

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
of January 18, 2018**

The regular monthly meeting of the Faculty Senate for the 2017-2018 academic year was held January 18, 2018, at 3:30 p.m. in the Assembly Room (JPL 4.04.22) with Dr. Emily Bonner, Chair of the Faculty Senate, presiding.

I. Call to order and taking of attendance

Present: Diane Abdo, Vangie Aguilera, Sonya Aleman, Michael Baumann, Saadet Beeson, Christie Blizzard, Emily Bonner, Crystal Colombini, James Dawes, Walter Ermler, Edgar Ghossoub, Dmitry Gokhman, Abraham Graber, Ruyan Guo, Jamon Halvaksz, Richard Harris, Jeffrey Hutchinson, Crystal Kalinec-Craig, Turgay Korkmaz, Melvin Laracey, Chad Mahood, Francisco Marcos-Marin, John Nix, Chris Packham, Rogelio Palomera-Arias, Dan Sass, Les Shephard, Tulio Sulbaran, Kelly Suter, Liang Tang, Joshua Thurow, Diane Walz, Xiaodu Wang, Karen Williams, Hongjie Xie, Tina Zawacki

Absent: David Bojanic, Natasha Burns, Pepe Chang, Brian Davies (excused), Martha Fasci, Shane Haberstroh (excused), David Hansen, Michael Karcher, Aneta Koynova (excused), Michael Miller (excused), Byongook Moon, Ashok Nedungadi, Sakiko Oyama (excused), Derek Plantenga, Branco Ponomariov, Gabriela Sanchez-Soto, David Thompson

Guests: Kenyatta Battle (Paisano), George Davita (Paisano), Jill Hernandez, Barbara Smith, Sarah Soulek, Tammy Wyatt

Total members present: 36

Total members absent: 17

II. Consent Calendar

Approval of minutes – December 7, 2017

The minutes were approved.

MS in Biomedical Technology Commercialization

The proposal was approved.

III. Reports

A. Chair Report – Emily Bonner

Dr. Bonner said that the Regents have approved the faculty workload policy and a draft HOP policy for the university will be developed soon. Dr. Bonner said that the Provost's taskforces have all reported back with their recommendations and more information will be communicated soon. The President's Diversity and Inclusion Taskforce is also underway looking at the university's culture and its impact on students. The senate's executive committee is working on a proposal to address process-related issues in promotion and tenure reviews. The proposal is being modeled off a similar policy at UT Austin. Dr. Bonner said that the idea is to have a faculty panel from across the colleges review the cases and write recommendations to the President regarding the process that was followed during P&T deliberations. Then the President's actions regarding these results would be published (anonymously to protect the faculty whose cases were reviewed). Dr. Bonner encouraged members of the senate to let her know if they have any concerns or further input on this proposal. Dr. Bonner said that the Provost's search is currently underway and names of the final candidates are expected to be announced at the end of the spring semester. Dr. Bonner also reminded the senate that elections for a new Faculty Senate chair and Secretary of the General Faculty will be conducted this spring.

B. Secretary of the General Faculty – Joshua Thurow

Dr. Thurow said that a SYSFAC meeting is scheduled for next week and he will have more information at the next senate meeting. He will also be meeting with Jesse Zapata soon to begin working on UTSA's workload policy.

C. Curriculum Committee – Diane Abdo (for Sakiko Oyama & Martha Fasci)

The Curriculum Committee reviewed the following two proposals and recommends both for approval by the senate:

- Minor in Archaeological Practice – A motion was made to approve the proposal, which was seconded. The senate voted to unanimously approve the proposal.
- Eliminate the Minor in Nutrition – Some members of the senate had concerns regarding the elimination of the minor so soon after its inception. A motion was made to approve the committee's recommendation to eliminate the minor, which was seconded. The senate voted as follows: 17 approve, 9 do not approve, 6 abstentions.

IV. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

V. New Business

- Jill Hernandez, Associate Dean, University College

- Policy changes

Dr. Hernandez said that a core assessment report has been posted to the senate's SharePoint site for review. EQS will not need to be evaluated for the next 3 years at the course level. Any questions can be directed to Nancy Martin.

UTSA has returned to a 2-year catalog – catalog changes were due in November of 2017. Submissions for the next catalog cycle open in spring 2019.

Dr. Hernandez said that UTSA has an automatic admission policy for students that have been dismissed one time and wish to be reinstated. Beginning in fall 2018, all first-time reinstatements will be evaluated through University College in collaboration with relevant colleges. The Associate Deans and advising team are also looking at changes to the subsequent reinstatement policy as well.

In fall of 2018, COE will be piloting changes to the pre-major to eliminate majors for pathways. If successful, UTSA will move to eliminate most pre-majors.

Dr. Hernandez said that the JURSW (Journal of Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Works) will soon be accepting submissions from any institution with a spring deadline of May 15, 2018.

- Tammy Wyatt, Associate Vice Provost for Student Success

- Academic Progress Report Pilot, Academic Pathways/Block Scheduling

Dr. Wyatt gave an update on the academic progress report advising campaign which incorporates an early alert grade reporting system proven to positively impact student success. The academic progress report is a new strategy utilizing SSC Campus, which focuses on critical courses (success marker courses) that impact students' progression in their respective degrees. Faculty can input grades, absences, whether students are at risk of failing the course, or provide any other comments necessary. The main focus is on students for whom the course is a success marker. The academic advisor receives these alerts and is able to take the appropriate action. Faculty aren't required to use this system, but are encouraged to if possible.

More information including pilot results, a listing of pilot courses, and a timeline is available on the senate's SharePoint site.

VI. Open Forum

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously passed at 5:10 p.m.