

Stephen F. Austin State University
Faculty Senate Agenda – Meeting #492
Wednesday, October 11, 2023, 2:30 p.m. CST

- I. Call to Order (Conn)
A. Present
B. Absent (no proxy):

Senator	Present	Absent	Proxy
Ajero, Mario (CFA)	X		
Becnel, Jeremy (CSM)	X		
Bentley, Lisa (CLAA)	X		
Bloxson, Julie (CSM)	X		
Bruck, Jason (CSM)	X		
Causin, Gina Fe (PCOE)	X		
Chakravartty, Arye (CLAA) (Chair-elect)	X		
Collins, Eden (CFA)	X		
Conn, CC (CFA) (Chair; non-voting member)	X		
Davis, Rebecca (NRCB)	X		
Day, George (CLAA)	X		
Drake, Sarah (PCOE)	X		
Hampton, Hunter (CLAA)	X		
Hoagland, Ericka (CLAA)	X		
Kennon, Lindsey (PCOE)	X		
Kidd, Rebecca (ATCOFA)	X		Brian Oswald
Klein, Michelle (CSM) (Treasurer)	X		
Li, Wenjing (NRCB)	X		
Martynova-Van Kley, Alexandra (CSM)	X		Dr. Carmen Montana-Schalk
McCleary, Daniel (PCOE)	X		
McDermand, Rob (NRCB)	X		
Midgley, Herbert (CFA) (Parliamentarian)	X		
Mishra, Rajat (NRCB)	X		
Payne, Emily (ATCOFA)	X		
Sengupta, Bidisha (CSM)	X		
Stoehr, Louise (CLAA)	X		
Straub, Sarah (PCOE) (Secretary)	X		
Thompson, Bailey (CLAA)	X		
Thompson, Leland (ATCOFA)		X	
Wagner-Greene, Victoria (PCOE)	X		
Walburn, Jake (CFA)	X		
Welsh, Tyler (CLAA)	X		

- II. Presentations
A. Damon Derrick, General Council - brief recap of SB17 and SB18 adjustments
1. SB17: OMA will be eliminated, attempting job reassignment. This will have a major impact on students. More information forthcoming

- a) Allied/Safe Space - Faculty will be made aware if this signage needs to be removed. GC will make recommendations to the administration. Administration will make final determination.
 - b) Conversation on HSI designation
 - c) Grant Applications - Title IX violations based on participant selections
 - 2. SB18: Tenure Bill (closely aligned with TAMU policy), some necessary revisions will need to occur (e.g., summary dismissal; model policy is being drafted by UTS presently). HOP Policy review schedule will address Tenure Policy
 - 3. Reviewed HOP Process with review schedule cycle (5-year cycle with certain exceptions - Title IX, etc.), questions on a particular HOP should be directed to Damon Derrick
 - 4. Shared Governance: Addressed this topic. Commitment to 4SP
 - B. Gina Oglesbee, Interim President - available for questions
 - 1. Presidential Search update request; deferred to later in the agenda
 - 2. Asked about % updates to R/T/S expectations and if UTS would provide mandates/recommendations - this does not appear to be the case
 - 3. Comment from Past Chair McKenna about terminal degree needs if moving towards an increased research focus
 - 4. Strategic Enrollment Plan - disconnect in Pre-Health advising and programming discussed by Senator Wagner-Greene
 - C. Dr. Lorenzo Smith, Provost/Executive VP for Academic Affairs
 - 1. STARS Program - UTS Affiliation perk (\$800,000 annually; \$300,000 towards faculty recruitment and \$500,000 towards retention)
 - a) one application for retention and there will be one more round for applications (approx. \$50,000-\$140,000)
 - b) big ticket items (renovations, equipment, research); connect the application to STEM; process for allocation in development under Provost Office
 - 2. ORGS - Conversation on support across disciplines with new Dean
 - 3. Bright Ideas - Request from Senator Midgley to bring this back, confirmed by Provost Smith
 - 4. Question on Center for Research from Senator Causin; advocacy request by UTS for funding in Washington is a potential pathway forward for this
 - 5. Workload 3.6 from UTS - doubles down on flexibility across Colleges from Senator Mishra; 3.1-3.5 appears to be Chair-level decisions (Senator Bruck?)
- III. Session break and transition to Senate business session (faculty only)¹
- IV. Approval of minutes from meetings #491
 - A. Request changes to #491:
 - B. Motion to accept by [Causin]; 2nd [Ajero]
- V. Officer Reports
 - A. Chair
 - 1. Recap on HOP activity and new committee
 - 2. Report from UT Faculty Advisory Council Meeting
 - a) Chair/Chair-Elect in attendance
 - b) 2-Day event with 4 committees (Professional Welfare, Research, Governance, Health Affairs)
 - c) Recommendations shared as White Pages with Chancellors
 - B. Chair Elect (Chakravartty)
 - 1. Conversations on salary concerns

¹ Public recording terminated at the break

2. Research as an integral part of role as faculty
 3. Conversations on SB17 impact (guidance available)
- C. Secretary (Straub)
1. Review Faculty Senate Roster: https://www.sfasu.edu/facsenate/roster_bios.asp
 - a) Add information from Rebecca Kidd
 - b) Standardized line spacing between Hunter Hampton and Louise Stoehr
 - c) Request to share hyperlink to our emails
 - (1) Motion to accept by [Straub]; 2nd [McDermant]
 - (2) Motion passes
 - d) Update Perry Moon to Arye Chakravartty (top of page)
 - e) Julie Bloxson/Eden Collins (Chair Professional Welfare), remove Arye
 - f) Remove University Level Academic Affairs Policy Committee
 2. Review Faculty Senate Committees:

<https://www.sfasu.edu/facsenate/committees.asp>
- D. Treasurer (Klein)
1. Current balance: \$2,000.00
 2. Expected/outstanding debits/credits:
 - a) Name plates
- E. Committee Reports
1. Internal Committees (suggested by chair in consultation with survey)
 - a) Administration & Finance (Rebecca Davis*, Michelle Klein, Lisa Bentley, Leland C. Thompson)
 - (1) [UT System Institution Operating Budgets](#)
 - (2) Salary Review - Comparison with similar peer UTS universities by rank/department (in progress)
 - (3) Raises for Tenure/Promotion, Clinical Instructors (in progress), **Priority Item**
 - (4) Budget Allocations for AA compared to other units (in progress)
 - (5) Data Collection under way for UTRGV, UTSA, UT-Tyler; some research already done by Texas Higher Education Board (starting point)
 - (6) Senator questions - Nacubo Report, Representation of Forestry & Ag
 - (7) Request from Committee for information sharing from Senators
 - b) Communication (Bailey Thompson*, Sarah Straub, Ericka Hoagland, Hunter Hampton)
 - (1) Title IX/HOPS presentations
 - (2) Strategic Enrollment Planning Process request for invitation from College Council
 - (3) Request from Chair Conn for Communications department to go to SFA Today, request in by Fridays before Wednesday meeting. To be published on Tuesday.
 - c) Elections (Mario Ajero*, Rob McDermant, Bidisha Sengupta)
 - (1) No report
 - d) Ethics (Rebecca Kidd*, Daniel McCleary, Tyler Welsh)
 - (1) No report
 - (2) Charged with working on an Ombuds proposal
 - (3) Currently reviewing the work products of previous committees that investigated the Ombuds position

- e) Faculty Government & Involvement (George Day*, Herb Midgley, Sarah Drake)
 - (1) Librarian I-IV removed from language of Standing Rules, new titles replaced using HOP
 - (2) Conversation on Adjuncts and Visiting Professors (to be added back in)
 - (3) Faculty Senate to review before next meeting
 - (4) Upcoming goal: Faculty Handbook Review; owned by Academic Affairs
 - (5) Voting Process for TT vs. NTT - No clear guidance in Standing Rules/Constitution at this time. Should NTT remain unfilled if there is not an available NTT replacement?
 - (a) Motion to update the Standing Rules for NTT open seat to match TT open seat
 - (b) Motion to accept by [Wagner-Greene]; 2nd [McDermid]
 - (c) Motion Passes
 - (6) Review Standing Rules and Constitution for NTT voting on NTT and TT voting on TT (Tabled) - Request for feedback from constituents
- f) Professional Welfare (Julie Bloxson*, Eden Collins*, Louise Stoehr, Rajat Mishra, Wenjing Li, Alexandra Martynova-Van Kley)
 - (1) Workload Policies at our institution, “peer institutions” and UTS to create a summary document and distribute survey
- g) Strategic Planning (Arye Chavravarty*, CC Conn, Jeremy Becnel, Gina Fe Causin, Chris McKenna)
 - (1) Conversation on 4SP to be discussed in New Business
 - (2) Presidential Search Update: Website to be launched for this process, committee finalized, initial meeting - will be using national search firm, initial job description under review, unclear on if official solicitation has begun, plan for in-person interviews in January with plan to have selected candidate by EOY
- h) Academic Affairs (Tori Wagner-Greene*, Jake Walburn, ~~Jason Bruck~~, Emily Payne, Sarah Straub)
 - (1) Navigating dissolution of Policy University Committee
- 2. University Committees - Reports from Faculty Senate Representative
 - a) Distance Education (Herb Midgley*, Tyler Welsh, Daniel McCleary, Sarah Straub)
 - (1) No report
 - ~~b) Policy (Jason Bruck*, Jake Walburn, Tori Wagner-Greene, Emily Payne, Sarah Straub)~~
 - c) Student Wellness Task Force (1) Sarah Drake*
 - (1) No report
 - d) Staff Senate Representative
 - (1) Shared in Communications Committee Report
 - e) Grad Council (Chakravarty, ex officio)
 - (1) ORGS Dean Search
 - (2) Tasked with reviewing Cross-listed courses (e.g., grad/undergrad expectations), allocation of GRAs, sense of community for graduate students
 - f) Core Curriculum Assessment (Chakravarty, ex officio)

- (1) No report
- g) Staff Council update (Brittany Beck)
- (1) Not present

VI. Old Business

- A. Amendment of Communications Committee Chair Role
 - 1. Assigned to Faculty Government Involvement Committee
- B. Amendment to remove language related to Board of Regents and librarians from Standing Rules
 - 1. Returning to Faculty Government Involvement Committee
- C. Survey regarding faculty expectations (best case) of teaching/scholarship/service balance

VII. New Business

- A. Plan suggestion and discussion for moving forward on policy review process
 - 1. Review [HOP Periodic Review Schedule](#)
 - a) Fall/Spring: 02-302 Academic Appointments
 - b) Spring: 02-320 Tenure and Continued Employment, 04-110 Institutional Absences
 - c) Summer: 04-106 Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity, 05-406 Parking Services, 01-307 Title IX
 - d) Review of '25 Policies
 - 2. Proposal A: Combine Professional Welfare and Academic Affairs Committee
 - 3. Proposal B: Policy Committee as a stand alone committee
 - 4. Proposal C: Ad Hoc Policy Committee with reps from each College and at least one NTT
 - a) Discussion - Transparency of communication of changes is a major issue; would the committee "hand off" to Chair or directly to Chairs Council?
 - (1) Jason Bruck - CSM
 - (2) Tori Wagner-Greene - PCOE
 - (3) Sarah Straub - PCOE
 - (4) Emily Payne - ATCOFA/NTT
 - (5) *Jake Walburn - CFA?*
 - (6) Wenjing Li - NRCB
 - (7) George Day - CLAA
 - (8) *Perry Moon - CLAA?*
 - 5. Provost Smith has agreed to adding at least one representative meeting
- B. 4SP and List of Unmet Needs for Academic Affairs
 - 1. Tabled

VIII. Adjournment

- A. Motion: 1st [Causin], 2nd [Wagner-Greene]