

# UTSA FACULTY SENATE NEWSLETTER

## Important Dates!

1 Oct to 2 Nov: SECC (State Employee Charitable Campaign)

## Faculty Senate Minutes and Report

<http://www.utsa.edu/Senate/minutes.html>

## Visit our Facebook Page!

<https://www.facebook.com/UTSAFACULTYSENATE>

## LiveSafeApp

There is a new LiveSafe app that can be downloaded and used to report emergencies, etc. The "Choose to Live" active shooter video was shown on Sept. 18 in the Retama Room and will also be [available online](#) and incorporated into future safety training.

## Welcome Back, Senators!

On September 13, 2018, we had our first full faculty senate meeting. During the meeting we heard from the Senate Chair (Dr. Emily Bonner) the Provost (Dr. Kimberly Andrews Espy), representatives from the Research Committee (Jaclyn Shaw and Liana Ryan), Vice

President for Business Affairs (Kathy Funk-Baxter), Asst. VP for Budget and Financial Planning (Tammy Anthony) Asst. Department Chair and Professor in Practice from the College of Business, Information Systems and Cyber Security (Karen Williams) and Director of Communications for the Vice President for Business Affairs (Melissa May).



## Notes from the Provost

The Provost supports the committee's desire for consistency within the plus/minus grading system. She updated the senate on upcoming forums beginning this week for future VP positions and encouraged everyone to share their feedback about the candidates during and after their interviews. There is a new initiative "Classroom to Career", which will focus on communicating and improving various opportunities for experiential learning for students. The goal is to increase participation and communication around these opportunities. A task force is being formed in support of this initiative.





## Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Emily Bonner, Faculty Senate Chair

Chris Packham, Secretary of General Faculty

Chad Mahood, Vice Chair and Chair Budget Comm

Crystal Kalinec-Craig, Chair NEP Committee and Secretary

Raydel Tullous, Parliamentarian

Kelly Suter, Chair Academic Freedom Committee

Sakiko Oyama, Chair Curriculum Committee

Glenn Dietrich, Chair HOP Committee

Jamon Halvaksz, Chair Research Committee

Diane Abdo, ADTS Rep

Elaine Sanders, Graduate Council Chair

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The purpose of the newsletter is to communicate updates from the Faculty Senate and to encourage faculty participation in the spirit of shared governance and the success of UTSA students, faculty, and staff.

This newsletter is written in conjunction with the detailed notes from Sarah Soulek, Administrative Analyst from the office of the Provost. The Senate is grateful for her continued support to success of Faculty Senate and UTSA.

### *The Goal to Reach National Research University Fund and Carnegie/R1 Status*

UTSA has a goal of increasing research dollars to reach NRUF and Carnegie/R1 status. Jaclyn Shaw and Liana Ryan presented the metrics needed to achieve these goals and showed UTSA's current status for each metric. Universities who meet NRUF status unlock \$8-9 million in annual funding. Carnegie/R1 measures research intensity of universities across the country. 2015 was the last annual ranking (rankings are now performed every 3 years) and UTSA is close to meeting R1 status. Ms. Shaw re-emphasized the scholarly awards program that UTSA has implemented and said that more information will be shared from the Deans soon. More information can be found on the following webpage: <http://research.utsa.edu/research-funding/targeted-scholarly-awards-programs-memberships-recognitions-for-faculty/>

### *Business Affairs Update*

Ms. Funk-Baxter from Business Affairs gave a budget update for FY19 (this year) and also reminded the senate that a parallel budget is running for the new model. She said that budget development currently takes about 5 months, but is estimated to take around 9 months with the new model. Budgets are submitted to the Board of Regents in July and are loaded in August. UTSA's current total budget is \$639 million. A full copy of the presentation may be retrieved from your Faculty Senator.

### *Bookstore Feedback*

The Chair recently met with a representative from the bookstore with the goal of improving the process for ordering and purchasing books. Faculty can share their bookstore issues and make helpful suggestions at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/X9LRCX7>