

**Stephen F. Austin State University**  
Faculty Senate Agenda – Meeting #494  
Wednesday, December 6, 2023, 2:30 p.m. CST

**BEGIN RECORDING**  
[Files for December Meeting](#)

- 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		
McDermant, Rob (NRCB)	X		
Midgley, Herbert (CFA) (Parliamentarian)	X		
Mishra, Rajat (NRCB)			Chris McKenna
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. Respond to 360 Evals - Encourage constituents to respond
2. Strategic Enrollment Plan
  - a) Used to inform Academic Affairs Action Plan and Unmet Meets document
3. ORGS Updates
  - a) Stackable Scholarships: If a student is receiving state support (stipend through ORGS) and a scholarship, this should be stackable. In some cases, it hasn't been. This will be rectified. If LEAP is included is still up for debate. (NOTE: there is a new LEAP version coming)
  - b) Graduate Student Assembly - Headed by Dr. Lane
  - c) GRA - Deliverables will now be required, and it will now be required that they are advised by a member of the graduate faculty
  - d) GTA conversation to be handled by Dr. Lane
  - e) Grant Writing with Dr. Farago and team -- working to get consulting support for grant writing and what this could look like
  - f) ORGS may move to the library
4. Friday - Zoom meeting to discuss formatted offer letter for GRAs and GTAs - request for graduate faculty constituents to attend this meeting, 10 AM
5. Questions from Dean's Council Meeting -- there have been presentations on Workload Policies for this year although this policy is not up for review (Presentation by Hall on 11/1/23 on adjunct TLCs and Faculty Workload as ongoing topic)

### B. Lissy Turner, Staff Council

1. Dec 11 at 10 AM

## III. Transition to Senate business session (faculty only)<sup>1</sup>

## IV. Photos for website (10 minutes)

## V. Approval of minutes from meetings #493

- A. Request changes to #493:
- B. Motion to accept by [Causin]; 2nd [McCleary]

## VI. Officer Reports

### A. Chair (Conn)

1. Policy Committee + Chakravartty and Conn will meet with President and Provost next week for policy clarification - 12/14/23 at 1:30 PM
2. College of Fine Arts conversation on graduate courses going from 4.5 TLCs to 3 TLCs
3. Will notify the senate when the new FS website goes live. Please send feedback (if any) to Conn and she will gather for Roni Lias

### B. Chair Elect (Chakravartty)

1. Strategic Planning met to talk about amendment to the constitution regarding course release for Faculty Senate chair
2. Meet with Government Subcommittee to review the Senate Constitution to work it into the HOP
3. Faculty Advisory Council meeting in Austin typically have Chair, Chair-Elect and Past Chair, but SFA does not, so we are hoping to expand representation
4. Pursuing a venue for a faculty lounge

### C. Secretary (Straub)

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

1. New website update was shared
- D. Treasurer (Klein)
  1. Current balance: \$637.29
  2. Expected/outstanding debits/credits:
    - a) Budgeted travel of \$1248.71 (with differing travel expenses) so we have a deficit of \$114 - but this needs to be clarified. This is supposed to be covered by the Provost.
    - b) Need clarification on NTT Teaching Excellence Award moneys that we contribute and the name plates
    - c) Anticipated expenses for Axe Handles for out-going senators
- E. Committee Reports
  1. Internal Committees
    - a) Professional Welfare (Julie Bloxson\*, Eden Collins\*, Louise Stoehr, Rajat Mishra, Wenjing Li, Alexandra Martynova-Van Kley)
      - Report highlights: Approx. 300 responses
      - 55.4% Teaching (range 30-100%)
      - 26.46% Research (range 0-55%)
      - 18.15% Service (range 0-50%)
      - Reframe of Research Award to Scholarship Award
      - Preferred TLC load across 2 semesters: 18 TLCs (3x3 load)
      - Full report posted in Faculty Senate Teams for senate access
      - Use the report to answer Provost requested questions
        - Conversation comparing UT Tyler and UTRGV examples
      - UTS pressure to increase Research and Grant Funding, specifically NIH grants - but this is not appropriate based on current loads
    - b) Administration & Finance (Rebecca Davis\*, Michelle Klein, Lisa Bentley, Leland C. Thompson)
      - (1) Conducted report for averages across UTS for Associate and Full Professor salary increases - based on responses: \$4,400; \$7,200
      - (2) Prakesh - UT Dallas - shared that third year review, if successful is a \$1,000 raise. Promotion of NTT system faculty is \$1,500 for each rank increment
      - (3) COLA calculated as \$6,000; \$10,000
      - (4) Request for Policy Committee to rewrite [HOP 02-304](#) 7c needs to be reworked; could use this HOP as a template: [HOP 03-403](#)
      - (5) Frame the top items for Promotion raise either percentage or fixed amount - also require NTT input
    - c) Communication (Bailey Thompson\*, Sarah Straub, Ericka Hoagland, Hunter Hampton)
      - (1) No report
    - d) Elections (Mario Ajero\*, Rob McDermid, Bidisha Sengupta)
      - (1) Gathering feedback from Colleges re: election process
      - (2) Concerns re: NTT faculty elections procedures and constitutional limits; standing rules
      - (3) Investigate tech support required and develop a communication plan from Chair Conn for the following motion:
      - (4) Motion for open voting (NTT and TT can vote for each other within their College) and to update the Standing Rules to reflect this change.

- (a) Motion to accept by [Becnel]; 2nd [McDermand]
  - (b) Motion passes with 4 abstentions
- e) Ethics (Rebecca Kidd\*, Daniel McCleary, Tyler Welsh)
  - (1) Reviewed details of Ombuds position, on hold pending meeting with Dr. Delaney-Fields (coordinated by Chair Conn)
- f) Faculty Government & Involvement (Herb Midgley\*, George Day, Sarah Drake)
  - (1) No report
- g) Professional Welfare (Julie Bloxson\*, Eden Collins\*, Louise Stoeher, Rajat Mishra, Wenjing Li, Alexandra Martynova-Van Kley)
  - (1) Reported above
- h) Strategic Planning (Arye Chavravartty\*, CC Conn, Jeremy Becnel, Gina Fe Causin, Chris McKenna)
  - (1) Reported above
- i) Academic Affairs (Tori Wagner-Greene\*, Jake Walburn, Emily Payne, Sarah Straub)
  - (1) Report in University Committee below
- 2. University Committees - Reports from Faculty Senate Representative
  - a) Distance Education (Herb Midgley\*, Tyler Welsh, Daniel McCleary, Sarah Straub)
    - (1) Discussion on HOP 02-306 re: online teaching stipend. This is eliminated.
    - (2) New online proctoring vendor. Proctorio expires December 2023.
  - b) Student Wellness Task Force (Sarah Drake\*)
    - (1) No report
  - c) Grad Council (Chakravartty, ex officio)
    - (1) Graduate Student Council in development
  - d) Core Curriculum Assessment (Chakravartty, ex officio)
    - (1) No report
  - e) Ad Hoc Policy (HOP) Committee (Jason Bruck\*, Tori Wagner-Greene, Sarah Straub, Emily Payne, Jake Walburn, Perry Moon, George Day)
    - (1) Report in Old Business

VII. Session break  
 VIII. Old Business

- A. Policy Ad Hoc Committee moving forward on policy review process (Bruck)
  - 1. Meeting 2/14 @ 1:30 PM re: HOP Procedures
  - 2. Drafted letter to President, CCed Provost, April Smith and Damon Derrick re: Procedure around Academic Affairs policy based on UTS rules. Shared Senate vote on alternate procedure. Requested that no policy move through 4SP until a procedure is agreed upon.
  - 3. Current Deans have been reviewing drafts of Phased Retirement HOP, Academic Unit Head Salaries HOP
  - 4. Distance Ed policy is being explored by Distance Ed Committee with confirmation that it will go through 4SP
  - 5. Original Policies from pre-HOP have been added to Teams for cross referencing moving forward
  - 6. Appointments and Promotion/Tenure HOPS are in the Hopper pipeline right now
- B. Ombuds position - movement on clarification of position (Conn)
  - 1. Chair Conn to set a meeting with Dr. Delaney-Fields

- C. Interlibrary Loan Clarification on website (Communication Committee)
      - 1. No report
- IX. New Business
  - A. Grievance Panel - Regent's Rule 31008 (Conn)
    - 1. Faculty Senate needs to recommend 8 faculty members to serve on the Grievance Panel
    - 2. Request for Senators to supply two names of Associate/Full Professors/NTT per College by next Wednesday 12/14 to Chair Conn
      - a) ATCOFA - Leland Thompson
      - b) CLAA - George Day
      - c) \*CSM - Bidisha Sengupta
      - d) \*PCOE - Daniel McCleary
      - e) CFA - Eden Collins
      - f) NRCB - Becky Davis
  - B. Unmet Needs Feedback (Conn)
    - 1. Motion to create an ad hoc committee to review the [Unmet Needs](#) Document by February 2024
    - 2. Motion: 1st [Straub], 2<sup>nd</sup> [Bruck]
    - 3. Motion passes
    - 4. Committee Members:
      - a) ATCOFA - Rebecca Kidd
      - b) CLAA - George Day
      - c) CSM - Jason Bruck
      - d) PCOE - Sarah Straub\*
      - e) CFA - CC Conn
      - f) NRCB - TBD
  - C. OWLE Healthcare Examination (Conn)
    - 1. Tabled for January
- X. Adjournment
  - A. Motion: 1st [Wagner-Greene], 2<sup>nd</sup> [Causin]