

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
of September 1, 2016**

The regular monthly meeting of the Faculty Senate for the 2016-2017 academic year was held September 1, 2016, at 3:30 p.m. in the Assembly Room (JPL 2.04.22) with Dr. Emily Bonner, Chair of the Faculty Senate, presiding.

I. Call to order and taking of attendance

Present: Sonia Aleman, Michael Baumann, Saadet Beeson, David Bojanic, Emily Bonner, Natasha Burns, Pepe Chang, Jackie Cuevas, Karen Daas, Brian Davies, James Dawes, Samer Dessouky, Glenn Dietrich, Walter Ermler, Ray Garza, Edgar Ghossoub, Ruyan Guo, Richard Harris, Gregory Hazleton, Jill Hernandez, Crystal Kalinec-Craig, Michael Karcher, Turgay Korkmaz, Aneta Koynova, Melvin Laracey, Chad Mahood, Randall Manteufel, Michael Miller, Byongook Moon, Michael Moyer, John Nix, Sandy Norman, Chris Packham, Rogelio Palomera-Arias, Lloyd Potter, Dan Sass, Kelly Suter, Liang Tang, David Thompson, Alistair Welchman, Christopher Wickham, Karen Williams, Hongjie Xie, John Zhang

Absent: Jennifer Alexander, Christie Blizzard (excused), Martha Fasci, Dmitry Gokhman, Jamon Halvaksz (excused), David Hansen, Ashok Nedungadi, Derek Plantenga

Guests: Mauli Agrawal, Gail Jensen, Annie Labatt (for Christie Blizzard), Sarah Soulek, Jesse Zapata

Total members present: 43

Total members absent: 9

II. Consent Calendar

- Approval of minutes – May 5, 2016
The minutes were unanimously approved.

III. Reports

A. Chair's Report – Emily Bonner

Dr. Bonner thanked everyone who attended the senate orientation prior to the meeting. She said that if there is time at the end of the meeting, she would like each of the senate committees to meet briefly to discuss their committee's charge and identify their new members. Dr. Bonner discussed the results of a faculty concerns survey recently distributed to senators. She said there was about a 50% response rate, and the results were weighted and rank ordered. The top concern identified by the survey was matters

relating to salary/compensation. Other top concerns are the DFW memo and various administrative issues. Dr. Bonner said she plans to revisit these concerns throughout the year.

B. Secretary of the General Faculty – Jill Hernandez

Dr. Hernandez said that UT System is taking on the following initiatives this year: The Academic Affairs subcommittee is looking at the impact of dual credit on graduation. All academic campuses will have a site team visit. In addition, System is looking at marketable skills as a learning outcome in response to THECB's proposal regarding what marketable skills students should have. Faculty-led GRIP initiatives are also continuing this year.

Dr. Hernandez said that all university Presidents received a whitepaper last month from the Chancellor on his vision for shared governance. In addition, a new initiative "student success summit" will be happening soon. More details will be shared as they become available. Dr. Hernandez said she will remain on the faculty workload taskforce as well.

C. NEP Committee – Chad Mahood

Dr. Mahood announced the Dr. Hernandez's position as Secretary of the General Faculty is now available, as she has recently accepted an administrative position. The floor was open for nominations and Dr. Hernandez nominated Joshua Thurow. The nomination was seconded. As there were no other nominations, Dr. Thurow was elected by acclamation as Secretary of the General Faculty for the 2016-2018 term.

D. Provost's Report – Mauli Agrawal

Dr. Agrawal said that the university is still working on raising graduation and retention rates. The 6-year graduation rate shows there are 53% that come to UTSA, but graduate from another institution. The 6-year graduation rate for students who come to UTSA and graduate from UTSA is in the low 30%. He said that Georgia State in Atlanta is a comparable university in terms of number of students, ethnic makeup of the campus, and other various factors. Different methods are being considered to help proactively intervene before students drop out or transfer. Some of these include focused analytics and improved advising. A challenge for UTSA will be how to put some of these new ideas in motion with no new resources or money from the state.

Dr. Agrawal said that high DFW rates, while indeed a problem, are not always the result of the instructor. Student prep courses are one factor that may affect DFW rates. Identifying the problem is an important step in improving student success.

Lastly, Dr. Agrawal explained that in order for UTSA to have a 3% merit increase, \$7 million new dollars are needed. Since enrollment has been steady and there have been no recent tuition increases, other revenue sources must be looked at going forward. Dr. Agrawal confirmed that the President is committed to finding funds for some type of raise or increase this year.

E. Curriculum Committee – Alistair Welchman

The committee reviewed 4 proposals, all of which the committee proposed that the senate accept (one with observations from the committee).

1. Minor in Jazz Studies
The senate voted to approve this proposal by a vote of:
40 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain
2. Minor in Music Marketing
The senate voted to approve this proposal by a vote of:
40 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain
3. Minor in Music Technology
The senate voted to approve this proposal by a vote of:
40 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain
4. BA in Political Science with Social Studies Teaching Track (with observations from the committee – see proposal for details)
The senate voted to approve this proposal by a vote of:
36 yes, 2 no, 1 abstain

F. Campus Carry Committee – Greg Hazleton

Dr. Hazleton said there has been some confusion on exclusion zones related to Campus Carry. He invited Gail Jensen to address these matters. She said that faculty and staff who are sole occupants of their office can designate it as an exclusion zone. The policy requires that oral notice be given to visitors. As the law-approved signage is not being provided, no signage is allowed to be posted. However, other forms of written notice are allowed, provided that it cannot be construed as a sign. This written notice can be displayed on syllabi, in email footers, on a postcard-size note inside (or just outside) of the office, or on a business card. An acknowledgement form requiring signature may also be used as visitors enter the office to confirm that they have been given notice that the office is an exclusion zone. However, if any form written notice is given, it must be the full prescribed language from the Campus Carry website (in both English and Spanish). If a complaint is filed about improper signage, the Attorney General will investigate, and the university will be fined for every day that the improper signage is posted.

See the Campus Carry website for more details: <http://www.utsa.edu/campuscarry/>. Any additional questions may be directed to Dr. Hazleton who will follow-up with Gail.

IV. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

V. New Business

There was no new business.

VI. Open Forum

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously passed at 5:15 p.m.