

Faculty Senate Meeting
Thursday, April 18, 2019
UC Ballroom
Call to order: 12:30 PM
Adjourned: 1:55 PM

Senate Members Present: Amanda Hall; Catherine Ross; Christina Forisha; Colin Snider; Gary Miller; Gina Doepker; John Lamb; Joseph Glavy; Kathleen Helgesen; Sarah Norrell; Sarah Sass; Sooh Park; Venu Gopalakrishna-Remani; Wycliffe Njororai

Faculty & Staff in Attendance: James Bonnette; Gracy Buentello; Julie Delello; Rebecca Fernandez; Jimi Francis; Michael Gangone; Kim Harvey-Livingston; Amy Hayes; Rick Helpers; Wes Hickey; Cheryl Parker; Lynette Sutter; Colleen Swain; Rahmat Talukder

Faculty, Staff, and Senator Zoom Participants (who provided full names in Zoom): Suzanne Abbey; Greg Brandenburg; Kerrie Anne Ambort Clark; Vandy Dubre; Margo Duncan; Terra Gullings; Rachael Thornell; Lauralee Meyer; Janet Robertson; Ross Sherman; Scott Spier; Cindy Strawn; Michael Veronin

Invited Guest Speakers in Attendance: Michael McGinnis; Amir Mirmiran; Howard Patterson; Michael Tidwell; Ona Tolliver

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| 12:00 p.m. | Lunch | Lynette Sutter |
| 12:30 p. m. | Call to Order | Wycliffe Njororai Simiyu |
| 12:35 | Approval of March Meeting Minutes | Sarah Sass |
| 12:36 | Update from Vice President for Student Success | Ona Tolliver |
- Division of Student Success updates were provided
- An overview of the office and functions was provided (see presentation)
 - So far this year student success has hosted over 310 student-focused events
 - Will be launching a student engagement platform in the Fall
 1. Launching a badging system (e.g., serve on a committee, doing an internship, etc. Departments/colleges think about ways we can connect with this. Josh Neaves is working on)
 2. Important Dates coming up reviewed (see slides)
 - For full presentation, see slides on Faculty Senate website.
- Q:* Where are we on CAP students, will they continue to come? *A:* Yes.
- Q:* how to promote engagement for students online and satellite students? *A:* Faculty Senate will hear from advisory committee for student life – how to best do it? Through Zoom, Canvas. Something working on and open to suggestions.
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| 12:50 | Updates from the Provost's Office | Amir Mirmiran |
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- New Dean of Soules COB is Dr. Beatty - will join July 1.
 - On-boarded executive director of library - Dr. Johnson

- Ms. Martinez – Executive Director of International Programs
- Ms. Howard – new director of Longview campus June 1.
- Search ongoing for CEP Dean
- We will have a search for Associate Provost for Research and Scholarship
- Research office updates: 5 applications for FDL; 3 of 5 were awarded. Awardees can come back and share experiences.
- Internal grant awardees should be announced by first week of June.
- This is research month- April 23 is Celebration of Research and Scholarship at 12:30
- May 9-10 East Texas Research Conference
- Initiatives we have not yet utilized. Bring a scholar to campus (scholar in residence). This is a faculty and students lecture series – through colleges or faculty senate – propose ideas to bring in speakers. We want to have a lecture series for the benefit of faculty and students. Cowan Distinguished Lecture Series is more for community
- Earlier this month we were recognized by Higher Education Coordinating Board to be 1 of 4 universities recognized for student success. We were the only one to show improvement in 6 of the 8 categories.
- Would like faculty to think about: What do I do in my own class to make sure student success equals faculty success. What do we need to do? Take attendance, provide support, etc. We've had departments do that this year; but at the same time the Provost would like to encourage us to translate that into our own classroom in terms of student success.

President Updates:

Michael Tidwell

- TJC can offer 4 year degrees. Remember that TJC is a partner not a competitor. We each serve a purpose in the region. A new president will arrive at TJC this summer.
- We will be starting a lecture series – focus of it will be Heads of State – want to bring in heads of state for faculty, staff, and students – similar to what we have for lecture series but far more student and faculty centric; joint partnership of SGA and Faculty senate president approximately January 2020
- Academy of distinguished teachers – work out a way the academy could have an activity here about teaching

1:27 Updates from UT FAC

John Lamb

- This is John's last year on FAC. Elections will be soon for faculty senator at large, and this at-large rep will serve on FAC for 3 years.
- Free Speech – John drafted a comparison between the Princeton statement and where it aligns with UTT and current regent's rules; very little differences; we have a UTT ad hoc group that will look at statement on free speech. If interested in joining, the ad hoc committee will be meeting the week of the 25th
- President selection at UT-El Paso. Regents will make the selection.
- Formula funding for UTT positive through legislature.

1:36p Athletics Advisory Committee –

McGinnis/Patterson

- Oversight committee in terms of athletics
- Transition to D2 timeline – year zero is the application year and we are finishing year 1. At this point we aren't allowed to give scholarships or go to playoffs. By year 4 we could be eligible for playoffs. In the meantime, UTT teams are doing well

- We will have a visit – like accreditation, where we can show NCAA and consultant what we are doing and they can give us advice to get better. This is a helpful process.

1:45 Announcements including:

Faculty and Staff Awards

Colin Snider

- Will be Monday 11:30-1:30 in the UC Ballroom – 300 registered so far, wear work attire

Strategic Plan Student Success Initiatives' Showcase Sarah Sass

- Will be April 25 – 12:30-2; in the bottom floor of the UC –near welcome desk

Organizational Culture Survey: Next Steps

Wycliffe

- Need to discuss processes to reflect more on operations

Other announcements

Lyceum – need extra poster judges, show up Friday at 1:30 Amy Hayes

1:55 Adjourn