Faculty Senate Meeting

Dec 9, 2022

UC Bayview 320

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

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

Other: Provost Clarenda Philips, Kevin Houlihan, Dr. Susan Murphey, Dr Kelly Bezio , Lionel Cassin

1. Agenda: Motion to approve Agenda by Senator Rao, second by Senator Ekici
   1. Approved unanimously
2. Approval of November minutes: motion with edits Senator Johnson, second Senator Eciki
   1. approved; No opposed, 1 abstention
3. Speaker’s Report – Speaker Hollenbaugh
   1. Search Committee Updates
      1. CIO search: finalists on campus Dec 3-17
      2. CHRO – J Flowers accepted, starting Jan 9
      3. CDO – just getting started on process
      4. Still in process for new admin for staff council/senate
   2. 360 eval redacted coming
   3. Newsletter coming out in January for all faculty
      1. Draft Tuesday for Senators to review, final on Friday, Dec 16 for dissemination
   4. Pres Miller canceled attending our meeting today, hopefully able to join us in January
      1. Presidents’ cabinet/exec meeting to come
   5. Monthly lunch buffets
      1. Lunch buffet to get together, hope to start January 7
4. Old Business
   1. 360 reports – redacted sample
      1. Need taskforce for narrative for the 360 eval- let
         1. Dr Benham-Hutchins volunteered
5. Committee Reports
   1. Academic Affairs – Senator Johnson, Chair
      1. Anticipate updates next week for what’s coming up for spring
   2. Awards, Bylaws, & Elections (ABE) – Senator Dinkens, Chair
      1. Faculty Excellence Awards, nominations received, portfolios due Feb 16
      2. Senator Dinkins retiring Jan 15, per bylaws CONHS will appoint for reminder of term, ABE will need new chair
   3. Budget Analysis – Senator Ekici, Chair
      1. This is LAR year – legislature year
      2. Continue to look at documents that have been posted and are available to them; not many details on accounting data – are requesting more information
      3. Have discussed transparency lack in budgeting process and requesting to be involved earlier
      4. Have received feedback from faculty on faculty pay in light of inflation
      5. Request admin support to provide faculty feedback
   4. Committee on Committees – Senator Pattison, Chair
      1. Nothing to report; work begins in January with faculty interest survey
   5. Faculty Affairs – Senator Schuchs Carr, Chair
      1. Met Nov 30 to review, had faculty feedback, solicited feedback from Science & Engineering who may be affected by language

**15.05.04.C1 High Risk Global Engagements and International Collaborations**

Concerns were raised about the vagueness of unfunded research relationships, so the following definitions were added from the TAMUS procedure definitions, which two additional lines of clarification underlined below:

Contract – an agreement that creates an obligation to do or not do a particular thing, as defined in System Policy *25.07*. This includes unfunded agreements.

Country of Concern or Countries of Concern – Country or countries designated by System Research Security Office as “of concern” for purposes of System Regulation *15.05.04* based on U.S. government annual reports to Congress and guidance from federal partners including the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency.

Foreign Persons – any natural person who is not: a lawful permanent resident of the United States, citizen of the United States, or any other protected individual as defined by 8 U.S.C.1324b(a)(3). It also means any corporation, business association, partnership, trust, society or any other entity or group that is not incorporated in the United States or organized to do business in the United States, as well as international organizations, foreign governments and any agency or subdivision of a foreign government (e.g., diplomatic mission).

High Risk Global Engagement – contracts with one or more Foreign Persons based outside the United States in a Country of Concern.

High Risk International Collaboration – any of the following relationships with Foreign Persons based outside the United States in a Country of Concern: student and faculty exchanges; placements abroad; unfunded research relationships; technical assistance; unfunded professional development, training, and services; unfunded outside appointments, honorary positions, peer review, or distinguished positions; unfunded outside support including but not limited to lab space or other resources, provided either physically or virtually; activities with Foreign Persons traditionally compensated by a payment, honorarium, or paid travel expenses. Unfunded passive relationships such as coediting for a journal or presenting on the same conference panel are excluded from this definition of collaboration. For further guidance about whether or not a situation or partnership requires review, please contact TAMU-CC’s Financial Conflict of Interest and Export Control Officer (FCOI/ECO).

The committee had some questions and concerns about how this procedure would be implemented that led to the inclusion of the following comments included in the proposed draft of this procedure:

**Comment added:** The Faculty Affairs Committee added this language to specifically address concerns made by faculty currently involved in some of these passive collaboration situations. We also strongly recommend (as that is all we can do) that the contact for the TAMU-CC FCOI/ECO be added to the [Office of Risk, Ethics, and Compliance](https://www.tamucc.edu/president/compliance/index.php) website (some of those links are broken see link for Conflict of Interest/International Trave) as well as a checklist of criteria to establish if a partnership requires review, and a link to the needed paperwork for a review.

3.2 On a quarterly basis, the EO receives the list of Countries of Concern from the System Research Security Office (RSO). The EO will distribute this quarterly list to the CECO and FCOI/ECO for use in compliance reviews and oversight.

Comment added to procedure: The Faculty Affairs committee raised the concern that these be distributed to all faculty--how else would someone know if a person they are involved in collaboration or research with moves to the list of Countries of Concern?

3.3 Global engagements, international collaborations, and other international activities involving non-US persons and/or entities from foreign countries require review for potential management and mitigation options prior to approval.

**Comment added to procedure:** The Faculty Affairs committee is concerned about the use of "Global engagements, international collaborations, and other international activities…" nowhere in this procedure does it specify the process for determining if a review is needed unless it is with a foreign person or entity on the "Countries of Concern" list making it a "High Risk" partnership. We are requesting that either more information be provided about specifically what activities/partnerships need reviewed (sort of compliance check list--if these criteria apply, submit for review, if none of these criteria apply you are exempt; or the language be revised to indicate that it is only high risk global engagements, high risk international collaborations, and high risk international activities being referenced here.

5.1 The university provides export control training and conflict of interest training to employees and students.

**Comment added to procedure:** This training is specific to export control issues and conflict of interest issues, the Faculty Affairs Committee would like to see more specific training or information provided about compliance either specifically with this new procedure related to international collaborations, and/or when new procedures are put in place.

**24.01.99.C0.01 Guest Speakers, Lecturers, and Entertainers**

For this procedure we had suggested changes, but we did add the following comment directed at implementation and compliance:

**Comment added to procedure:** Many of our committee members were unaware of this practice. We believe most faculty members would like to be in compliance with procedures such as this one. The Faculty Affairs Committee would like to see more specific training or information provided about compliance in general, but especially when new procedures are put in place.

Discussion to vote via email January 13.

1. Liaison Reports
   1. CPIRA – Kelli Bipert
      1. No report
   2. Graduate Council – Isla Schuchs Carr
      1. Did not meet in December – no report
   3. IT- Lionel Cassin
      1. Breaking news! Gov Abbott declared war on tictoc, system requesting that tic toc be removed from university devices; multiple issues to be resolved, but request is that this be accomplished by Dec 19
         1. Enrollment management uses tic toc, so does A&M football
         2. Expect to hear more Monday or Tuesday; data harvesting is the concern
      2. IT is scheduling switch out for approx. 300 laptops that are underpowered; replaced in Feb; emails will be sent out to those who are affected, will take about an hour; those affected have been contacted by Academic Affairs/dean
   4. Staff Council – Alexandra Janney
      1. No report
   5. AAUP
      1. Lt Gov Dan Patrick s upcoming agenda includes moving forward to eliminate tenure – so stay abresast of news; TATC emails have info; Dr Kelin – head of ??? – recommends discussing tenure with colleagues and others so folks understandi ti
      2. AAUP will keep close eye on this issue in leg session
      3. Academic/informational gag orders – articles distributed for information
      4. Journal Academic Freedom very helpful for this type information
      5. Dr Jim Heim – president TAC, is historian, elected to city council
      6. Hallway conversations – adjunct pay has not increased in 20 years
   6. Undergrad council – Robin Jackson
      1. No report
   7. LMS committee – Robin Jackson
      1. No report
2. Provosts Comments
   1. Commencement tomorrow - Behind every student is a story – thank you for all faculty work – lets celebrate the end of fall semester
   2. Grades due on Tuesday
   3. Higher Ed discussions – how can we influence public perception of higher ed; Texas students being recruited from all over; there is some loss of trust in public institutions; we need to demonstrate we are worth the investment; conversations to come on this topic
   4. Micro credentialing is topic for spring
   5. Need to have sense of what employers need from us and how we can respond
   6. This is the time of year when no one sends emails! Take some time to rest!
3. New Business
   1. Faculty Promotion & Equity Procedure
      1. President Miller working on written procedure on how it works
      2. Discussed in Exec - Feedback on wording, need to address fixed term – will be shared with President
   2. Optional Statements for Syllabi – see below
      1. Land – territorial acknowledgement
         1. Notes on discussion
            1. Too many statements on syllabus already - optional
            2. Many schools have already done this – meant to give faculty the option to participate
            3. Include it in the template?
            4. Is syllabi content controlled by someone? Not officially endorsed by university.
            5. Kris Navia – past Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer is who started this
            6. Does this belong in the Syllabus? – Syllabus tells students what is legally required to complete course.
            7. If you want to use Syllabus to showcase your diversity, maybe it will increase the openness of students in the course. Feel included.
            8. Should be in the culture of the university.
            9. No local resource that we can contact to use in our courses. So its tricky about how to involve them in the university.
            10. Not about inclusivity and not about the class meeting inclusion – its about the history and making the work public. It’s to bring more people into the conversation.
            11. Add a university webpage that has information that will direct people to more knowledge.
      2. Rohan Mao – (Statement from Liz Perez)
         1. Statement on Students Basic Needs – Encourages students to contact resources and lists resources available to help.
            1. Student Government is already supporting this statement.
            2. Keep it out of the syllabus – put it in Blackboard
            3. Have it go through the colleges – not Faculty Senate. What is the process?
            4. Susan Murphey’s office is the office that will be taking control of the syllabus template. Another option may be BB menu bar.
            5. What is the process to get items in the BB and maybe we can lose some in the Syllabus.

***Statement on Student Basic Needs***

It can be challenging to do your best in class if you have trouble meeting basic needs like safe shelter, sleep, and nutrition. If you have difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or lack a safe and stable place to live, I urge you to contact the Dean of Students Office, Care & Assistance and/or Dr. Johnson. Izzy’s Food Pantry, Disability Services, the University Counseling Center, and staff devoted to Student Assistance are among the resources available and provided to you to help you succeed. Phone: 361-825-6219 [https://www.tamucc.edu/seas/dean-of-students.php](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.tamucc.edu%2Fseas%2Fdean-of-students.php&data=05%7C01%7CMichelle.Hollenbaugh%40tamucc.edu%7C8f9538887f294b5f9da908dad8724bc6%7C34cbfaf167a64781a9ca514eb2550b66%7C0%7C0%7C638060282653653535%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=EUYhsA9lEKfUn7bAOia1Ub18L5mypJJ%2FmxJP1N4v1Tk%3D&reserved=0)

**Territorial Acknowledgment**

Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi is located on the unceded ancestral lands of the Karankawa people of the Texas Gulf Coast. Local collectives also include the Lipan Apache, Tonkawa, Comanche, and Coahuiltecan. As faculty at TAMU–CC, we feel it is critical to our mission as a minority-serving institution that we not only affirm tribal sovereignty, but that we build an accountable, collaborative relationship with Indigenous communities in the Coastal Bend. This territorial acknowledgment doubles as a promise of our commitment to the ethical engagement with Indigenous resources. These words are merely the first of many steps, as we work toward collective healing amid the ongoing traumas and erasures of settler colonialism.

1. For the good of the order
   1. Will be ordering shirts, more info coming
2. Motion for adjournment: Senator Rao , Second by: Senator Johnson, all approved. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Cathy Harrel

Secretary Faculty Senate

Note:

**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)
* Shelly Dinkens (CONHS)- chair
* Kelli Bippert (COEHD)

**Budget Analysis**

* Mohan Rao (COB)
* Miguel Perez (CONHS)
* 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)