1. Call to order by the Speaker at 12:45 pm
2. Approve agenda – Motion to approve was made by Senator Britt and seconded by Senator Bernhardt. Motion Passed.
3. Approval of April 16, 2021 minutes: Motion to approve was made by Senator Johnson and seconded by Senator Rao. Motion Passed.
4. The Speaker welcomed the senators and each senator introduced themselves.
5. Attendance

<table>
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<th>Senators</th>
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<td>Bernhardt, Ross</td>
<td>Hollenbaugh, Michelle</td>
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<td>Bippert, Kellie</td>
<td>Johnson, Philip</td>
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<td>Bird, Chris</td>
<td>Loika, Elizabeth</td>
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<td>Bonnette, Randy</td>
<td>McNamara, Mark</td>
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<td>Britt, Sean</td>
<td>Metcalf, Emily</td>
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<td>Changchit, Nikki</td>
<td>Perez, Miguel</td>
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<td>Vacant Position (CLA)</td>
<td>Pletcher, Bethanie</td>
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<td>Dinkens, Shelly</td>
<td>Rangel, Pablo</td>
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<td>Edwards, Davey</td>
<td>Rao, Mohan</td>
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<td>Ekici, Celil</td>
<td>Schuchs Carr, Isla</td>
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<td>Greene, Pam</td>
<td>Waheeduzzaman, Abu</td>
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<td>Hernandez, Patricia</td>
<td>Zhao, Chang</td>
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<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>LaNiece Tucker</td>
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6. Speaker’s Report
   a. Reference was made to the information on the August summary that was sent previously for senators to use at college and/or department meetings.
   b. Reminder – meeting agendas will be sent five days in advance of FS meetings. New business items can be added.
   c. Meeting Format – Meetings will be held in person as much as possible, a Zoom link will always be made available. The meetings are scheduled in large rooms to allow for social distancing.
   d. The FS Bylaws and Constitution were made available in a Google Doc, all are encourage to review.
   e. Reminder – All regular FS meetings are open to all faculty. Times and locations will be announced.
f. After each FS meeting, an update will be compiled that will be shared with all senators for use in their respective areas. The intent is to facilitate ongoing communication. There is an emphasis on the exchange of communication – getting input from faculty and ensuring faculty are aware of the work taking place in FS. It is important to determine what issues are personal, departmental, specific to a college, and what has an impact across the university.

g. The FS will work closely with Administration.

h. The FS will work closely with Staff Council

i. Texas A&M Chancellor Sharp has a visit planned to TAMUCC. It is tentatively planned for October 5. At 10 a.m. he will meet with the Faculty Senate (FS) and Staff Council. At this time, the plans include a presentation from the Chancellor and then time for Q & A. The Speaker indicated the need to use this time strategically. Time in the September FS meeting to discuss priorities to bring to the floor during the Chancellor’s meeting. A Google Doc will be created for collaboration. Senators are strongly encouraged to gather input from their constituents. Possible ideas to consider include faculty retention and equity as well as facilities and maintenance.

j. FS and CPIRA will be partnering to develop and send a survey to gain information about the impact of the Pandemic on Faculty service, teaching, and scholarly activities. The Speaker asked for those interested from colleges not already represented, to let her know of their interest to serve on this committee. A survey of graduate students was previously conducted by CPIRA. That will provide information to use in the faculty survey.

k. Ideas for guest speakers are welcome. Guest speakers are given 10 minutes to make a presentation. Ideas already suggested: Dean of Graduate Studies, Chief Diversity Officer, and the new Vice President of S.E.A.S.

l. The Speaker encouraged all members of FS to consider reading *The Four Agreements* by Don Miguel Ruiz if they were not already familiar with the agreements. This is one way to facilitate even more productive meetings.

m. The Speaker also encouraged senators to reflect on the strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities for FS and how FS’s contributions align with the university.


   The documents used in the presentation are also available in the Google Doc sent by the Speaker.

8. Committee Meetings - Break Out Sessions
   a. Academic Affairs (AA) – Senator Britt, Chair
   b. Awards, Bylaws, & Elections (ABE) – Senator Hollenbaugh, Chair
   c. Budget Analysis (BA) – Senator Ekici, Chair
   d. Committee on Committees (COC) – Senator Hernandez, Chair
   e. Faculty Affairs(FA) – Senator Johnson, Chair

9. Guest Speaker – President Miller
   a. President Miller expressed her excitement about working collaboratively with FS. She used the newly forming Budget Advisory Committee a result of recommendations from the Budget Think Tank, as an example of FS recommendations. She did review the
overall budget. She addressed the 3% performance pool request that was made, contingent on enrollment.

b. Focused Goals & Objectives were addressed:
   i. Finish in Four
   ii. Digital Literacy (QEP)
   iii. Diversity – Equity – Inclusion

c. Strategic Planning – Process to engage all with a focus on:
   i. Student Success (Measures for this)
   ii. Need for a vibrant culture
   iii. Website design

d. Q&A – major focus was on COVID-19 and related issues.

BREAK

10. Committee Reports
   a. Academic Affairs – Senator Britt, Chair
      There are 420 proposals to review. There is a plan for dividing the reviews between fall and spring semester. Training is being scheduled for Curriculog for those committee members who are unfamiliar with this platform.

   b. ABE – Senator Hollenbaugh, Chair
      i. Special election for CLS representative is in progress. A new representative is expected to be elected in time for the Sept. 10 meeting of FS.
      ii. Call for First Year award – pending.
      iii. Bylaws review will be a focus for the 2021-2022 year.

   c. Budget Analysis – Senator Rao reported for Senator Ekici, Chair
      Both Senators Rao and Ekici will be serving on the Budget Advisory Committee (BAC). Following the first BAC meeting, they will have more to share.

   d. Committee on Committees – Senator Hernandez, Chair
      All positions are filled.

   e. Faculty Affairs – Senator Johnson, Chair
      Before the next FS meeting, the committee will meet with a focus on Promotion and Tenure (P & T) and the Post Tenure Review (PTR) Process. The tentative plan is to focus specifically on one at a time, starting in Oct. with P & T then PTR in Nov. It will be important for senators to engage faculty in this process to ensure there is robust input. Expectations need to be clear. Faculty need to be well informed given career implications.

11. New Business
   a. Dissolution of University College (UC) – impact related to representation on FS
      i. There are two representatives elected from UC. The dissolution of UC occurred after the spring FS elections. The faculty from UC have been placed within the CLA, but the status remains somewhat unclear. It has been referred to as an affiliate of CLA. The department name is now the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies. In addition to the first-year learning communities, Honors, Pre-Law, and three minors are included. The Department has been referred to as an
“affiliate” of CLA at times the Department is said to be “housed” in CLA. The overall result is six senators within the CLA. Senator Greene made a motion to retain the two senators from the former UC until their respective terms expire. Senator Changchit seconded the motion. There was considerable discussion of implications and possible options. Senator Changchit made an amendment to the motion to add - per the bylaws, an appeal will be submitted to FS at the Sept. 10 meeting for the two senators from the former UC to continue to serve on FS for the remainder of their respective terms. The motion was seconded by Senator Greene. The motion, as amended, passed.

ii. The Bylaws will need updating. It was suggested that a proactive stance to taken to address future change including the merging of colleges as well as the separation of colleges.

b. Pandemic Issues

i. There was a robust discussion regarding the pandemic. Related issues include, but are not limited to:

1. The impact of protocols varies within the different colleges. One size does not fit all.
2. There is a desire for guidelines about a threshold for when to shift from face-to-face to online (for a time) when there is a COVID-19 outbreak.
3. Incentives for getting vaccinated should be considered.
4. Critical thinking and the use of evidence is a strong part of teaching practices. A strong statement from the university reflecting both is desired.
5. A resolution from FS asking for adherence to the CDC guidelines, understanding guidelines are ever-changing.
6. Involve the president of the Student Government Association (SGA).

ii. Senator Schuchs Carr made a motion to send a resolution to the president of the SGA, asking for assistance with a social media campaign to encourage students to get vaccinated and wear masks. Senator Britt seconded the Discussion followed. The motion passed. Senator Schuchs Carr volunteered to draft a resolution and send it to FS for further input before it is sent to SGA. The Speaker indicated she would also phone the president of the SGA.

12. Adjournment – Senator Bernhardt made the motion to adjourn at 3:44 pm.

Submitted by Pam Greene
Faculty Senate Secretary