



The University of Texas at San Antonio™
FACULTY SENATE

Chair's Report

Emily Bonner, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Interdisciplinary Learning and
Teaching

April 20, 2017



SYSFAC

- Chancellor McRaven
 - Taking on challenges such as physician burnout, sexual assault, and shared governance
 - Discovery, debate, and dissent
 - Cautioned against overthinking problems (action oriented)
 - Urged faculty to “step up” more to make issues known, express opinions

SYSFAC (cont)

- Online Education Project
- Student “belonging” as a pillar of Student Success (Rebecca Karoff)
- Dual Credit Study (David Troutman)
- Dual Credit Taskforce (Wanda Mercer)
- Workload Taskforce (Steve Leslie)

Shared Governance Visit to UTSA

- May 15th
- Tony Cucolo, Dan Cavanagh (Governance co-chair), Cathy Ross (SYSFAC chair)
- Guiding question: How does shared governance function on our campus?
- Guiding doc available on Sharepoint

Dean's Advisory Council/Chair's Council

- Seeking to suspend HOP 4.09 requires each TA to enroll in 3 hours during the summer session in which they teach
 - Pay might be less than course registration costs
 - Payment deadline for registration is well before payment for teaching is issued

Other Initiatives

- Budget subcommittee
 - Submitting recommendations related to transparency to (1) Senate, then (2) Budget Taskforce leadership/committee
- Working group on sexual harassment
 - Gathering recommendations to submit to Dr. Reyes and Presidential Taskforce
- Academic Freedom
 - Annual Report discovery
 - Program evaluation – proposal to Dr. Reyes

Other Ideas

- Electronic “suggestion box” for topics that Senate can take up (look for trends)
- Senate Facebook page to illuminate things we are working on