

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
of February 28, 2019**

The regular monthly meeting of the Faculty Senate for the 2018-2019 academic year was held February 28, 2019, 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, David Bojanic, Emily Bonner, Lorenzo Brancaleon, Langston Clark, Crystal Colombini, Brian Davies, Glenn Dietrich, Alexis Godet, Abraham Graber, Ruyan Guo, Jamon Halvaksz, David Hansen, Richard Harris, Jeffrey Hutchinson, Drew Johnson, Crystal Kalinec-Craig, Melvin Laracey, Dennis Lopez, Chad Mahood, Michael Miller, Byongook Moon, Ashok Nedungadi, George Negrete, Sharon Nichols, Rogelio Palomera-Arias, Debra Pena, Derek Plantenga, Devon Romero, Elaine Sanders, Liang Tang, David Thompson, Raydel Tullous, John Wald, Xiaodu Wang, Karen Williams, Tina Zawacki, John Zarco, Rene Zenteno

Absent: Ian Caine (excused), James Chambers (excused), Pepe Chang, Whitney Chappell (excused), James Dawes (excused), Edgar Ghossoub (excused), Ovidio Giberga, Kathryn Henderson, Turgay Korkmaz, Chris Packham (excused), Branco Ponomariov, Priya Prasad, Bill Ramos, Tulio Sulbaran

Guests: Myron Anderson, Kimberly Andrews Espy, Ambika Mathur, Nancy Membrez (for Whitney Chappell), Jorge Solis (for Kathryn Henderson), Sarah Soulek

Total members present: 39

Total members absent: 15

II. Consent Calendar

- Approval of minutes – January 24, 2019
- Graduate certificate in Intelligence Studies
- MS in Community and Behavioral Health

All items were approved.

III. Reports

A. Chair Report – Emily Bonner

Dr. Bonner reminded senators to follow Roberts' Rules of Order during the meeting and said that the new room configuration aims to encourage group communication. Veronica Mendez will be visiting senate at one of the remaining spring meetings. To prepare, IRM committees are being filled and full engagement with the budget sub-committee is expected in the future. An ad hoc committee is being formed to address the senate's structure and operations and to brainstorm ways to improve the senate's functionality. Chad Mahood will be facilitating the formation of the committee, which will look at topics such as the senate's committee structure and interaction with

administration, the role of the senate, and how to best support its' progress. The committee will report out each month until the end of the year and topics generated will be brought to the August senate retreat for further discussion. Dr. Bonner said that going forward, each of the senate's committees will be listed on the meeting agendas to give a brief report.

B. Academic Freedom, Evaluation and Merit Committee – Abraham Graber

Dr. Graber said that the committee is looking into a new appeals track for tenure denial if the process was not followed correctly. The committee is also gathering information from EOS regarding the procedures that govern their processes.

C. Budget Committee/SYSFAC Update – Chad Mahood

Dr. Mahood said that questions may be sent to him to share with the new VPBA. The committee will explore whether additional dialog is needed with her after her upcoming visit to senate. He attended the last SYSFAC meeting where the council was introduced to the new Chancellor, James Milliken. The major topic discussed was potential faculty support for the Chicago/Princeton Statement on Free Speech. The SYSFAC Academic Affairs committee drafted a letter reemphasizing why the Statement cannot be fully endorsed, as it written to legally protect universities rather than protect the free speech of faculty, staff, and students. The Academic Affairs committee also drafted a letter of support for Faculty Senates and finalized documentation supporting NTTs.

D. HOP Committee – Glenn Dietrich

Dr. Dietrich discussed the recent senate resolutions regarding the College of Business move downtown and faculty governance. The committee will review the proposed HOP changes soon and examples of language from other UT schools has been posted to SharePoint for reference.

E. Nominating, Elections and Procedures Committee – Crystal Kalinec-Craig

Dr. Kalinec-Craig said that information regarding senate nominations has been sent out to relevant departments. Departments who have senators with expiring terms will need to conduct elections for a new senator.

F. Research Committee – Jamon Halvaksz

Dr. Halvaksz said that the committee is working to get more communication regarding F&A transparency.

G. Curriculum Committee – Turgay Korkmaz

No committee report.

H. Provost Report – Kimberly Andrews Espy

Dr. Espy shared some updates on the Human Health Planning Initiative, which launched in November 2018. The three subcommittees (Internal Landscape, External Outreach, and Best Practices) have shared their recommendations and the Phase I report is now posted online. The subcommittees will be reshuffled and begin Phase II to draft their recommendations regarding structure. Campus and community forums will be held later this spring. For more information, visit: bit.ly/utsahumanhealth or email healthtaskforce@utsa.edu. Dr. Espy also shared that the task force report is posted for the Classroom to Career Initiative (launched in September 2018). Phase I data has been compiled and a campus-wide Qualtrics survey has been conducted. Next steps are to build a team to implement these recommendations, and continue outreach to campus

faculty, staff, and students, as well as community partners, to identify opportunities and seek input. For more information, visit: bit.ly/utsaclassroomtocareer or email C2C@utsa.edu. Dr. Espy announced the following new appointments in Academic Affairs:

- Lisa Montoya, Vice Provost for Global Initiatives
- David Silva, Dean of the College of Sciences
- Gordon Taylor, Vice Provost for Academic Finance and Administration
- Ambika Mathur, Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School
 - Dr. Mathur introduced herself to the senate and said she is looking forward to working towards achieving the university's research-intensive goals.

In addition, a search for a Vice Provost for Academic Innovation is underway (reorganization of the previous Chief Online Learning Office position).

The Strategic Faculty Hiring Initiative was launched January 2019 and includes the following components:

- Clustered & Connected Hiring Program – CCP
- Advancing Academic Excellence through Accelerating Faculty Diversity Hiring Program (FDP)
- Dual Career Academic Partners Hiring Program (DCP)
- Advancing Academic Excellence through Accelerated Hiring of Nationally Recognized Faculty Program (NRP)
- Voluntary Separation Incentive Program (VSIP)

For more information, visit: bit.ly/utsafacultyhiring or email provost@utsa.edu.

IV. Unfinished Business

A motion was made to approve the slate of members who volunteered to serve on the College of Business subcommittee. This subcommittee was formed from the senate's resolution regarding the COB expansion downtown (at the last senate meeting). The motion was seconded and the senate voted to elect the members by a vote of 36 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention.

A second motion was made to conduct an electronic vote to approve any future members. The motion was seconded and the senate voted to approve the motion by a vote of 36 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention.

V. New Business

- Vice President for Inclusive Excellence – Myron Anderson

Dr. Anderson expressed his thanks to the senate for inviting him to speak at today's meeting. He emphasized the importance of human capital and explained his planned involvement in regards to the campus climate, student engagement, etc. He said he hopes to act as a conduit to serve those at the university and is working on the formation of an inclusive excellence advisory board. He encouraged the senate to share their ideas regarding potential members. Dr. Anderson said that he is hosting multiple open forum sessions soon and encouraged everyone to attend.

VI. Open Forum

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously passed at 4:31 p.m.