

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
of January 28, 2021**

The regular monthly meeting of the Faculty Senate for the 2020-2021 academic year was held January 28, 2021 at 3:30 p.m. in Zoom (online meeting) with Dr. Chad Mahood, Chair of the Faculty Senate, presiding.

I. Call to order and taking of attendance.

Present: Chad Mahood, Chris Packham, Melissa Wallace, Mathias Hofferberth, Alex Godet, Felicia Castro-Villarreal, Jamon Halvasz, Gina Amatangelo, Debra Pena, Dan Sass, Sandra Morissette, Jeff Prevost, Diane Abdo, Kim Kline, Priya Prasad, Mark Bayer, John Wald, Brian Laub, Lorenzo B., Jurgen Engelberth, Raj Boppana, William Land, Curtis Brewer, Devon Romero, Drew Johnson, Sandeep Langar, Michael Doyle, Sonya Aleman, Karen Williams, Charles Liu, Ginny Garcia-Alexander, Huy Le, Rene Zenteno, Mark Giles, Kiran Bhaganagar, Andrew Lloyd, Joshua Thurow, Becky Huang, Gus Allo, Dennis Lopez, Dan Hollas, Liang Tang, Rica Ramirez, Ian Caine, David Hanson

Absent: not available

Guests: Kimberly Espy, Heather Shipley, Sarah Soulek, Veronica Mendez, Sheri Hardison, Tammy Anthony, Kendra Ketchum, Melinda Utoft

Total members present: 56 Total members absent: not available

II. Consent Calendar

- Approval of minutes – December 3, 2020
- No one objected to Consent Agenda

III. Reports

University Leadership Updates –

- Sheri (Controller) FY 2021 UT System Budget mid-year update (see slideshow)
- Veronica Mendez: COVID Vaccine Updates (slideshow)
- Kendra Ketchum: Update hack through solar winds; UTSA did a complete cyber scan and there was no UTSA data breach. This was the reason UTSA faculty, staff and students had to reset their PASSPHRASE in December 2020. There is a UTS Strategic Plan that Kendra can share with the Faculty.

University Updates – Academic Affairs – No Report

Chair’s Report: Chad Mahood – (See PowerPoint)

- Same schedule in the Spring; Fall 2021 semester will look similar; might have a few more face-to-face classes but will depend on vaccines and herd immunity. February 26th there will be more updates.
- Chris Packham: feedback from Governmental Agent: the budget wasn’t as bad as anticipated in the state of Texas.

- COLFA Dean Search: having to start the process over.
- HACU Leadership Award: now accepting nominations.

A. **Curriculum Committee** – no report

B. **Graduate Council Chair** – no report

C. **Academic Freedom, Evaluation and Merit Committee** – Priya Prasad

- Topic of concern brought up about assignment and exam answers being posted on websites; if anyone has similar concerns or examples that they should email her and AFEM will discuss.

D. **Budget Committee** – no report

E. **HOP Committee** – no report

F. **Nominating, Elections and Procedures Committee** – Debra Pena

- Approve of friendly amendment: 3 ABSTAIN, 39 APPROVE, 0 DO NOT APPROVE; remove the sentence it doesn't have to be faculty.
- Vote for NEP proposal: *addition to Article II of Senate Bylaws*; An electronic vote was cast during the meeting; the **Faculty Senate voted as follows: Approve: 32, Do Not Approve: 4, Abstain: 7**

G. **Research Committee** – no report

IV. **Unfinished Business:** none.

V.

VI. **Open discussion:** Faculty Recruitment Manual – updated; concerns about Department Chair Search Committee Composition

VII. **New Business:**

- Workload questions - concept of time: meetings are taking more time, answering emails, writing at all hours of the day. Students need face to face meetings and it is difficult in the virtual world.

VIII. **Adjournment:**

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously passed at 5:06 PM