

Faculty Senate Meeting

May 9, 2025

2:00 -4:00 p.m.

1. Meeting was called to order @ 2:01 pm

Attendance: see table

	May 10	Aug 23	Sept 20	Oct 11	Nov. 8	Dec 6	Jan 17	Feb 6	Mar 21	Apr 18	May 9
Jennifer Anderson (Library)	X	x	x	x	0	x	x	x	x	0	x
Jeanne Birdwell (COEHD)	X	x	x	x	0	x/z	x	0	x	x	x
Mara Barbosa (CLA)	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0	0
Chris Bird (COS)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	x	0
Isla Schuchs Carr (CLA)	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	x
Tianxing Chu (COE)	0	x	x	x	0	x/z	x	x	X	x	x
Susan de Ghizé (SAMC)	X	x	x	x	0	x	x	x	X	x	x
Alihan Hadimlioglu (COE)	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	x
Catherine Harrel (CONHS)	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	X	x	x
Yu-Shan Huang (COB)	0	x	x	x/Z	0	x/z	x/z	x	x/z	x	0
James Ikonomopoulos (COEHD)	X	0	x	x	x	x	x	0	X	x	x
Taoran Ji (COE)	X	x	x	x/Z	x	x/z	x	X	X	x	x/Z
Jin, Lei (COS)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	x	0
Timothy Johnson (CLA)	X	x	x	0	x	x	x	X	x	x	x
Ahmed Kamara (COB)	X	x	x	x	x	x	0 resigned	-	-	-	-
Zhaorui Li (COE)	0	x	x	x	0	x/z	x	x	X	0	x
Kevin Loeffler (SAMC)	0	x	0	0	x	xx	x	x	X	x	x
Cherie McCullough (COS)	X	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	---	---	----

Judy Metcalf (COS)	X	0	x	x	0	x	x	X	X	x	x
Valeriu Murgulet (COS)	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0	x	x
Thomas Oldham (SAMC)	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	x
Felix Omoruyi (CONHS)	X	x	x	x	x	0	x	0	X	x	x
Dale Pattison (CLA)	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	0	0	x	x
Miguel Perez (CONHS)	X	0	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	x
Robin Pizzitola (COEHD)	X	x	x	x/Z	z	x/z	x	x/z	X	x	x
Lori Podolsky (Library)	X	x	x	x	x	x	0	0	X	x	x
Ed Proffitt (COS)	x	0	0	0	0	0	x/z	0	----	-----	0
Ric Ricard (COEHD)	X	x	x	x/Z	x	x	x	x	X	x	x
Leigh Shaver (CONHS)	X	x	0	x	x/z	x	x	x	X	0	x
Brian Shelton (CLA)	X	x	x	x	x	0	x	z	X	x	0
Matthew Starliper (COB)	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	x
Rabih Zeidan (COB)	x	x	x	x/Z	0	x/z	x	x/Z	-	x	0
James Heavlin (COB)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	X	x	x

Other: Cate Rudowsky, Kevin Houlihan, Susan Wolf Murphy, Kelly Bezio & Ariel Kelly (AAUP), Ben Soto (zoom), Michelle Hollenbaugh, Deborah Sibia

2025-2026 New Senators: Luis Espinoza, Melissa Leal, Joseph Mollick, Oliver Cruz-Milan, Mohammed Almand, Denise Lara, Fereshteh Billiot, Habis Senol, Seth McKnight, M-emad Tahtamouni

2. Agenda: Motion to approve Agenda by Senator Johnson second by Senator Ikonomopoulos
 - a. Approved unanimously without abstentions
3. Approval of April minutes
 - a. Motion to approve minutes by Senator Johnson, Second by Senator Podolsky
 - b. Approved unanimously with no abstentions
4. Speakers Report: Speaker Schuchs Carr

I was unable to attend the Transportation Advisory Committee meeting, as they rescheduled to the date/time of another standing commitment. I submitted a written report on the lack of accessible parking on the West side of campus, and Ombuds Dr. Deborah Sibila attended as my proxy. Executive Associate Vice President for Operations Scott Meares was dismissive of our concerns, and stated that we are in compliance per the ratio of accessible parking spots required by current regulations. The group is considering adding motorcycle parking in that area,

In the last report from Faculty Senate (April Meeting Report) I included some contacts for various questions and concerns. The university is working on a webpage to provide similar updates and, ultimately a faculty/staff portal.

I also shared in the last report, but please continue to share with your faculty colleagues, that the deadline to submit final grades this semester (May 19th) is after graduation and the end of the faculty contract period (May 17th). Students cannot see their grades in SAIL until the 19th. If you are not going to be responsive via email after the nine-month contract period ends on May 17th, please share final grades in Canvas when you finalize them. This way, if there are any concerns or corrections, you are still available.

We will hold leadership elections and then finalize the committee appointments after the conclusion of this brief final meeting of the TAMU-CC 2024-2025 Faculty Senate. We will approve these meeting minutes by vote, early next week. Committee Chairs, please email me your final reports for the semester as soon as possible (before noon on the 15th) so that I can send out the Spring Semester Newsletter. I would like to thank all of you, but especially the current officers and committee chairs, for their dedication to the service of their academic units and the university as a whole.

5. Committee Reports

a. Academic Affairs – Senator Pizzitola

All changes approved,

b. Awards, Bylaws, & Elections – Senator Oldham

i. April 21, 2025, ABE Election Meeting

Attending: Dale Pattison, Judy Metcalf, Matthew Starliper, Jeanine Birdwell, Lori Podolsky,
Tianxing Chu as Lead Election Commissioner, Thomas Oldham as ABE Chair

Results

SAMC – 21 Ballots cast. Two nominees and two seats to fill. The candidates below each received a vote from at least 50% of the ballots:

Seth McKnight, 2027

Thomas Oldham, 2027

Nursing and Health Sciences - 29 Ballots cast. Three nominees and two seats to fill. The candidates below each received a vote from at least 50% of the ballots:

Melissa Leal, 2027

Luis Espinoza, 2027

Education and Human Development - 15 Ballots cast. Five nominees and two seats to fill. The candidates below each received a vote from at least 50% of the ballots:

Bethanie Pletcher, 2027

Denise Lara, 2027

Library – 8 Ballots cast. Two nominees and one seat to fill. The candidate below received a vote from at least 50% of the ballots:

Mohammad AlHamad, 2027

Liberal Arts – 37 Ballots cast. Two nominees and two seats to fill. The candidates below each received a vote from at least 50% of the ballots:

Scott Johnson, 2027

Kelly Bezio, 2027

Business – 31 Ballots cast. Three nominees and three seats to fill. The candidates below each received a vote from at least 50% of the ballots:

Dimitrios Koutmos, 2027

Oliver Cruz-Milan, 2027

Joseph Mollick, 2026

Engineering and Computer Science – 16 ballots cast. Two nominees for two seats to fill. The candidates below each received a vote from at least 50% of the ballots:

Scott King, 2027

Habib Senol, 2027

Science – 19 Ballots cast. Three nominees and three seats to fill. The candidates below each received a vote from at least 50% of the ballots:

Fereshteh Billiot, 2027

Ingo Pecher, 2027

M-Emad Tahtamouni, 2026

- ii. Bylaws will be addressed in Old Business
 - iii. Faculty Excellence Awards recognized last week, Regents professor should be named soon
 - iv. Minnie Stevens Piper Professor Award – Susan de Ghizé!!! Statewide award with only 10 winners, first winner from TAMU-CC
- c. Budget Analysis – Senator Perez
- i. BAC meeting May 7 – good meeting, charge is to take budgetary issues/analysis that Pres wants BAC to review, next meeting is Fall
- d. Committee on Committees – Senators Pattison/Ricard
- i. 2 surveys this year- Faculty satisfaction in fall which was shared with upper admin & Faculty interest survey for committees. Currently looking at results of interest survey
- e. Faculty Affairs – Senator Hadimlioglu
- The Faculty Affairs Committee has completed the review of the documents for the Spring 2025 semester. There are no new rules or procedures to be introduced during the Faculty Senate meeting in May 2025. The Faculty Affairs Committee has diligently considered input from faculty members across various departments in formulating its recommendations for procedures and rules. This inclusive approach ensures the collective voice of our academic community is reflected in its recommendations.

There was a minor change in the workload procedure (12.03.99.C1.01, Assignment of Faculty Workload) that we have previously reviewed. This is a minor clerical edit, both the Speaker and the FA Committee

chair were informed about. When updating the workload hours to 15, the requirement is to increase the admin release for chairs and associate deans to 7.5 credits from 6 credits to ensure the 50% workload release. We have made the necessary update to section 3 of the procedure. As it is a minor clerical edit to address an inconsistency in language, a formal approval from the Senate is not required.

The Faculty Affairs Committee has completed the review of the following rules and procedures:

- **11.09.99.C0.01, Low-Producing Minors and Certificates**
 - Previously shown in draft form; returning for full review
 - New procedure outlining the campus review process for low-producing minors and certs
- **15.01.03.C1, Financial Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Research**
 - Revised to align with updated system regulation
 - Key edits
 - Added sections 2.5 & 2.6 to provide details on the final steps of the review (aligning with updates in the system regulation)
 - Added section 3 to state that funds must not be spent until it is determined that there is no financial conflict of interest
- **15.05.04.C1, High Risk Global Engagements and International Collaborations**
 - Returning with new revisions necessary to align with updated system regulation
 - New edits (highlighted)
 - General prohibitions expanded to better align with system language (sec 1.2)
 - Added details about initial review requirements (sec 3.5)
 - Added submission deadline details (sec 3.5 and 3.7)
- **15.99.07.C1, Use of Vertebrate Animals in Research, Teaching, and Testing**
 - Reviewed to ensure alignment with updated system regulation
 - Key edits
 - Minor clerical edits only

Faculty Affairs Report for Faculty Senate Meeting 5/9/2025

For the rules 15.01.03.C1, Financial Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Research and 15.99.07.C1, Use of Vertebrate Animals in Research, Teaching, and Testing, the committee approved the documents without any reservations. These rules included edits for alignment with the updated system regulations.

The rule 15.05.04.C1, High Risk Global Engagements and International Collaborations, has been revised to eliminate a minor inconsistency in the usage of the terms 'TAMU-CC employees' and 'faculty and staff' interchangeably in different sections. The committee recommended a unified language, and the document now reflects this change.

The procedure 11.09.99.C0.01, Low-Producing Minors and Certificates, contains certain sections that define the criteria for low-producing minors and certificates. In the evaluation criteria, it was indicated that the review period for these programs is 3 years. The committee members considered 5 years to be a more common practice and will allow the programs some time before they are marked as low-producing. Enrollment and graduation rates might fluctuate over time, and if a program is required to make changes, it is difficult to evaluate such changes within a short period of time. Consequently, aligning with the Texas

Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), we recommended the review period for low-producing minors to be 5 years.

Furthermore, the initial version of the document had a brief 'Review Process' section (Section 3). We recommended that this section be expanded to include the details regarding the review process, and inquired if a deactivated program can be reactivated. The section is now expanded to include more details to clarify the review process. With the changes in the document, as can be seen in the appropriate Teams folder, the Faculty Affairs Committee approves the documents.

This concludes my report, and I would now like to call for a vote to approve the procedures presented by the Faculty Affairs Committee.

Report given and certified by Faculty Affairs Committee Chair Dr. Alihan Hadimlioglu Faculty Affairs Committee Members: *Alihan Hadimlioglu (College of Engineering and Computer Science, Chair), Susan DeGhize (School of Arts, Media, & Communication), Zhaorui Li (College of Engineering and Computer Science), Mara Barbosa (College of Liberal Arts), Jennifer Anderson (Mary and Jeff Bell Library), Sandy Huang (College of Business), Cathy Harrel (College of Nursing and Health Science), Ric Ricard (College of Education and Human Development), Judy Metcalf (College of Science)*

Approved, with no nays and no abstentions.

6. Liaison Reports

a. CPIRA - no report, there is meeting next week

Graduate Council - Lori Podolsky

Submitted by Lori Podolsky, Faculty Senator

Graduate Council met on May 8th, being their last meeting of the semester and year. Chair of the Graduate Council, Dr. Boham, provided a summary of the committee member changes for next year. Approximately, one third of the committee members will be rolling off, including Dr. Boham. She confirmed that each college has three representatives with the exception of SAMC which has two representatives. She also stated that the by-laws will need to be updated over the summer or next year.

Professor O'Malley reported that seven applications were approved for Graduate Faculty Status in the Colleges of Engineering and Computer Sciences, and Education and Human Development.

Associate Provost Dr. Wolff Murphy provided an update on the question on interdisciplinary degrees raised at the previous meeting. The concerns on the voting and governance of shared interdisciplinary programs when curriculum is being reviewed or modified. Provost Rudowsky will be discussing this at a future Provost's Council.

Sean Britt will be the new Graduate Education Coordinator as of June 1.

Meeting adjourned.

b. AAUP (Scott Johnson)

- a. Legislature updates: refer to handouts on joining; SB 37 – with House committee on Higher Ed, heard testimony Tuesday, May 7, majority of feedback was NOT in support (80 testimonies, 6 for, online with a lot of against), there is still time to provide input, now is a good time to use the tracking; HB 17 – bans foreign persons from certain countries from buying land in Texas, passed senate & house, will try to reconcile those bills, could impact students & faculty from buying houses, concerns discussed regarding limiting rental to one year, then must get out of Texas for F1 visa students & faculty on work visas (~ 25% engineering faculty from those countries)

c. Expressive Activities Committee (Jennifer Anderson)

- a. No report, meet next week
- e. Calendar Committee
 - a. No report
- f. University Committee on Committees
 - a. No report
- g. Staff Council Liaison Report
 - No report
- 7. Ex Officio Reports
 - a. Provost Cate Rudowsky
 - a. Export control office is 1 person, so back log has been created, job posting next week for another person
 - b. Grade Sync open – allow faculty to push grades from Canvas to Banner, reach out to DLAI if issues, if off campus you need VPN access
 - c. 7.5 workload for administrative workload, Univ will push the 3 credit release for RSCA, for admin will include 1.5 additionally
 - d. Grades due May 19 at noon – issue if students have issue and faculty don't respond due to being off, so asking faculty to check email if possible after May 19 or do out of office email and refer to chair so students don't feel ghosted or post in Canvas so they see it there and can ask questions
 - e. Low enrollment minors – process will identify low enrollment, there will be a period where a review is done
 - f. First year learning, Amy Baldwin came to do training in early May, there are 3 candidates for director, interviews next week
 - b. Ombuds Deborah Sibilia (ombuds)
 - a. Numbers of visits down, will be available over summer for any that need assistance
 - c. Staff Council – Ben Soto
 - a. No report, still planning on Break in the Day for Shark Week
 - b. Last meeting was yesterday, currently changing committees/leadership for new year starting June 1
 - d. Chief Information Officer Ben Soto
 - a. Grade Sync live
 - b. Trying to get SandDollar photos moved over for student & faculty accounts
 - c. Working on budget committee – looking at computer lab usage, utilization, central & non centrally controlled labs
 - d. Approving other AI tools as committee approves for faculty & staff use, there is already some system guidelines for AI use which Ben will circulate
 - e. Web cams – CCH have all in one computers, so web cams – may be pushed down, look at button on top, library laptops have webcams, Ben will add to the survey
 - f. Look at rooms used for hybrid classes that have appropriate tech– Ben can get list of rooms
 - g. IT governance committee back up in fall – will help with some of these issues
- 8. Old Business
 - a. Amendments to Bylaw (see Team folder)
Online senators will email vote to ABE members
Vote called for proposal #1: no discussion; all approved, no nays, no abstentions
Vote for proposal #2: Motion Pizzitola, Second Sen Starliper; no discussion; all approved, no nays, no abstentions
- 9. New Business

10. For the good of the order

- a. Encourage previous chairs that are rotating off Senate to communicate with new chairs

11. Motion to adjourn 2024-2025 Senate: Senator Anderson, Second Senator Perez; all approve

- a. Meeting adjourned @ 3:14

2025-2026 Faculty Senate will be seated and elections for speaker, deputy speaker and secretary

Nominations for Speaker:

1. Scott Johnson

All in favor, none opposed or abstentions

Nominations for Deputy Speaker:

1. Alihan Hadimlioglu

All in favor, none opposed or abstentions

Nomination for Secretary:

1. Cathy Harrel

All in favor, none opposed or abstentions

Senate Appointments, survey has been reviewed

Academic Affairs:

Lori Podolsky, Chair

Felix Omoruyi (CONHS)

Judy Metcalf (COS), Co_chair

Denise Lara (COEHD)

Kevin Loeffler (SAMC)

Taoran Ji (COECS)

Faculty Affairs

Alihan Hadimlioglu, Chair (COECS)

Mohammad Alhamad (MJBL)

Susa de Ghizé (SAMC)

Kelly Bezio (CLA)

Bethanie Pletcher)(COEHD)

Sandy Hoang (COB)

Luis Espinoza (CONHS)

M-emad Tahtamouni (COS)

Budget:

Ingo Pecher, Chair (COS)

Oliver Cruz-Mialn (COB)

Scott King (COECS)

Melissa Leal (CONHS)

Seth McKnight (SAMC)

ABE:

Thomas Oldham, Chair (SAMC)

Fereeshteh Billiot (COS)

Cathy Harrel (CONHS)

James Ikononopoulos (COEHD)

Habis Senol (COECS)

Committee on Committees:

Ric Ricard, Chair (COEHD)

Joseph Mollick (COB)

Dale Pattison (CLA)

Submitted by Cathy Harrel

Secretary Faculty Senate