



# Faculty Voices

Updates from the Faculty Senate

November 2015

## Chair's Report Dr. Karen Daas

- HOP 2.27 (online and hybrid courses) has been tabled and sent back for a re-write. The revised version will likely be resubmitted to the Senate in the spring of 2016. This policy was meant to be a first step in the conversations around online and hybrid courses.
- The deadline for input on HOP 5.01 (FERPA) is due to Glenn Dietrich by November 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Please attend the upcoming faculty mixers:
  - Wednesday, 11/11 at 5 p.m.  
(Downtown campus, FS 4.450)
  - Thursday, 12/10 at 5 p.m. (Main Campus, Faculty Center JPL 4<sup>th</sup> floor)



[www.utsa.edu/senate](http://www.utsa.edu/senate)

Through Faculty Senate, you can make your voice heard! Not only does the Senate review and provide feedback on important University policies, we also have the ear of the administration.

Contact your Senator with faculty concerns and questions.

## Provost's Report

### Dr. John Frederick

- New plans for the summer term are underway. The summer application process will be easier for non-degree seeking students and a new financial model should be finalized within the next few weeks (a white paper has been distributed to chairs)
- A tuition and fee proposal committee has been formed. Currently the UT system allows for a 2% increase to offset inflation, and any higher increase must be justified. The committee is working on recommendations and funds have been budgeted to allow for merit exercises going forward.
- "First generation" faculty members are invited to participate in a new program called Pivot, which encourages these faculty to mentor first generation students.
- A research plan is being developed (system-wide) that will standardize the way workload is recorded among all colleges. Overall, UTSA had a very successful audit.

## Campus Carry Update

The deadline for the Campus Carry Task Force to provide input to Dr. Romo on campus carry has been extended to the middle of November. If you have not yet done so, please visit [www.utsa.edu/campuscarry](http://www.utsa.edu/campuscarry) or email [campuscarry@utsa.edu](mailto:campuscarry@utsa.edu) to provide input.

The Senate has designated a Campus Carry Special Committee comprised of Senators and Non-Senators from across the university. The committee was tasked with drafting a statement to Dr. Romo on behalf of the Faculty Senate. This resolution urges the President to consider additional spaces as gun-free zones, especially classrooms, offices, labs, practice rooms, and studios. This committee also seeks to survey the student body to garner a sense of student opinion on the topic. These suggestions will all go forward to Dr. Romo.

Other Items:

- The Curriculum Committee had been working on a policy proposal for certificate approval; however, since the graduate school already has a policy in place that is closely aligned to the policy in development, the committee recommended approval of their proposal.

## About Faculty Senate

The Faculty Senate is an elected legislative and deliberative body whose primary purpose is to represent the UTSA faculty. The Faculty Senate reviews and formulates policy and enacts legislation on all matters pertaining to the professional concerns, duties, standards, ethics, responsibilities, prerequisites, and work conditions of the UTSA faculty, as well as matters relating to academic freedom and equity for the faculty. The Faculty Senate acts to amend or approve changes to the Handbook of Operating Procedures.

For more information about the Senate and to find your department representative, please visit:  
<http://www.utsa.edu/senate/>

Chair of the Senate: Dr. Karen Daas  
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Questions or concerns about the newsletter?  
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