

UTSA[®] The University of Texas at San Antonio[™]

FACULTY SENATE

Chair's Report
Chad Mahood, Ph.D.
Faculty Senate Chair
Associate Professor
Department of Communication
September 12, 2019



WELCOME



- When you speak please say your name and department for others in the room and the minutes
- We follow Roberts Rules so please wait to be recognized by the Chair or SOGF
- Consent Agenda
- Welcome guests

CONGRATULATIONS!



Faculty Senators Promoted to Associate Professor:

- Whitney Chappell
- Alexis Godet
- Abraham Graber
- Andrew Konove
- John Zarco

Faculty Senators Promoted to Full Professor:

- Huy Le
- Chris Packham
- Alistair Welchman

KEY THEMES

IDENTIFIED AT THE SENATE RETREAT



- 1. Attrition/turnover rate of NTT (and TT) faculty
- 2. Perception/reality gap of shared governance
- 3. Promotion and Tenure process
- 4. The new enrollment targets at UTSA
- 5. Faculty engagement in student advising/services
- 6. Faculty input into Presidential Initiatives
- 7. Uncertainty due to the rapid pace of change at UTSA

INITIAL IDEAS

TO ADDRESS SOME KEY THEMES



- Note: These would require by-law changes and a 2/3 majority vote at a future meeting
- (1) Separate the roles of Faculty Senate Vice Chair and Budget Committee Chair
- (2) Create a “Strategic Initiatives Committee”
 - Monitor and Advise all Presidential, Strategic, Tactical, and Academic Initiatives

INITIAL IDEAS

TO ADDRESS SOME KEY THEMES



- (3) Move evaluation and merit out of AFEM, rename it "Academic Freedom Committee"
- (4) Create a "Faculty Welfare Committee"
 - This would now handle evaluation and merit
 - Also have a specific charge to monitor faculty diversity and inclusivity concerns and opportunities
 - Free to explore any faculty issue (both TT and NTT) that doesn't fall under academic freedom

INITIAL IDEAS

TO ADDRESS SOME KEY THEMES



- (5) Dissolve the Nominating, Elections, and Procedures Committee and place all duties with the elected Faculty Senate Secretary
 - NEP members now available to join newly formed committees
- (6) Create Liaison positions with Staff Council
 - Non-voting members

ELECTIONS



- Vice Chair
- Parliamentarian
- Secretary

PLUS/MINUS GRADING



- Read the JCPM (Joint Committee on Plus/Minus Grading) recommendation memo on SharePoint
 - “The Committee has voted to recommend a complete discontinuation of the plus/minus grading system at UTSA ...”
- We will vote in the future to support or not support this recommendation to the Provost
- Please gather input from your departments and be prepared to vote on this soon

ANNUAL COMPLIANCE TRAINING REFRESH



- Myron R. Anderson, Ph.D. (Vice President for Inclusive Excellence) has asked the Senate to review his recommendations for updating Annual Compliance Training
- Please review his PowerPoint file on SharePoint and send comments and suggestions to me:
chad.mahood@utsa.edu