

UTSA FACULTY SENATE NEWSLETTER

Faculty Senate Minutes and Report

<http://www.utsa.edu/Senate/minutes.html>

Visit our Facebook Page!

<https://www.facebook.com/UTSAFACULTYSENATE>

Presidential Initiatives Links

[Campus Master Plan](#)

[Downtown Campus](#)

[Finance and Budget Modeling](#)

[Strategic Communications](#)

[Strategic Enrollment](#)

[Student Success](#)

Always Consider

The Roadrunner Pantry needs your help! Please consider donating food and other items to help fellow Roadrunners in need. Visit **[their website](#)** for more information.

Support a safe campus by being informed about the **[latest news and resources](#)**

Middle of the Road

On March 21, 2019, we had our seventh meeting and heard from the Senate Chair (Dr. Emily Bonner), Dr. Chris Packam (Secretary of the General Faculty) chairs of the Faculty Senate Committees, and various guests.



Consent Agenda: Approved Programs

GIS certificate program – Geological Sciences: The committee reviewed a proposal for a GIS certificate program in Geological Sciences. The committee recommends approval of the proposal. A motion to vote was made, seconded, and the senate voted to unanimously approve the proposal.

New Ad Hoc Committee

The newly formed ad hoc committee requested approval to confirm the current members – John Wald, Abraham Graber, Diane Abdo, and Chad Mahood (interim chair). The new ad hoc committee is charged to look at the optimal alignment of FS committees and recommend how to improve things for the future. The senate voted to unanimously approve the members of the committee. There was also a motion to confirm any future members via electronic vote. The senate voted to unanimously approve this motion. The committee will report on their findings and discussions each month in anticipation of a broader discussion at the August retreat.

College of Business Ad Hoc Committee

Drs. Raydel Tullous and Heather Shipley have also been appointed to the committee by the Provost. The committee is working on a preliminary report for the administration to review and expects to have a full report to share with the senate in May.

Budget Committee/SYSFAC Update:

The new Vice President for Business Affairs, Veronica Mendez, is scheduled to attend either the April or the May senate meeting. Dr. Mahood is compiling specific questions



Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Emily Bonner, Faculty Senate Chair
Chris Packham, Secretary of General
Faculty

Chad Mahood, Vice Chair and Chair of
Budget Committee

Abraham Graber, Chair of Academic
Freedom Committee

Crystal Kalinec-Craig, Chair of
Nominations, Elections, and Procedures
Committee and Secretary

Diane Abdo, ADTS Rep

Elaine Sanders, Graduate Council Chair

Glenn Dietrich, Chair of Handbook of
Operating Procedures Committee

Jamon Halvaksz, Chair of Research
Committee

Raydel Tullous, Paraleltarian

Turgay Korkmaz, Chair of Curriculum
Committee

The purpose of the newsletter is to communicate updates from the Faculty Senate and to encourage faculty participation in the spirit of shared governance and the success of UTSA students, faculty, and staff.

This newsletter is based on the detailed notes from **Sarah Soulek**, Management Analyst from the office of the Provost. The Senate is grateful for her continued support to success of Faculty Senate and UTSA.



related to the budget to share with the VPBA prior to the meeting.

HOP Committee Updates

Dr. Dietrich said that a draft proposal from the faculty governance resolution will be posted to SharePoint for review. The committee plans to meet soon to review any changes to the draft.

Nominating, Elections and Procedures Committee Updates

Dr. Kalinec-Craig will be sending out committee information once the new senators' names are confirmed. Nominations for Vice-chair elect are also in process.

Provost Updates

Dr. Espy thanked those that attended yesterday's breakfast to discuss the COB expansion. She distributed a handout with more details and a link to the website containing the expansion's rationale, future plans, drivers, underserved areas, etc. One critical reason for the expansion is to address the academic space shortage, in its current state and as estimated in the future with a direct correlation to enrollment growth.

The search for a Vice Provost for Academic Innovation (previously the Chief Online Learning Officer) is still underway. None of those interviewed were hired and the position is being further refined.

The Clustered and Connected hiring initiative produced 12 submissions that will be reviewed by the transdisciplinary research council. Some of these may be implemented immediately and some in the future.

The Texas Governor and Chancellor have asked universities to review their admissions processes following the recent news articles and press coverage. The internal audit group at UTSA will be involved in this process.

The University Faculty Review Advisory Committee (UFRAC) recommended using a template to solicit reviewers and track those asked to provide a review. The template should make the external review process more consistent and complete so that all submissions contain the necessary elements. Any comments or revisions are welcome.