

Faculty Senate Meeting

October 11, 2024

2:00 -4:00 p.m.

UC Oso 221

1. Meeting was called to order @ 2:03 pm

Attendance: see table

Senator	May 10	Aug 23	Sept 20	Oct 11						
Jennifer Anderson (Library)	X	x	x	x						
Jeanne Birdwell (COEHD)	X	x	x	x						
Mara Barbosa (CLA)	X	x	x	x						
Isla Schuchs Carr (CLA)	X	x	x	x						
Tianxing Chu (COE)	0	x	x	x						
Susan DeGhize (SAMC)	X	x	x	x						
Alihan Hadimlioglu (COE)	X	x	x	x						
Catherine Harrel (CONHS)	X	x	x	x						
Yu-Shan Huang (COB)	0	x	x	x/Z						
James Ikonomopoulos (COEHD)	X	0	x	x						
Taoran Ji (COE)	X	x	x	x/Z						
Timothy Johnson (CLA)	X	x	x	0						
Ahmed Kamara (COB)	X	0	x	x						
Zhaorui Li (COE)	0	x	x	x						
Kevin Loeffler (SAMC)	0	x	0	0						
Cherie McCullough (COS)	X	0	0	0						
Judy Metcalf (COS)	X	0	x	x						

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

Other: Kevin Houlihan, Allie Kelly & Kelly Bezio (AAUP), Michelle Hollenbaugh, David Ramcharan, Shay Lee (Senate admin support)

2. Agenda: Motion to approve Agenda by Senator Shelton second by Senator Metcalf
 - a. Approved unanimously, no additions
3. Guest Speaker: Mary Mahan (EPIC—Employee Development Event), Chau Hoang (Career & Professional Development Center).
 - a. EPIC – professional development meeting used to be CLIMB, have incorporated into EPIC, moved from spring to fall, Full schedule available at tamucc.edu/epic
 - i. Course for faculty , offering wide variety (Canvas, FERPA, Univ software, Interfolio, Research compliance, AI CPR, are just a few topics).
 - ii. Slides are available in teams
 - iii. RSVP for mixer, no registration for sessions (except for CPR – link on website)
 - b. Career & Professional Development Center
 - i. Offer one stop information – resume, interviewing, skills, etc
 - ii. Flyer distributed with Fall event dates
 - iii. Serve as bridge between students, employers, our campus stakeholders
 - iv. Offer classroom presentations, encourage early engagement

- v. Encourage faculty to help spread the word about resources & services available
4. Approval of September minutes
 - a. Motion to approve minutes by Senator Hadimlioglu, Second by Senator Omoruyi
 - b. No Discussion
 - c. Approved unanimously
 5. Speakers Report: Speaker Schuchs Carr/Deputy Speaker Johnson
 - One outcome of my experience in interviewing candidates for the provost search was that we really lack clear strategic decision-making linked to data (at least data made available to us), including budget information. I have discussed this with Provost Rudowsky and she plans to work with senate on this.
 - The College of Education and Human Development Dean search is in the planning stages (provost has met with WittKeifer, is putting together the committee). The provost will chair this committee and hopes to have it officially underway within the next two weeks.
 - There will also be a College of Science Dean search committee formed soon.
 - Changes to Workload language not practice-
 - This is a reporting issue only at this stage—technically 15 hours is full time (per semester/ 30 per nine-month period). Tenure-track faculty get a three hours per semester research release, and then colleges give tenure track faculty an additional three to six hours per semester case release. There was currently not a way of accurately reporting the university’s support of research in the three hour per semester release. This has to do with external reporting, there is no practical change that impacts faculty currently. Down the line, this could be an option for tenure track faculty who are put on post-tenure review improvement plans—they could switch to a lower research load and teach a four/four potentially—but that is not why this is changing now.
 - Follet/textbook adoption issues update:
 - Faculty should be allowed to order an older edition of a textbook without Follet overriding their order, but it might mean students would only be able to prepay/preorder in those instances.
 - Canvas Issues update:
 - Going back and forth between DLAI and IT at the moment, no update yet, but here were the issues identified:
 - Why don’t we have the big blue button option in Canvas?
 - Is there any resolution to the grade transfer to SAIL issue yet?
 - How do we copy from a previously taught Canvas course to another section. For example, if we taught a class this summer and will teach it again next summer or two summers from now—how can we copy that. Is there a way to copy it to a sandbox so we can use that as a shareable shell within our academic program?
 - Is there a solution to the issue about protecting the identify of graders? Can generic accounts be created for student graders hired by large lecture courses to allow for anonymity from the student view, but still allow accountability to the faculty member/institution? For example, POLS2506 G01, POLS2506 G02, etc.
 - Has there been a solution regarding assigning groups of students within a course an assignment (paper topic A, B, C—each with different deadlines), that allow each student to make a submission (other than one submission per group) that does not require faculty entering an individual assignment for each individual student?
 - Exploring a Faculty Code of Conduct as a solution to collegiality/professionalism
 - College Station Faculty Senate is currently drafting one that will be housed in their Academic Freedom procedure
 - Others Texas higher education institutions reported having one in their faculty handbook

- Any feedback from FS report sent out after the last meeting?
- Strategies to educate about FS benefits and role
- Review changes to catering order
- Budget—finalized from AA Business Office—but still waiting on allocated amounts/details

Suggestions of ways to increase shared governance based on TCFS

- Increase engagement and communication between President's Cabinet/Provost's Council/Deans' Council and faculty
- Provosts meet twice a month with Faculty Senate/FSEC
- More alignment between FS committees and divisions (VP from each division should have a relevant senate committee)

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Upcoming Speakers

- November—Provost Rudowsky—CUPA, Missy Chapa—Calendar Process
- December—President Miller, the first 30 minutes
 - Remember to type questions in the document inside this year's meeting folder

Report written and given by TAMU-CC Faculty Senate Speaker Dr. Isla Schuchs Carr

6. Committee Reports

- a. Academic Affairs – Senator Pizzitola (on zoom)
 - i. Next meeting Oct 15, big meeting in November
- b. Awards, Bylaws, & Elections – Senator Oldham
 - i. Minnie Piper Stevens Award deadline today, will be meeting soon to review applications
 - ii. Oct 21 opening for faculty excellence awards
- c. Budget Analysis – Senators Perez
 - i. Will be scheduling meeting soon to review objectives and meet with new CFO
 - ii. FSEC recommended to Provost that committee chair be added to University Budget Committee
- d. Committee on Committees – Senators Pattison/Ricard
 - i. Faculty Satisfaction surveys – ready, plan to have FSEC review before launch at start of November; encourage faculty to participate
- e. Faculty Affairs – Senator Hadimlioglu
 - We are introducing a new procedure in the Senate meeting on 10/11/2024:
 - **01.01.99.C0.01, Review and Approval of University Rules and Procedures**
 - Section 9 was added at PC's request to clarify handbook review/revision requirements.
 - Note – this recently went through the full review process, so only the revisions to section 9 are open for comment at this time.
 - This procedure is in the General Senate Teams folder for the October 11 meeting under the subfolder "Procedures to Introduce."
 - The Faculty Affairs Committee completed the review of the following procedures on October 8, 2024:
 - 11.10.99.C0.01, Development of Academic Degree Programs
 - 11.10.99.C0.02, Development of Certificate Programs
 - 11.10.99.C0.03, Development of Courses and Catalog Revisions
 - 11.10.99.C0.04, Distance Education Programs
 - 11.10.99.C0.05, Substantive Change
 - 12.99.99.C0.05, Faculty Authored Textbooks
 - 31.08.01.C1, Faculty and Staff Emeritus

- 33.06.01.C0.01, Flexible Work Arrangements
- Upon review, the committee provided specific comments and concerns regarding language, consistency, and ambiguities. Once the changes were performed and the language clarified, the committee approved drafts of the seven procedures; a synopsis of changes is provided in the Faculty Senate Teams folder. Seven of the procedures are ready for final Senate approval.
- For the “Distance Education Programs,” as the associate provost is going to provide responses to the questions we raised, it would be appropriate to receive the comments before bringing the procedure to the Senate. Consequently, we will get it to the Senate in November.
- We will complete our review and bring the procedures 11.10.99.C0.04, Distance Education Programs, and 01.01.99.C0.01, Review and Approval of University Rules and Procedures to the Senate in November.
- This concludes my report, and I would now like to call for a vote to approve the procedures presented by the Faculty Affairs Committee.

Approval for 7 procedures above passed with one abstention

7. Liaison Reports

- a. CPIRA
 - a. Meeting next week
- b. Graduate Council
 - a. No report
- d. AAUP
 - a. Oct 17 meeting scheduled on Zoom – nonpartisan view of what’s in store for Texas Higher Ed in 2025; encourage all to speak to elected officials
 - b. New statement on DEI faculty Evaluation statement – overview of why DEI is helpful in Higher Ed, link included
 - c. AAUP is resource for faculty
- d. Expressive Activities Committee
 - a. Jennifer Anderson – no report
- e. University Committee on Committees
 - a. review of councils ongoing
- f. Staff Council Liaison Report (given by TAMU-CC Faculty Senate Speaker Dr. Isla Schuchs Carr)
 - Day of Giving sign-up to begin soon (event will be December 3rd)
 - Halloween Break in the Day has been announced (group Costume Contest, individual pumpkin painting contest, lunch)
 - Plans for a sports bar and grill to be built in the UC (room where early voting used to take place prior to 2020, connected to patio), also a “WaWa-style” kiosk convenience store in the Cove.
 - Discussion about the adoption of an anonymous feedback link

8. Ex Officio Reports

- a. Interim Provost Cate Rudowsky (not here)
 - a. Will present a detailed report on CUPA at Nov meeting
- b. Ombuds Deborah Sibilis (not present)
 - a. Working on annual report
- c. Chief Information Officer David Ramcharan
 - a. Working on grade transfer

9. Old Business
 - a. none
10. New Business

11. For the good of the order
 - a. none

12. Motion to adjourn Senator Metcalf, second by Senator Oldham, all approve
 - a. Meeting adjourned @ 3:33

Senate Committees (*Committee Chair(s))

Academic Affairs

Kevin Loeffler (SAMC)

Lori Podolsky (MJBL)

Scott Johnson (CLA)

Ahmed Kamara (COB)

Felix Omoruyi (CNHS)

Robin Pissitola-Chair
(COEHD)

James Ikonomopoulos
(COEHD)

Val Murgulet (COS)

Zhaorui Li (COECS)

ABE

Tom Oldham (SAMC)*

Tianxing Chu (COECS)

Matthew Starliper (COB)

Leigh Shaver (CNHS)

Jeanine Birdwell (COEHD)

COC

Dale Pattison (Fall)*

Taoran Ji (COECS)

Ed Proffitt (COS)

Ric Ricard (COEHD) (Spring)*

Budget

Brian Shelton (SAMC)

Miguel Perez (CNHS)*

Rabih Zeidan (COB)*

Ahmed Kamara (COB)

Cherie McCollough
(COS)

Faculty Affairs

Susan DeGhizé (SAMC)

Zhaorui Li (COECS)

Alihan Hadimlioglu (COECS)*

Jennifer Anderson (MJBL)

Mara Barbosa (CLA)

Sandy Huang (COB)

Cathy Harrel (CNHS)

Ric Ricard (COEHD)

Judy Metcalf (COS)

Executive committee

Senator	academic unit	position
Isla Schuchs Carr	CLA	Speaker
Timothy Scott Johnson	CLA	Deputy Speaker
Cathy Harrel	CNHS	Secretary
Judy Metcalf	COS	Parliamentarian
Robin Johnson	COEHD	Chair of Academic Affairs Committee
Tom Oldham	SAMC	Chair ABE
Dale Pattison	CLA	Co-Chair of Committee on Committees (Fall only)
Ric Ricard	COEHD	Co-Chair of Committee on Committees (Spring only)
Miguel Perez	CNHS	Co-Chair of Budget Committee
Alihan Hadimlioglu	COECS	Chair of Faculty Affairs Committee
Jennifer Anderson	MJBL	representative

University committee assignments for FS:

Campus Wellness Committee	Judy Metcalf	Voting Member
Committee on Committees	Dale Pattison	Ex-Officio (voting)

Council of Principal Investigators and Research Administrators (CPIRA)	Taoran Ji	Non-Voting Member
Ethics and Compliance Committee	Isla Schuchs Carr	Ex-Officio (voting)
Expressive Activity Committee	Jennifer Anderson	Voting Member
Graduate Council	Ed Proffitt	Non-Voting Member
Honorary Degree Recommendation Panel	Isla Schuchs Carr	Ex-Officio (voting)
Institutional Effectiveness Committee for Academic Units	Isla Schuchs Carr	Ex-Officio (voting)
Staff Council	Isla Schuchs Carr	Ex-Officio (non-voting)
Strategic Planning Council	Isla Schuchs Carr	Ex-Officio (voting)
Student Success Council	Jeanine Birdwell	Voting Member
Transportation Advisory Committee		Voting Member

Submitted by Cathy Harrel

Secretary Faculty Senate