

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
of November 2, 2017**

The regular monthly meeting of the Faculty Senate for the 2017-2018 academic year was held November 2, 2017, at 3:30 p.m. in the Assembly Room (JPL 4.04.22) with Professor John Nix, Vice 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, David Bojanic, Natasha Burns, James Dawes, Walter Ermler, Edgar Ghossoub, Dmitry Gokhman, Ruyan Guo, David Hansen, Jeffrey Hutchinson, Crystal Kalinec-Craig, Michael Karcher, Turgay Korkmaz, Chad Mahood, Francisco Marcos-Marin, Michael Miller, Ashok Nedungadi, John Nix, Sakiko Oyama, Chris Packham, Rogelio Palomera-Arias, Derek Plantenga, Dan Sass, Tulio Sulbaran, Kelly Suter, David Thompson, Diane Walz, Xiaodu Wang, Karen Williams, Walter Wilson, Tina Zawacki

Absent: Emily Bonner (excused), Pepe Chang, Crystal Colombini, Brian Davies (excused), Martha Fasci (excused), Abraham Graber (excused), Shane Haberstroh, Jamon Halvaksz (excused), Richard Harris (excused), Aneta Koynova, Byongook Moon, Branco Ponomariov, Gabriela Sanchez-Soto (excused), Les Shephard (excused), Liang Tang, Joshua Thurow (excused), Hongjie Xie

Guests: Mauli Agrawal, Bridget Drinka (for Crystal Colombini), Patrick Gallagher (for Jamon Halvaksz), Alexis Godet (for Hongjie Xie), Sarah Soulek

Total members present: 36

Total members absent: 17

II. Consent Calendar

Approval of minutes – October 12, 2017

There was a request to add access to the President's presentation from the last meeting to the minutes. Pending this change, the minutes were approved.

III. Reports

A. Taskforce and committee updates – John Nix

Professor Nix said that he is on the budget model task force which meets today. He is also serving on a working group on sexual harassment and invited other senators to join if interested or offer any recommendations they might have. The working group will

offer recommendations in response to this year's CLASE report. Professor Nix is also serving on the tuition and fee proposal task force. This task force will be submitting UTSA's tuition and fee proposal to the Regents by December 4th. The Regents will then consider the proposal at their February meeting. More information can be found at: <https://utsystem.edu/offices/academic-affairs/tuition-fees>.

In addition, committee agendas and materials can be viewed at: <http://www.utsa.edu/financialaffairs/TuitionFees/committee/agendas.html>.

Professor Nix said that there is an upcoming student forum on Monday, November 13th at 11am in the Retama Auditorium and all students are welcome.

The next Faculty Senate meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 7th at 3:30pm.

B. Provost's Report – Mauli Agrawal

Dr. Agrawal listed the different task forces that are currently operating:

- Weighted Student Credit Hour Optimization Committee – this committee will look at how to best optimize credit hour production, in order to maximize formula funding.
- Tuition and Fees Committee – the committee will prioritize and recommend options to the President regarding UTSA's tuition proposal to UT System. The committee is currently looking at adjusting mandatory fees for transportation, automated services, athletics, and student services. Other items being considered include a tuition increase and exploring the possibility of experiential tuition for COB and COE students. The committee will solicit feedback before presenting their recommendations to the President, who will review before submitting for Regents' approval.
- Finance and Budget Modeling Task Force – the committee is working with Huron, an outside consultant, to assess various budget models and select one to be implemented at UTSA.
- Student Success Task Force – the committee is working to develop an integrated student success plan to include goals, metrics, accountability, and self-assessment.
- Strategic Enrollment Task Force – the committee is working on a strategic enrollment plan for both campuses as well as for online courses.
- Provost's DFW task force – looking at pedagogy and delivery methods for gateway courses with high DFW rates, such as the incorporation of lab time to offer more one-on-one mentoring.

The Diversity Climate survey which was supposed to be sent out to faculty/staff in Academic Affairs will now be spread across the institution, per the President. Since the survey is being expanded there is a need for additional resources in processing the data, so there will be a bit of a delay before the survey is sent out.

C. Curriculum Committee – Sakiko Oyama

The Curriculum Committee reviewed a proposal for a concentration in Health Communication. The proposal requires no new costs or course preparation and was requested by UT Health due to inadequate patient-doctor communication. The committee recommends the proposal for approval. A comment was made that feedback should be sent to the department regarding the need for communications (language

component) to underserved populations. There was a motion to approve the committee's recommendation and the senate voted to approve the proposal. The vote was as follows: 33 approve, 0 do not approve, 1 abstention.

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 4:30 p.m.