

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
of October 11, 2018**

The regular monthly meeting of the Faculty Senate for the 2018-2019 academic year was held October 11, 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, Vangie Aguilera, Sonya Aleman, Emily Bonner, Pepe Chang, Whitney Chappell, Crystal Colombini, Brian Davies, Glenn Dietrich, Edgar Ghossoub, Ovidio Giberga, Abraham Graber, Jamon Halvaksz, David Hansen, Jeffrey Hutchinson, Crystal Kalinec-Craig, Turgay Korkmaz, Lance Lambert, Melvin Laracey, Chad Mahood, Michael Miller, Byongook Moon, Sharon Nichols, Sakiko Oyama, Chris Packham, Priya Prasad, Bill Ramos, Devon Romero, Elaine Sanders, Les Shephard, Tulio Sulbaran, Kelly Suter, Liang Tang, David Thompson, Raydel Tullous, Karen Williams, Tina Zawacki, John Zarco, Rene Zenteno

Absent: David Bojanic, Ian Caine (excused), James Dawes, Ruyan Guo (excused), Richard Harris (excused), Dennis Lopez (excused), Ashok Nedungadi, George Negrete (excused), Rogelio Palomera-Arias, Debra Pena, Derek Plantenga, Branco Ponomariov, John Wald, Xiaodu Wang

Guests: Lisa Campos, Katie Douglass, Taylor Eighmy, Kimberly Andrews Espy, Lisa Marie Gomez (SA Chamber of Commerce), Colin Howlett, Gregg Michel, Lalatendu Misra (for John Wald), Richard Perez (SA Chamber of Commerce), Sarah Soulek

Total members present: 39

Total members absent: 14

II. Consent Calendar

- Approval of minutes – September 13, 2018
- Approval of Graduate Council Chair – Elaine Sanders
- MBA phase out plans
- MBA w/concentration in Management Accounting and MS in Accounting/Public Management closures

All items were approved.

III. Reports

A. Chair Report – Emily Bonner

Dr. Bonner said that HOP 2.14 (workload) has been approved by the HOP committee and is awaiting approval by legal affairs. HOP 2.52 (modified workload for faculty with dependency-changing event) is out for stakeholder review. Dr. Bonner said that the annual UT System Student Success Summit was held September 20-21. The various

campuses in attendance discussed their initiatives to increase student success. The Faculty Senate executive committee is discussing the following topics: questions about equitability in tenure cases, communication about administrative turnover, and realigning the senate's committees to follow the university's direction. Dr. Bonner reminded the senate to fill out the bookstore survey link. The link can be shared with all faculty to convey any ongoing bookstore issues.

B. Secretary of the General Faculty – Chris Packham

Dr. Packham said he attended the first fall SYSFAC meeting (October 4-5, 2018) with Dr. Bonner and Dr. Mahood. The goals of the UT System Faculty Advisory Council are to:

- identify issues of concern to the faculty, Board of Regents or well-being of the U.T. System;
- respond to issues at the request of the Board of Regents, Chancellor, U.T. System Administration, and/or UTSFAC membership;
- conduct fact-finding, background exploration, exposition, analysis and deliberation on issues and to develop recommendations and/or action plans for review by the UTSFAC;
- disseminate information to the UTSFAC, Board of Regents, and faculty and administrators of U.T. System institutions.

The meeting was attended by several Vice Chancellors and the following items were discussed:

- Past items - physician burnout syndrome – symposium and report presented to Chancellor; NTT faculty workload; Workload requirements; Free speech document sent to the Chancellor; Dual credit studies
- An Army Futures Command presentation was given encouraging collaboration with faculty on grants, funding, etc.
- Parental leave & grievance policies are currently being examined
- Campus updates show a fairly broad spread of issues between the campuses
- Protection of Intellectual Property: Letter by the NIH to the community will likely lead to greater compliance checking, including at UTS institutes; Expectation that other federal agencies will follow suit; FAC committee to work with UTS being formed

Dr. Packham said that his key takeaways were that FAC unifies the campuses together, that UT System wants to hear from the FAC, and that cross-campus collaborations could be improved and expanded.

IV. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

V. New Business

Updates from the President and Provost

- *Dr. Taylor Eighmy, President*
- *Dr. Kimberly Andrews Espy, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs*

Dr. Espy said that a new faculty award has been created – President's Distinguished Achievement Award for Innovation and Impact (I²). The award is for a faculty-led team (up to five people) and recognizes creative and innovative projects of high impact in any area relevant to UTSA's mission. More information can be found in the email sent out from Dr. Jesse Zapata listing all of this year's awards. The following Vice Presidential searches are ongoing – Vice President for Business Affairs, Vice President

for Inclusive Excellence, Vice President for Information Management & Technology. A Vice Provost for Academic Finance and Administration has been hired and will start December 3rd in the Provost's office. Other Academic Affairs leadership searches going on are - Dean, College of Sciences; Vice Provost and Graduate Studies Dean, Graduate School; Vice Provost for Academic Innovation; Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs; College of Public Policy planning. The Classroom to Career initiative has been launched which is an integrated campus-wide framework to identify, connect and align existing experiential learning programs and to pursue partnerships that could lead to new or expanded programs. Heather Shipley is chairing the committee, which has a goal of 75% student participation in some form of experiential learning by graduation. Additionally, an Honors College residence is being developed to provide integrated living and learning experiences for Honors College students.

Dr. Eighmy gave an update on retention rates, which have risen for most groups measured - first-year students (73.4%; 5-year goal and current national avg is 85%); second-year persistence (62.6%); third-year persistence (52.3%); four-year graduation rates (25.1%; 5-year goal and current national avg is 35%); six-year graduation rates (39.6%; 5-year goal and current national avg is 60%). Dr. Eighmy also shared the 2019 Times Higher Education World University Rankings for UTSA's peer models and Texas Institutions in international outlook, industry income, citations, research, and teaching. UTSA's citations are comparable to UTSA's aspirant peers and are currently higher than three Carnegie 1 institutions in Texas. Dr. Eighmy also discussed the recent \$15 million gift from Graham Weston for UTSA's proposed School of Data Science. \$13 million in land transfers downtown are being worked out for the National Security Collaboration Center, School of Data Science, and the College of Business.

Dr. Espy said that SDS/NSCC planning is underway to identify types of spaces and programs to align to promote synergy in moving forward with the new building. Topics being considered are parking, transportation, and environmental upgrades. The process is estimated to take about 12 weeks.

Dr. Eighmy ended the presentation with a map of the downtown campus showing future planned buildings and the expansion of the overall campus.

UTSA Athletics

- *Gregg Michel, NCAA Faculty Athletics Representative*
- *Lisa Campos, VP for Intercollegiate Athletics & Athletics Director*
- *Colin Howlett, Associate Athletics Director for Academic Services*

The Athletics team discussed their vision and values and explained their strategic purpose – achieving excellence focusing on the student-athlete experience, fostering a culture of excellence, uniting the community, and resource development. New facility upgrades are being planned including a “student-athlete center of excellence” and a new convocation center. Ms. Campos said that the athletic budget as a percentage of UTSA's operating budget is approximately 6% (in 2017). The program is supported mostly from student fees (with some institutional support). A few highlights showed that student-athletes performed over 3,000 hours of community service throughout the academic year and the average graduation rate among student-athletes is 82%. Ms. Campos shared some other academic awards and honors earned by student-athletes and presented a breakdown of athletes by major. Dr. Michel said that he serves as the university's NCAA Faculty Athletics Representative. He presented the following academic eligibility requirements for student-athletes: full-time student status, declaration of major by end of second year in school, passed hours requirement for every semester and academic year, minimum GPA requirement, and percentage of

degree benchmarks. He also reminded faculty about HOP 5.09 Class Attendance and Participation. This policy allows for excused absences for official university functions such as athletics competition and related travel. Student-athletes must notify faculty at the beginning of the semester of upcoming absences, and faculty must allow students a reasonable amount of time to make-up any work/tests/assignments missed (typically 20 days) including online work. Dr. Michel said that faculty may contact him with any questions or concerns.

San Antonio Chamber of Commerce

- *Lisa Marie Gomez, Vice President, Education and Workforce Development*

Ms. Gomez shared the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce's role and activities with the senate. The Chamber is involved in many city activities and initiatives (Fiesta Association, Hemisfair, Team Toyota, Biomed SA, Bathroom Bill, and Project Ability). The Chamber acts as an advocate for UTSA as well as 2,100 other businesses that are members. The current chair of the Chamber is Shaun Kennedy, SA Regional Chairman, Texas Capital Bank, and the incoming 2019 chairwoman will be Paula Gold Williams, President and CEO of CPS Energy. Ms. Gomez said that the Chamber has a number of councils and committees that cover a variety of topics including economic development, military affairs, cybersecurity, public policy, education and workforce development, and an operating council. Ms. Gomez's council, the Education and Workforce Development Council, "advocates for improving alignment of the cradle-to-career educational pipeline- from early childhood to K-12, to post-secondary education, and into the workforce". The Chamber is also involved with expanding experiential learning for the future workforce and supporting the expansion of UTSA's downtown campus. Ms. Gomez said that the Chamber is available to provide letters of support, facilitate partnerships, and further hopes to expand its engagement with UTSA faculty.

VI. Open Forum

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously passed at 5:10 p.m.