

The University of Texas at Tyler

Office of the Faculty Senate

Thursday September 15, 2022

12:33-1:40 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting

Recording with captions is available at:

https://uttyler.zoom.us/rec/share/THHJ-MyHvfPoalxol9zvQtpOMNqO9kaNoTFfISjL43fQad_h2CCc7d-UNEQp1PDN.7BCeaFJdz2eQDQ6g

Passcode: xz@H?4*5

Attendees: (*Senator)

Zoom: Kerrie Anne Ambort-Clark, Joshua Banta, Pamela Beall, Lou Ann Berman, Mohammad (Rafe) Biswas*, Hannah Buchanan, Brenda Burton, Kirk Calhoun, Vanessa Casanova, Christina Chatman, Brittany Childs, Yonjoo Cho*, Devon Churchill, Bonnie Davis, Coby Dillard, Scott Dillingham, Gina Doepker, Margo Duncan, Kimberly Elliott*, Jessica Escareno*, Christine Forisha, Lori Fregoso*, Julie George*, Chung Hyun Goh*, Marti Halbrook, Rachel Harrington, Lisa Jett, Lauri John, Pamela Jones, Vicki Jowell, Forrest Kaiser*, Shashi Kant, Mike Kennedy, Lauren Kirby*, Heshium Lawrence, Peggye Mahfood, Becky McKay, Rachel McWhorter*, Ryan Menard*, Michael Morris*, Stephen Myers, Kim Nimon, Cheryl Parker, Julie Phillee, Kathryn Ramirez, Patricia Royal, Cindy Rutledge, Michael Skinner*, Saren Spicer, Katie Stone, Cindy Strawn, Cree Summerville, Woonhee Sung, Christopher Thomas*, Ona Tolliver, Michael Vick, Lisa Wyatt, Caroline Zito

In Person: Santosh Aryal*, Vandy Dubre*, Ayman Hamouda*, Richard Helfers*, Premananda Indic*, Harrison Ndetan*, Vivek Pandey*, Sarah Roberts*, Dixie Rose*, Matthew Stith*, Joseph Vandehey*, Staci Zolkoski*, Barbara Ross Woolridge*, Amentahru Walrab*, Colleen Swain, Dominik Fazarro, Sarah Norrell, P. Kumar, Gina Nickels-Nelson, Janice Hawes, Sarah Sass, Belinda Deal, Kent Willis, Tina Melamed, Yvonne Ralph, Erin West, Jeffrey Howlett, Mark Stark, Andy Krouse, Stephanie Fenter

AGENDA

12:33 Welcome and Call to Order/Invocation – Dr. Harrison Ndetan, Faculty Senate President

12:35 Approval of July minutes – Dr. Julie George, Faculty Senate Secretary

12:39 President updates – Dr. Kirk Calhoun

- Board of Regents Meeting Update:
 - Final Budget approved; valuable additional resources provided to assist with inflation and to help better balance the budget; hope to help with daycare, remodeling projects, and UA update
 - Approved plans to update heating and cooling plant so we can become more efficient and cost effective; now able to design plan for implementation and update needed equipment
 - School of Nursing building project funding approved

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- Allocated \$100 million for School of Medicine for capital improvements/construction costs for medical school building
- In November BOR meeting: present design plans for physical plant/HVAC, School of Nursing, School of Medicine
- In February BOR meeting: present design for new Science Building
- Medical School update:
 - Interviews have started for admissions and committee is sorting through large number of applicants
 - Facilities: Have space for first two incoming classes in current buildings and medical center facilities before the medical school building is completed in the medical center
- IT: still working to combine to one email system; work in progress to hopefully have systems merged into one by end of year; other goals are looking for ways to improve security
- Parking:
 - Group is working on parking issues; now the number of permits vs number of spaces is a surplus-however, the locations of spaces are the issue
 - Discussion about cost of spaces for building lots (\$7K/space) vs parking garage (\$20K/space) and subsequent parking costs
 - Engaging all stakeholders for ideas/dialogue/input before developing the most appropriate plan
- Dwain: Budget process
 - Seeking ways to create more transparency in the budget planning process; won't happen overnight
 - Needs for planning to start in January for next academic year
 - Planning process and communication are keys to success

12:55 EVP of Health Affairs and Vice Provost updates – Dr. Julie Philley

- As President mentioned, received \$100 million for capital improvements for medical school
- \$5 million gift to provide second incoming medical school class with full tuition
- \$1 million gift to help fund pipeline programs
- School of Nursing: CCNE accreditation self-study complete and submitted; site visit 10/19-21
- College of Pharmacy: Med-Review due 10/1; team has been working to complete Self study
- Dr. Emmanuel (Manny) Elueze has assumed the role of Interim Dean of COP
- David Barron and team, as well as marketing, are focusing on ways to increase enrollment

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- Progressing on building graduate medical programs for residencies in a range of specialties; starting a gastrointestinal and cardiopulmonary critical care programs; expect 250 residents locally by 2025
- School of Health Professions and College of Pharmacy dean searches are underway; expect to be able to report back progress next month

1:00 Office of Research and Scholarship and Graduate School updates – Drs. Steve Idell/Kouider Mokhtari

- Goal to increase graduate enrollment by 11%/year within 5 years
- **Patriot Admit:** UT Tyler streamlined the admissions process to allow current undergraduate students and alumni to pursue graduate degrees through a fast-track Patriot-Admit application review process. Eligible UT Tyler students and alumni who have at least a 3.00 Cumulative GPA will be exempt from the graduate application fee and the GRE/GMAT. Additionally, a statement of purpose and letters of recommendation will be waived. Students and alumni interested in Patriot-Admit should consult with their academic advisor or department chair for additional program eligibility requirements, particularly for those programs that have professional accreditation eligibility criteria.
- **4+1 Admissions:** The 4+1 admissions process will allow eligible students currently enrolled in participating programs to enroll in up to 9 semester credit hours of graduate coursework during their senior year. While departments set their own admission requirements and policies, 4+1 students will be expected to have at least a 3.00 Cumulative GPA, a faculty recommendation, and approvals from the department chair, academic dean, and graduate school dean.
- 4+1 Students will pay the undergraduate tuition rate for the approved 4+1 graduate courses and the reduced time to complete a graduate degree will provide additional cost savings.
- Students interested in the 4+1 Program should consult with their academic advisor or department chair for additional program eligibility requirements, particularly for those programs that have professional accreditation eligibility criteria.
- The effective date for both initiatives is Fall 2023 to ensure interested students and alumni have time to plan with academic advisors and faculty.
- The Provost's Office is working on the internal procedures for faculty and deans to identify programs that will participate in 4+1 Admissions.
- All graduate programs will be included in Patriot Admit but may "opt-out" if programmatic accreditation admissions requirements preclude participation.
- For more information on either the Patriot Admit or 4+1 Graduate Admissions, contact Dr. Kent Willis, Assistant Vice President, Research and Associate Dean, Graduate School at kwillis@ut Tyler.edu or 903-566-7457

1:06 University Master Plan Updates – Dr. Andrew Krouse/Blake Curtis

- Focus of plan: to improve the quality of the environment in and around campus

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- Multiple conversations to be had with different stakeholders to determine most pressing needs
- Plan to be divided into three parts:
- 0-5 years
- 5-10 years
- >10 years
- Desire to be practical, reasonable, and consider cost
- Questions from the floor:
 - Re: sidewalk issue; discussed connectivity, which is a big focus for the 0-5 year plan, considering both pedestrian and vehicular traffic flow
 - Re: access to Soules-trying to get in and out, especially on Tuesday/Thursday and in the morning/evening is dangerous; discussed talks with the City of Tyler, TxDOT about ways to improve flow and are actively investigating how to improve traffic flow

1:11 Academic Affairs Updates - Mr. Joshua Neaves

- Student engagement is all our responsibility
- Discussed how to engage transfer students
 - Now all students will pay the orientation fee and there is an orientation for transfer students to engage them in campus life
- Since 8/15, 184 engagements with over 2,115 unique individuals
- Upcoming events: Hispanic Heritage Month kick-off; Patriot Days starts 10/23, ends with chili cook-off 10/29
- Staff Updates:
 - Tareka Payne, Director of Student Diversity and Inclusion in Center of Unity
 - Samantha Cockrell, Assistant Director of Student Engagement and Transition Programs
 - VACANCY: New Student Programs Coordinator
 - Cameron Long, Parent Coordinator
 - Camry Tharp, Assistant Director of Student Engagement
 - VACANCY: Campus Activities Coordinator
- Provided overview of last year's engagement:
 - Included 1,087 events hosted even with covid restrictions
 - 17,589 check-ins
 - 3,879 individuals
 - 88 Student organizations (hoping to increase this), over 2,000 involved in at least one group
 - Great online presence: lots of web traffic in Patriots Engage
 - Increased international impact in Patriots Engage

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- Encouraged all departments to use Patriots Engage for school/college events for check-ins so we can have a better understanding of student engagement in activities; can also help us work on retention efforts; if need more assistance with this, reach out to getconnected@uttyler.edu or jneaves@uttyler.edu

1:22 Career Success Conference – Mark Stark, Career Success Coach, COE

- Career Success Conference 10/22
- Goal to connect students to employers
- 150 Employers coming to campus for event
- 250 people coming to volunteer time
- Encourage students to attend and network with employers and others in their field
- Please sign up to help-both faculty and staff needed
- Career Closet now available: taking donations of professional dress for students to have clothing for interviews

1:31 Faculty Senate Updates – Dr. Harrison Ndetan

- Thanks to those who served on senate/committees last year and those who are serving this year
- Congratulations to Dr. Sass, past president, on her interim dean appointment. Rick Helfers stepping back in to help in the past president role for the year
- Discussed Senate priorities for the year:
 - Enhanced communication among schools/colleges: will be discussing victories/challenges in senator only meetings
 - Committees: University committee list posted; will also be discussing committee work being done in senator only meetings
 - Examining HOP issues: streamlining processes, especially for unusual situations that arise (i.e. Dr. Sass's move to interim dean, which precludes her from senate work); specifically examining 3.6.0 and 3.3.6
 - Faculty Compensation Committee: Barbara Woolridge to chair; need someone from each school/college to serve; charged with looking at national salaries in each discipline and continuing the salary discussion
 - Wellness Committee: Send initiatives for this committee to Cathy Ross, Kim Livingston-Cobb, or Belinda Deal; see website www.uttyler.edu/wellness

1:48 Adjourn