

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
of December 10, 2015**

The regular monthly meeting of the Faculty Senate for the 2015-2016 academic year was held December 10, 2015, at 3:30 p.m. in the Assembly Room (JPL 2.04.22) with Dr. Karen Daas, Chair of the Faculty Senate, presiding.

I. Call to order and taking of attendance

Present: Jennifer Alexander, Michael Baumann, Saadet Beeson, Rajesh Bhargave, Christie Blizard, Emily Bonner, Janis Bush, Amy Chanmugam, Karen Daas, James Dawes, Samer Dessouky, Glenn Dietrich, Karen Dodwell, Jim Dykes, John Frederick, Yongli Gao, Edgar Ghossoub, Mark Giles, Dmitry Gokhman, Vaidya Gundlupet, Ruyan Guo, Gregory Hazelton, Jill Hernandez, Michael Karcher, Turgay Korkmaz, Aneta Koynova, Rui Liu, Chad Mahood, Joycelyn Moody, Michael Moyer, John Nix, Derek Plantenga, Lloyd Potter, Dan Sass, Howard Smith, Kelly Suter, Alistair Welchman, Christopher Wickham, Karen Williams, John Zhang

Absent: Karan Bhanot, Pepe Chang, Martha Fasci (excused), Michael Gilbert, Jamon Halvaksz (excused), Harry Jarrett, Richard Lewis, Randall Manteufel, Ashok Nedungadi, Wing Chung Ng (excused), Chris Packham (excused), Matthew Reilly (excused), Teresa Sellers (excused)

Guests: Anne Hardgrove (for Wing Chung Ng), Maricela Oliva, Sarah Soulek

Total members present: 40

Total members absent: 13

II. Consent Calendar

- Approval of minutes – November 5, 2015
The minutes were approved.

III. Reports

A. Chair's Report – Karen Daas

Dr. Daas said that the senate has a new official university seal to use going forward. She said that campus carry recommendations were presented yesterday. There has been discussion on whether to include the convocation center as a permanent exclusion zone and whether to include campus-owned vehicles as exclusion zones. Dr. Daas said to check the campus carry webpage

for more updates. She said that feedback on the export control HOP policy is due to Glenn Dietrich by January 11th. She said that UTSA is looking at re-instituting faculty-initiated drops for students that don't meet certain requirements. Dr. Daas said that Police Chief Steve Barrera will be attending the January senate meeting to discuss active shooter response training and information. She also said that the senate's NEP committee will be conducting a survey on what to include for faculty orientation in the fall. She also encouraged everyone to attend the senate faculty mixer immediately following today's meeting.

B. Secretary of the General Faculty – Jill Hernandez

Dr. Hernandez gave some updates from UT System. She said that Dr. Daniel (Deputy Chancellor) met with the SYSFAC executive council on UT System campus carry requirements – the 3 main principles include following the law, ensuring safety, and an attempt at seamless integration of zones. He shared a draft report recommending consensus exclusion zones for all campus and some universal non-exclusion zones (see full report for details). If any area is marked as an exclusion zone, by law, there must be proper signage. The UT System perspective is that faculty offices, while not universally known exclusion zones, may be permitted as an individual exclusion zone on a case-by-case basis with proper signage. For events such as disciplinary hearings and kid's summer camps, transportable signage may be used.

Dr. Hernandez also reported on the dual credit initiative. She said that the taskforce is gathering data from all campuses to present to the Board of Regents in the spring.

C. Provost's report – John Frederick

Dr. Frederick encouraged faculty to attend December commencement. A question was asked about the reason for combining graduation ceremonies and having multiple college ceremonies on the same day. He said that since the convocation center is no longer able to be used for commencement, the Alamodome has no restrictions on how many guests may be invited. Timing and cost is also a factor in determining how and when the ceremonies take place. He also said that proposed changes to the summer term were discussed yesterday with department chairs and asked if the senate had any concerns. A question was raised regarding departments' freedom to allocate funds. He said there won't be restrictions on how departments choose to use this extra funding.

D. Curriculum Committee – Alistair Welchman

The senate's curriculum committee reviewed 3 proposals:

- Proposal for a Minor in East Asian Studies – The senate voted to unanimously approve this proposal.
- Proposal for a Minor in Nutrition – The senate voted to approve this proposal (32 yes, 0 no, and 3 abstentions). There was also discussion on improving the review process to cross-check courses being offered across multiple departments.

- SPN 1034 – The senate voted to unanimously approve the revised proposal.

E. HOP Committee – Glenn Dietrich

The HOP committee reviewed HOP 5.01 *Student Rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)*. There was discussion on whether to include a mechanism to notify students if there is anything placed in their record that's not related to grading. A motion was made and was seconded to vote on this friendly amendment to the policy. The senate voted not to include the amendment. The senate voted on the policy as written and the policy was approved by a vote of 31 yes, 4 no, and 1 abstention.

IV. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

V. New Business

- Jesse Zapata – Annual Faculty Grievance Committee Report

Dr. Zapata said that the new chair of the grievance committee is Gerald Juhnke who was unable to attend today's meeting, but Dr. Zapata would share some information regarding the process and recent changes.

Some recent changes implemented over the summer include:

- The mandatory involvement of an Ombudsperson
- Notification that a grievance has occurred (while in the informal stage)
- Any grievance involving an annual appraisal begins as a formal process
- The review panel no longer conducts a formal hearing; rather, they review the documentation submitted and offer a recommendation to the Provost. Both parties can respond and the Provost will make a final decision.

Any questions regarding the grievance process may be submitted to Dr. Zapata or Dr. Juhnke.

VI. Open Forum

It was announced that the campus carry survey has already been distributed to students and will be distributed to faculty and staff soon. A full report by the campus carry special committee will be given at the January senate meeting.

VI. Adjournment

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