

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO**

**DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY**

**SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE  
FACULTY SENATE MEETING  
of May 3, 2018**

The regular monthly meeting of the Faculty Senate for the 2017-2018 academic year was held May 3, 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, Sonya Aleman, Michael Baumann, Christie Blizzard, Emily Bonner, Natasha Burns, Crystal Colombini, Brian Davies, James Dawes, Walter Ermler, Edgar Ghossoub, Dmitry Gokhman, Abraham Graber, Ruyan Guo, Jamon Halvaksz, David Hansen, Richard Harris, Jeffrey Hutchinson, Crystal Kalinec-Craig, Michael Karcher, Turgay Korkmaz, Aneta Koynova, Melvin Laracey, Chad Mahood, Byongook Moon, John Nix, Sakiko Oyama, Chris Packham, Rogelio Palomera-Arias, Derek Plantenga, Dan Sass, Les Shephard, Tulio Sulbaran, Kelly Suter, Liang Tang, David Thompson, Diane Walz, Xiaodu Wang, Karen Williams, Hongjie Xie, Tina Zawacki

Absent: Vangie Aguilera (excused), Saadet Beeson, David Bojanic, Pepe Chang, Martha Fasci (excused), Shane Haberstroh, Francisco Marcos-Marin, Michael Miller (excused), Ashok Nedungadi, Branco Ponomariov, Gabriela Sanchez-Soto, Joshua Thurow (excused)

Guests: Whitney Chappell (for Francisco Marcos-Marin), Si Millican, Jessica Muniz (Title IX Services), Debra Pena (TWP University College), Sarah Soulek

Total members present: 41

Total members absent: 12

II. Consent Calendar

- Approval of minutes – April 12, 2018  
The minutes were approved.
- Election of Standing Committee Members for 2018-2019  
The committee ballots were approved. Results can be found in Appendix A.

III. Reports

A. Chair Report – Emily Bonner

Dr. Bonner remind the senate that terms expire August 31<sup>st</sup> for current members (those with expiring terms) and terms for new members begin September 1<sup>st</sup>. She said that the executive committee is planning a senate retreat sometime the week of August 13<sup>th</sup> to discuss goals for the upcoming year. Outgoing and incoming senators are all welcome to attend.

She said that updates were provided at the most recent SYSFAC meeting regarding the dual credit study, paid family leave policy, and the subcommittee that is finalizing a

report on NTT faculty and freedom of speech. The third student success summit is also in the planning stages.

Dr. Bonner said that she has been working with SGA leadership and is proposing a joint statement between Faculty Senate and the Student Government Association to create a taskforce that will investigate possible solutions to plus/minus inconsistencies. If approved, the group (composed of faculty and students) will present their findings by December 2018 to both bodies. *The senate voted to approve the joint statement by a vote of: 32 approve, 2 do not approve, and 1 abstention.*

Dr. Bonner said that discussions are continuing regarding the budget, and the plan is to run both the current and proposed budget models next year. VP search committees will be formed soon and there may be an opportunity for volunteers to serve on these committees. Dr. Bonner thanked the senate for their hard work this year.

B. Provost's Report – Jesse Zapata (for Mauli Agrawal)

No report.

C. NEP Committee – Chad Mahood

Dr. Mahood announced that Dr. Joshua Thurow has had to step down as Secretary of the General Faculty and a replacement is needed. Only one nomination was received and *Dr. Chris Packham was elected by acclamation to finish Dr. Thurow's term as Secretary of the General Faculty for 2018-2020.*

*The following nominations for senate executive committee positions were received by the April 30 deadline and all were elected by acclamation:*

- *Faculty Senate Vice Chair: Dr. Chad Mahood*
- *Faculty Senate Parliamentarian: Dr. Raydel Tullous*
- *Faculty Senate Secretary: Dr. Crystal Kalinec-Craig*

The senate voted on the proposed bylaws changes discussed at the last meeting. The major changes include:

1. Shift Vice Chair position to Chair Elect in alternating years. Election would take place at May meeting one year before term takes effect.
2. Add one permanent ex-officio (voting) non tenure-track faculty member to the senate executive committee (elected or selected from ADTS).
3. Add provision so that anyone who is (1) on FAC executive committee, and (2) currently not on UTSA's senate, may serve ex-officio on UTSA senate and EC. A question was asked regarding the eligibility of NTTs (other than senior lecturers) to serve on the senate. Another question was asked about the eligibility of faculty members in administrative positions such as assistant department chairs. Dr. Mahood asked that these comments be sent to him to review at a later date.

*The senate voted to approve the proposed bylaws changes by a vote of: 31 approve, 0 do not approve, and 5 abstentions.*

D. Curriculum Committee – Sakiko Oyama

Dr. Oyama said that the Curriculum Committee reviewed the proposed 2018-2020 undergraduate catalog. The committee checked to ensure all proposals passed through the senate last year had been incorporated into the catalog. Only one program was left out of the catalog (BA in Cyber Security) due to funding issues. *The senate voted to unanimously approve the committee's report by a vote of: 32 approve, 0 do not approve, and 0 abstentions.*

#### IV. Unfinished Business

- UT Lands climate action resolution
  - Les Shephard, Professor of Civil Engineering and Faculty Senator  
The Faculty Senate agreed with the spirit of UT Austin’s resolution reviewed at the last senate meeting, but wanted to further refine it. Dr. Shephard said that he worked on drafting UTSA’s resolution with Emily Bonner, Melvin Laracey, and Hongjie Xie after clarifying some information with the university lands office. Two substantive changes were proposed to UTSA’s resolution:
    1. “...with a goal to reduce GHG emissions on University Lands by 50% **or more** within 5 years.” Added the statement “or more”.
    2. Changed the title from “**Resolution to Reduce Methane Gas Emissions from Hydraulic Fracturing** Operations on University Lands (UL)” to “**Resolution to Reduce Green House Gas Emissions from Hydraulic Fracturing** Operations on University Lands (UL)” to allow for more inclusivity of various gas emissions.

*The senate voted to unanimously approve the resolution by a vote of: 37 approve, 0 do not approve, and 0 abstentions.*

#### V. New Business

- Sexual harassment subcommittee resolution
  - John Nix, Professor of Music and Faculty Senator  
Professor Nix said that his subcommittee (including himself, Crystal Kalinec-Craig, Richard Harris, and Jennifer Alexander) put together a resolution to stress the importance of this issue and request ongoing dialogue and an improved reporting mechanism. *The senate voted to unanimously approve the resolution by a vote of: 36 approve, 0 do not approve, and 0 abstentions.*
- Updates on university initiatives
  - Can Saygin, Interim Senior Vice Provost for Institutional Effectiveness & Strategic Initiatives  
Dr. Saygin discussed the President’s ongoing initiatives, including the new downtown initiative. He said that the approach is to prioritize initiatives and ideas related to “level 1” goals. These are high impact/low effort goals, which will get things moving quickly with a larger payoff. Other goals within the plan include high impact/high effort (level 2), low impact/high effort (level 3), and low impact/low effort (level 4). Each idea/goal has been grouped into one or more of these levels. Dr. Saygin stressed the importance of communication and involvement related to these ideas. He encouraged the senate to pick 2-3 issues they would like to see improved or solved, and said that once the new Provost is onboard these topics can be further expanded.

#### VI. Open Forum

#### VII. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously passed at 5:00 p.m.

**Appendix A**  
**2018-2019 Faculty Senate Committees (Approved)**

<b>Officers and Executive Committee</b>		
Emily Bonner	Chair	
vacant	Past Faculty Senate Chair	
Chad Mahood	Vice Chair	
tbd	Chair, Graduate Council	
Chris Packham	Secretary of the General Faculty	
Crystal Kalinec-Craig	Secretary	
Raydel Tullous	Parliamentarian	
Kelly Suter	Chair, Academic Freedom, Evaluation, and Merit Committee	
Chad Mahood	Chair, Budget Committee	
Glenn Dietrich	Chair, HOP Committee	
Crystal Kalinec-Craig	Chair, NEP Committee	
Jamon Halvaksz	Chair, FS Research Committee	
Sakiko Oyama	Chair, Curriculum Committee	
<b>Academic Freedom, Evaluation, and Merit Committee</b>		<b>Exp Date:</b>
Michael Karcher	COEHD	8/31/2020
Richard Harris	COPP	8/31/2020
Abraham Graber	COLFA	8/31/2020
Shane Haberstroh	COEHD	8/31/2020
Les Shephard	COE	8/31/2020
Kelly Suter, <b>CHAIR</b>	COS	8/31/2021
Karen Williams	COB	8/31/2021
Raydel Tullous	COB	8/31/2021
Priya Prasad	COS	8/31/2021
<b>Budget Committee</b>		<b>Exp Date:</b>
Chad Mahood, <b>CHAIR</b>	Faculty Senate Vice Chair	N/A
Sonya Aleman	COEHD	8/31/2019
Natasha Burns	COB	8/31/2019
James Dawes	CACP	8/31/2019
David Hansen	COLFA	8/31/2019
Melvin Laracey	COLFA	8/31/2019
Michael Miller	COLFA	8/31/2019
Si Millican	COLFA	8/31/2019
Edgar Ghossoub	COB	8/31/2020
David Bojanic	COB	8/31/2020
Vangie Aguilera	COEHD	8/31/2020
Whitney Chappell	COLFA	8/31/2020
<b>Nominating, Elections, and Procedures Committee</b>		<b>Exp Date:</b>
Crystal Kalinec-Craig, <b>CHAIR</b>	Faculty Senate Secretary	N/A

Derek Plantenga	COPP	8/31/2019
Ashok Nedungadi	COE	8/31/2020
Annie Labatt	COLFA	8/31/2021
Debra Pena	COLFA	8/31/2021
Raydel Tullous	COB	8/31/2021
Branco Ponomariov	COPP	8/31/2021
<b>Committee on Handbook of Operating Procedures</b>		<b>Exp Date:</b>
Chad Mahood	Faculty Senate Vice Chair	N/A
TBD	Department Chair Council	N/A
Walter Ermiler	COS	8/31/2019
Melvin Laracey	COLFA	8/31/2019
Rogelio Palomera-Arias	CACP	8/31/2019
David Thompson	COEHD	8/31/2019
Glenn Dietrich, <b>CHAIR</b>	COB	8/31/2020
Dennis Lopez	COB	8/31/2021
<b>Faculty Senate Research Committee</b>		<b>Exp Date:</b>
Byongook Moon	COPP	8/31/2019
Hongjie Xie	COS	8/31/2019
Chris Packham	COS	8/31/2020
Crystal Colombini	COLFA	8/31/2020
Gabriela Sanchez-Soto	COPP	8/31/2020
Xiaodu Wang	COE	8/31/2020
Ruyan Guo	COE	8/31/2021
Jamon Halvaksz, <b>CHAIR</b>	COLFA	8/31/2021
Ian Caine	CACP	8/31/2021
<b>University Curriculum Committee</b>		<b>Exp Date:</b>
Pepe Chang	COB	8/31/2019
Brian Davies	COLFA	8/31/2019
Turgay Korkmaz	COS	8/31/2019
Liang Tang	COE	8/31/2019
Tina Zawacki	COLFA	8/31/2020
Sakiko Oyama, <b>CHAIR</b>	COEHD	8/31/2020
Bill Ramos	COS	8/31/2021