serve as Secretary.

VIII. REMAINING QUESTIONS TO THE PRESIDENT—None.

IX. ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:38 PM.