Faculty Senate Meeting

March 10, 2023

UC Legacy 145

1. Meeting was called to order @ 1202
2. Attendance: see table

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Senators** | **Apr 22** | **Aug 26** | **Sept 16** | **Oct 14** | **Nov 18** | **Dec 9** | **Jan 20** | **Feb 10** | **Mar 10** | **Senators** | **Apr 22** | **Aug 26** | **Sept 16** | **Oct 14** | **Nov 18** | **Dec 9** | **Jan 20** | **Feb 10** | **Mar 10** |
| Mohamed Ahmed (COS) | a | a |  | X? | x | 0 | x | x | 0 | Catherine Harrel  (CONHS) | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | X |
| Dr. Rosie Banda (COEHD) | X | x | x | x | 0 | x | x | x | X | Dr. Robin Johnson | X | x | a | x | x | x | x | 0 | 0 |
| Dr. Ross Bernhardt (CLA) | X | x | x | x | 0 | x | 0 | 0 | X | Mr. Kevin Loeffler (CLA) | X | x | x | x | a | x | x | x | x |
| Dr. Kelli Bippert (COEHD) | X | x | x | x | x | 0 | x | x | 0 | Dr. Mark McNamara (CLA) | X | x | x | a | x | x | x | x | X |
| Dr. Isla Schuchs Carr (CLA) | 0 | x | x | a | x | x | x | x | 0 | Dr. Antonio Medrano (COE) | 0 | x | x | x | x | 0 | x | x | X |
| Dr. Celil Ekici (COS) | X | x | x |  | x | x | x | 0 | x | Dr. Valeriu Murgulet (COS) | X | 0 | x | x | x | x | x | x | X |
| Dr. Deniz Gevrek (COB) | X | x | x | x | x | 0 | x | x | 0 | Dr. Dale Pattison (CLA) | X | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Dr. Michelle Hollenbaugh | X | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | X | Dr. Miguel Perez (CONHS) | X | x | x | x | x | 0 | x | x | x |
| Dr. Marge Benham Hutchins (CONHS) | X | x | x | x | x | x | 0 | 0 | 0 | Dr. Mohan Rao (COB) | X | x | x | x | a | x | x | x | 0 |
| Dr. Rabih Zeidan  (COB – new Sept) | na | na | x | 0 | x | x | x | x | x | Dr. Qiuhong Zhao (COB) | 0 | x | x | x | x | ? | 0 | x | x |
| Jennifer Anderson (Library – new Sept) | na | na | x | x | 0 | x | X | x | x | Alexia Hight (Library-new Sept) | na | na | x | x | 0 | x | x | x | x |
| Tianxing Ching Chu (COE- new Oct) | na | na | na | x | x | A? | x | x | 0 | Lucy Huang (COE – new October) | na | na | na | x | x | ? | x | x | 0 |
| George Tintera (COS) | na | na | na | x | x | x | x | x | x | Aref Mazoum (COE-new Oct) | na | na | na | x | x | x | ? | x | x |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Leigh Shaver (CONHS) | na | na | na | na | na | na | x | x | x |

Other: Kevin Houlihan, Dr Steven Seidel, Dr Alexandra Janney, Dr Susan Wolfe Murphey, Dr Kelly Bezio

1. Agenda: Motion to approve Agenda by Senator Banda, second by Senator Medrano
   1. Approved unanimously
2. Approval of Feb minutes: motion with edits Senator Medrano, second Senator Banda
   1. approved; No opposed,
3. Guest: Sofia Rodriguez Oropeza, DEIB
4. Speaker’s Report – Speaker Hollenbaugh
   1. Search Committee updates –
      1. CDO search currently scheduling meetings for April
      2. admin search - Alexandra Janney taking over search chair, temp position starts Monday, 19.5 hours/week
   2. President /PC/Exec Council lunch Monday, May 1 @ 11 am
   3. Provost meeting – unable to be here today, but reminds faculty to attend Community Conversation Mar 22 @ 10- updates & Q&A
   4. Chancellor has spoken in support of A&M tenure process – which is rigorous and intentional, recommendation is for policies & procedures for tenure to serve as model across the state
   5. Diversity statements in hiring from chancellor – diversity statements not required in hiring process, can no longer request candidate write a diversity statement.

[https://www.texastribune.org/2023/03/02/texas-am-system-dei/](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.texastribune.org%2F2023%2F03%2F02%2Ftexas-am-system-dei%2F&data=05%7C01%7CCatherine.Harrel%40tamucc.edu%7Ce3383e375d8743b2ec0608db1bf9aa76%7C34cbfaf167a64781a9ca514eb2550b66%7C0%7C0%7C638134531333460668%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=3zBp33DKXYLDJgo0%2FOxVR2LNFnOLUbdwJCj1s%2Fc4g44%3D&reserved=0)

Provost states we hire on merit anyways; nothing changes for current searches, just going forward.

* 1. Senate shirts here today, picture at next meeting
  2. Encourage all to check in with students who may need support

1. Old Business
   1. Service Excellence
      * 1. Anonymous Qualtrics link on Senate website that would ask for suggestions on service excellence ideas – questions, concerns, praise
   2. 360 evaluations – feedback clarity on initial email that its optional and anonymous
2. Committee Reports
   1. Academic Affairs – Senator Johnson, Chair
      1. All submissions were approved by UCC
   2. Awards, Bylaws, & Elections (ABE) – Senator Bippert Chair
      1. Elections calendar in Teams calendar
      2. Nominations March 20
      3. All units naming election commissioners
      4. Since elections right before April meeting, propose a first meeting of new Senate in May – very short
      5. All units will have 2 slots available, be thinking about candidates
      6. Currently reviewing Faculty excellence award submissions
   3. Budget Analysis – Senator Ekici, Chair
      1. No meetings for University Budget Advisory Committee, have been following what is on website for budget allocations. Frustrations with lack of meetings and Senate inclusion discussed
      2. Currently bill in legislature seeking raise for state employees, will see how that moves & if that includes us, some discussion on what kind of salary increase should be advocated to adjust for inflation - % or set amount,and also how do we get this information to be transmitted
      3. Desire more clarity from administrations regarding budget issues
   4. Committee on Committees – Senator Pattison, Chair

The Faculty Interest Survey was sent out on Wednesday and we currently have about 70 surveys completed out of 505 total faculty. That number seems a little low to me, but we’ll see what the coming days bring. Big thanks to Kelli for putting the survey together and distributing it. I had a bit of trouble securing the complete list of faculty from the Provost’s office, which we needed for survey distribution through Qualtrics. It turns out there wasn’t a single Excel spreadsheet containing all faculty members and their contact information, so Debbie Alvarado had to put one together. The Awards, Bylaws, and Elections committee now has that list as well.

We’ve listed the survey close date as March 13th. We’ll be contacting associate deans leading up to that date, and we will likely keep the survey open beyond Spring Break to make sure we get as many faculty responses as possible. We’ll be tracking participation rates across the colleges over the next two weeks.

Lastly, Antonio Medrano made a good point in our Committee on Committees meeting about how faculty from smaller colleges (College of Engineering, for example) have to serve on more university committees than faculty in larger colleges. This is because university committees often require a representative from each college. I brought this up to the university level Committee on Committees, and Kevin Houlihan informed me that this is an issue that’s been on the radar for a couple of years, but nobody has been able to come up with a reasonable solution.

* 1. Faculty Affairs – Senator Schuchs Carr, Chair, absent; report given by Dr. Rosie Banda on behalf of Senator Schuchs Carr

The Faculty Affairs committee plans to call for a vote on the following three procedures for full Faculty Senate approval at the March 10th meeting:

* *07.03.01.C1, Political Campaign Events in University Facilities*
* *09.02.01.C1, Official University Messaging*
* *21.99.04.C1, Disposition of Abandoned and Unclaimed Personal Property*

All three of these procedures were introduced and shared in the last Faculty Senate meeting on 02/10/2023 and have since been reviewed, revised, and approved (unanimous approval on 02/23/2023) by Faculty Senate Faculty Affairs Committee. The final approved versions of these three procedures and a synopsis of the changes (Synopsis of Changes 02-22-2023) made or reviewed by the Faculty Senate Faculty Affairs Committee were sent to Faculty Senate Speaker Michelle Hollenbaugh to distribute.

*Discussion to change “relay” to “broadcast” in 09.02.01.C1 Official University Messaging in 7. Texting*

*All 3 approved unanimously with above edit in University messaging*.

There is also further action needed on Procedure 12.03.99.C1.01, Assignment of Faculty Workload Credit, which was passed by the senate in January 2023. The Deans Council did not approve of the changes we approved to Section 4.1 and Faculty Senate Speaker Michelle Hollenbaugh wants to find some sort of compromise with the Deans if at all possible. There is a full accounting of the different changes proposed in the “Synopsis of Changes 02-22-2023” document. Academic and Administrative Compliance Manager Kevin Houlihan pulled the draft procedure from the President’s Cabinet agenda for 2/27 and sent if back to the Faculty Affairs Committee to review and revise only Section 4.1. The Faculty Affairs Committee drafted the language in committee and will submit it for approval at the March 10th meeting. Once the Senate approves the language, Kevin will send it to the deans in the same manner (only this section is open for review) and then on the President’s Cabinet. He also notes that this is a unique circumstance and should not be viewed as an available option for future procedures where Senate and the deans are not in full agreement.

**12.03.99.C1.01, Assignment of Faculty Workload Credit**

Section 4.1 (statement in question)

Revised Faculty Senate Proposed Language:

Based upon an agreement between the college dean and the faculty member, an overload assignment in a semester will ~~must~~ be compensated (e.g. monetarily, service credit, or the faculty member may receive a compensating workload adjustment in a subsequent semester during the same academic year (September 1-May 31)).

*Discussion ensued, one option discussed is below*

*Based upon an agreement between the college dean and the faculty member, an overload assignment in a semester will ~~must~~ be compensated during the same academic year (September 1-May 31) (e.g. monetarily, service credit, or the faculty member may receive a compensating workload adjustment in a subsequent semester).*

*No consensus reached, Senator Banda withdrew motion, item will go back to committee*

Additionally, I intend to introduce the following procedure (also sent to Faculty Senate Speaker Michelle Hollenbaugh to distribute) at the March 10th Senate Meeting in anticipation of the Faculty Affairs committee meeting to review it before the April Faculty Senate meeting:

* *16.01.02.C1, Protection of Educational Records and Personally Identifiable Information*
  + New rule required by system to outline FERPA processes
  + Key topics
    - Disclosure on information including students' rights (sec 2)
    - Notification and training (sec 3)

Academic and Administrative Compliance Manager Kevin Houlihan has notified me that there are a handful of rules/procedures that just started the department revisions within the last few weeks ( Export controls). The system revised several regulations at the recent board meetings, so that triggers the 6-month review timeline for our related docs. The concern is that the deadline for these to be through the campus review process is 8/15, and they may not be ready for Senate prior to the April meeting (though that is his goal). If they are not ready in time, Kevin states we have 2 options: (1) handle them as “emergency items” in May which allows for the introduction and approval to happen in a single meeting, or (2) empower the executive committee to review/approve them over the summer on behalf of the full Senate. For the past two years that I have been on Senate, April is normally our last meeting, so I am not sure how that might work. He indicated both options have been used in the past. Here are the rules/procedures in question:

• 13.03.99.C0.01, Academic Scholarships

• 13.03.99.C0.02, Athletics Scholarships

• 13.03.99.C0.03, Institutional Scholarships

• 15.02.99.C1, Export Controls (currently under review & not out of respective department, so may need to be acted upon based on discussion above)

1. Liaison Reports
   1. CPIRA – no report
   2. Graduate Council – Isla Schuchs Carr, written report submitted

The Graduate Council met on March 9th, at 1 PM via Zoom, but I will not be able to attend that meeting as I am out of town for a conference March 8-10th.  The next meeting will be April 13th at 1 PM, also via Zoom.

On March 2-3rd I traveled with three other graduate school faculty, and 46 TAMU-CC students to TAMU-Galveston for the 19th TAMUS Pathways Symposium. Thirty-seven of our students presented, and we had 12 students place either 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in their category!  We had 4 faculty, (including myself), and 2 doctoral students serve as judges. We had 17 students attend from our group participate in LSAMP events. The Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP) program is an alliance-based program. The overall goal of the program is to assist universities and colleges in diversifying the nation's science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) workforce by increasing the number of STEM baccalaureate and graduate degrees awarded to populations historically underrepresented in these disciplines.

Graduate Student Appreciation Week is April 3-7th. The Three-Minute Thesis competition is on April 6th and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places come with cash prizes.  Refer to the GROW website for a full list of activities.

In addition, workshops are being held for faculty, by college, to show them new templates for dissertation/thesis and new materials, including very short specific videos for students that will support them in thesis/dissertation process. Hands-on workshops are being provided in the computer lab so that students can bring up their own documents and get assistance. See the GROW website for more information.

* 1. IT
  2. Staff Council – Alexandra Janney
     1. none
  3. AAUP –Kelly Bezio
     1. AAUP meetings Feb 28 & March 3
     2. Continue to keep eye on session – today, March 10, is last day to file bills
     3. Encourage faculty to read bills and reach out to legislators so your view is heard
     4. Opportunities to testify before My 29
     5. Chapter meetings discussing leg sessions, adjunct faculty, pay issue – adjunct pay not increased in 20 years; meeting space for adjunct faculty is an issue – affects ability to serve students; discussion concerning faculty protections for freedom so speech for non tenured faculty;
     6. IRB process concern reported by a faculty member – too much oversight, Dr. Bezio will look into

1. Provosts Comments
   1. Not present,
2. New Business
   1. none
3. For the good of the order
   1. Acadeum system contract signed, as of today 1 student enrolled who is military and needed online course to be able to graduate; next step is to submit classes that should be offered that might have a few available seats – will start in summer, then fairly regular offerings, contact D Wolf Murphey
4. Motion for adjournment: Senator Medrano, Second by: Senator Perez, all approved. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Cathy Harrel

Secretary Faculty Senate

**Faculty Senate Committee Members**:

**Academic Affairs**

* Deniz Gevrek (COB)
* Kevin Loeffler (CLA)
* Mark McNamara (CLA)
* Robin Johnson (COEHD) - chair
* Marge Benham Hutchins (CONHS)
* Valeriu Murgulet (COSE)

**Awards/Bylaws/Elections**

* Ross Bernhardt (CLA)
* Leigh Shaver (CONHS)
* Kelli Bippert (COEHD) – Chair
* George Tintera

**Budget Analysis**

* Mohan Rao (COB)
* Miguel Perez (CONHS)
* Rabih Zeidan (COB)
* Celil Ekici (COSE) – chair

**Committee on Committees**

* Dale Pattison (CLA) – chair
* Antonio Medrano (COSE)
* Kelli Bippert (COEHD)

**Faculty Affairs**

* Qiuhong Zhao (COB)
* Isla Schuchs Carr (CLA) - chair
* Rosie Banda (COEHD)
* Catherine Harrel (CONHS)
* Mohamed Ahmed (COSE)