Minutes

1. Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Cathleen Williams at 1:30 pm.
   Members present:
   Voting: Cathy Williams, Jeff Roland, Alex Garn, Greg Griffin, Bob Newman, Gary King,
   Suzanne Stauffer, Kanchan Maiti
   Non-voting advisors: Andrea Jones, Walt Holiday, Michael Blandino, Ex-Officio: Clay
   Benton
2. Minutes of the September, 2018 meeting were discussed. Motion by Maiti, second by
   Garn, to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.
3. First reading on significantly revised University Medalist proposal
   - King expressed concern about our definition of excellence we want to reward, should
     student board be involved to understand their view on this
   - King pointed out some faculty do not award A+ grade and suggested registrar’s
     office may consider truncation of grades instead of GPA to remove this uncertainty.
   - Newman suggested that would be unfair for students who did get a A+
   - Griffin mentioned some colleges tend to have higher grade average than others.
   - Stauffer asked whether the increase is due to some other reason besides new GPA
     system
   - King asked whether the change can be due to change in quality of students.
   - Newman mentioned statistically no other reason can be attributed to this increase.
   - King: student quality is determined by more than GPA.
   - Question was asked about transfer credit from other institutions that use +/- grading.
     Clay Benton provided the following information:
     o When transferring work from other institutions that utilized a +/- scale,
       admissions enters the course hours and grades, but the quality points are
       automatically computed using LSU’s scale. So, for example, an A+ that is
       transferred in will be awarded 4.3 quality points per hour, regardless of how
       that A+ was translated into quality points at the other school.
   - Roland: move to table this proposal till the beginning of the next academic year when
     more data will be available
   - Stauffer: second
   - Motion passed to read the revised version of this proposal at the first meeting of the
     next academic year with one abstain and zero oppose.
4. Meeting adjourned at 2:20 PM (Motion by Maiti, second by Williams).