

**Stephen F. Austin State University**  
Faculty Senate Agenda – Meeting #493  
Wednesday, November 8, 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		
Klein, Michelle (CSM) (Treasurer)	X		
Li, Wenjing (NRCB)	X		
Martynova-Van Kley, Alexandra (CSM)	X		
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. Dr. Lorenzo Smith, Provost/Executive VP for Academic Affairs  
1. ORGS

- a) Topic of Cross Listing with Graduate Council, proposal for more bookkeeping from an auditing standpoint. Proposal for GRAs will be coming our way
    - b) Possibility for Graduate Student “group”/organization to begin as early as January
    - c) ORGS - Potential for physical relocation to 2nd floor Library (TBD) due to construction
    - d) Grant Writing with Research Advisory Committee (Flora Farago) (Graduate Research Council charge)
  - 2. “Unmet Needs” Doc went from Deans → Chairs. Currently in the brain dump phase. Will then be sent to a Faculty group.
  - 3. Meet with the Provost scheduled for Friday
- B. Dr. Lee Furbeck, VP for Enrollment Management
  - 1. No report.
- C. Brittany Beck, Staff Council
  - 1. Update on goals for Staff Council
  - 2. Area of focus: Work/Life for translation/interpreting services
- III. Transition to Senate business session (faculty only)<sup>1</sup>
- IV. Approval of minutes from meetings #492
  - A. Request changes to #492:
  - B. Motion to accept by [Davis]; 2nd [Wagner-Greene]
- V. Officer Reports
  - A. Chair (Conn)
    - 1. Presentation at President’s Cabinet Meeting
      - a) SGA, SC, and FS were represented at this meeting (all had attended UTS meetings for their respective organizations)
      - b) Commitment to Ombuds role - reviewed in New Business
      - c) Commitment to review pay raise increases for promotion
    - 2. Meeting with Provost
      - a) CFA does not give reassignment for Faculty Senate Chair -- so this is a push for CC to codify the leave
      - b) Provost also working on promotion increases (data collection stage)
    - 3. Meeting with President
      - a) Conversations on campus culture/faculty appreciation, etc. Shared misgivings on the No Children in the Workplace Policy.
      - b) Pressed on enrollment relationship to raises. By the end of the semester, there will be a decision on raises.
      - c) Request for President to consider faculty access to Rec Center at no cost
      - d) Request for a Faculty Lounge to be prioritized
      - e) Request for free admission to athletic events for faculty
      - f) Request for computer lab access in EACH building for students (i.e., Ferguson)
    - 4. Meeting with Michara Delaney - Discussed below
  - B. Chair Elect (Chakravartty)
    - 1. If Senators have questions about the Graduate Research Council, reach out to Chair Elect Chakravartty
  - C. Secretary (Straub)
    - 1. Website update to Drupal System by end of semester
  - D. Treasurer (Klein)

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<sup>1</sup> Public recording terminated at the break

1. Current balance: \$637.29
  2. Expected/outstanding debits/credits:
    - a) Chair Conn will reach out about the travel being covered by Faculty Senate
    - b) Name plates still to be ordered
    - c) Unclear beginning budget - in theory, we have \$2,000
- 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) Shared institutional research: <https://texascollegesalaries.com/institutions>
      - (2) Freedom of Information Request for similar information re: SFA (will collaborate with Dr. McKenna)
      - (3) Suggestion to loop in Provost
    - b) Communication (Bailey Thompson\*, Sarah Straub, Ericka Hoagland, Hunter Hampton)
      - (1) No report
    - c) Elections (Mario Ajero\*, Rob McDermid, Bidisha Sengupta)
      - (1) NTT/TT Feedback - Request for clarification on process.
      - (2) Informal poll for feedback conducted with open voting procedures
    - d) Ethics (Rebecca Kidd\*, Daniel McCleary, Tyler Welsh)
      - (1) Information gathering/question generating re: Ombuds
      - (2) Faculty have reached out re: immediate need for this position
    - e) Faculty Government & Involvement (Herb Midgley\*, George Day, Sarah Drake)
      - (1) Request for update to Standing Roles Update for IA and IB
      - (2) Edits accepted
    - f) Professional Welfare (Julie Bloxson\*, Eden Collins\*, Louise Stoehr, Rajat Mishra, Wenjing Li, Alexandra Martynova-Van Kley)
      - (1) Survey updates, posted in SFA Today
      - (2) Response rate: 40% (T/TT faculty, lecturers, instructors, visiting - if full time)
      - (3) Follow up with constituents regarding this survey
      - (4) Shared initial results with average response to meet current 15%, 30%, 55%. Large % for 9 TLCs per semester. Request for flexible workload policy (overwhelming support). Expressed concern about subjectivity for flexible workload policy.
      - (5) Limitations: Initially excluded Forestry Department; incorrect survey close date
      - (6) Discussion: Workload Policy is supposed to be flexible based on UTS Regents Rules
    - g) Strategic Planning (Arye Chakravarty\*, CC Conn, Jeremy Becnel, Gina Fe Causin, Chris McKenna)
      - (1) Will take on codification for Faculty Chair reassignment time\* (course release)
    - h) Academic Affairs (Tori Wagner-Greene\*, Jake Walburn, Emily Payne, Sarah Straub)
      - (1) Report to follow in New Business
  2. University Committees - Reports from Faculty Senate Representative

- a) Distance Education (Herb Midgley\*, Tyler Welsh, Daniel McCleary, Sarah Straub)
    - (1) Meeting Friday
  - b) Student Wellness Task Force (1) Sarah Drake\*
    - (1) No report
  - c) Staff Senate Representative
    - (1) Remove for future agendas
  - d) Grad Council (Chakravartty, ex officio)
    - (1) Report see above
  - e) Core Curriculum Assessment (Chakravartty, ex officio)
    - (1) Report see above
  - f) Ad Hoc Policy (HOP) Committee (Jason Bruck\*, Tori Wagner-Greene, Sarah Straub, Emily Payne, Jake Walburn, Perry Moon, Wenjing Li, George Day)
    - (1) New Business
- VI. Session break
- VII. Old Business
  - A. Amendment of Communications Committee Chair Role
    - 1. Assigned to Faculty Government Involvement Committee (Punted to December meeting)
  - B. Amendment to remove language related to Board of Regents and librarians from Standing Rules
    - 1. Returning to Faculty Government Involvement Committee (Completed above)
  - C. Survey regarding faculty expectations (best case) of teaching/scholarship/service balance
    - 1. Completed (reported above)
- VIII. New Business
  - A. Proposed revisions for HOP 01-101 (Ad Hoc Policy (HOP) Committee)
    - 1. Discussion of proposed plans and UT Regents Rule 20201 Sec 4.9b and UT Regents Rule 40101
    - 2. Senate approval of path forward in Academic Affairs policy review
    - 3. Chair Conn requested a meeting with Damon Derrick, Provost Smith, Chair Conn, Interim President Olgesbee, and Ad Hoc Committee Chair Bruck (plus more, if needed) to review these three options (and one Zoom member) - invite to Ad Hoc Policy Committee meeting
    - 4. Request for lawyer presence to represent Faculty Senate
    - 5. Motion to Call the Meeting with DD, LS, CC, AC, GO, JB + Additional Members and potential lawyer representative to discuss Policy Plan A for 4:00 PM Wednesday meeting time
      - i. Motion to accept by [Bruck]; 2nd [Stoehr]
      - ii. Motion Accepted, 1 Abstention, None Against
  - B. Request from Dr. Delaney-Fields regarding path forward on Ombuds position (Conn)
    - 1. Search in Fall 2024 for full time Ombuds
    - 2. In the meantime -- consider electing/appointing Interim Ombuds for spring semester to set up the search/office/parameters, etc.
      - i. Consideration of part-time faculty or full-time position, potentially retired faculty?
      - ii. Request for clarification on who is the designed person to report to
      - iii. Request for clarification on release time/stipend/compensation/training
  - C. Issue card/gift from senate for George Franks (update from George Day)
    - 1. Card distributed around the Faculty Senate room
  - D. Issues regarding Inter Library Loan (George Day)

1. Difficult to find the ILL option: <https://sfasu.libguides.com> (Jonathan Helmke)
2. Syllabi should be able to be found “within three clicks” - I found it here... but I was lucky: <https://orion.sfasu.edu/courseinformation/>
3. Request for Communications Committee to reach out to UMC regarding overhaul to restructure websites for clarity (THIS IS THE TIME, UTS Transition)

IX. Adjournment

- A. Motion: 1st [Wagner-Greene], 2<sup>nd</sup> [Davis]