

The University of Texas at Tyler
Office of the Faculty Senate

Thursday April 21, 2022

12:30-1:34 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting

Recording with captions is available at:

https://uttyler.zoom.us/rec/share/IDK-MgtX5tWQYSEfmghLFOV124-Tzc5xQXaihbr4ws5y2WsXWsVL4AG4jq_3n1tD.cKm9aXpu8tJxrbfl

Attendees:

Zoom: Kerrie Anne Ambort-Clark, Cynthia Ball, Yonjoo Cho, Kimberly Elliott, Janet Gehring, Christy Gipson, Lynn Harris, Genita Harris, Steve Idell, Heshium Lawrence, Thom Maryon, Sonja Morale, Michael Morris, Cathy Ross, Buka Samten, Woonhee Sung, Paula Tate, Chris Thomas, Takova Wallace-Gay, Erin West.

In Person: Gisele Abron, Lorri Allen, Christian Alvarado, Joshua Banta, Tamie Bay, Sydney Blundell, Hannah Buchanan, Gracy Buentello, Kirk Calhoun, Brittany Childs, Belinda Deal, Julie Delello, Scott Dillingham, Jessica Escareño, Steph Fenter, Mary Fischer, Christine Forisha, Crystal Frazier, Ericka Freeman, Livia Garza, Richard Helfers, Brista Hurst-Kent, Premananda Indic, Lauri John, Richard Kenney, Deena King, Lauren Kirby, Andy Krouse, Gerald Ledlow, Jeffrey Levin, Kim Livingston-Cobb, Mary Logan, Cynthia Martinez, Colleen Marzilli, Becky McKay, Harrison Ndetan, Kim Nimon, Jeff Noblitt, Sarah Norrell, Angela Nunez, Chery Parker, Julie Philley, Sarah Sass, Cindy Scott, Ryan Shartau, Matthew Stith, Katie Stone, Paul Streufert, Colleen Swain, Amentahru Wahrab, Gwen Williams, Barbara Wooldridge, Staci Zolkoski.

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AGENDA

12:30

Welcome and Call to Order

Dr. Sarah Sass

12:34

Approval of March Meeting Minutes

Dr. Joshua Banta

- Approved at 12:36

12:37

President's Update

Dr. Kirk Calhoun

- Graduation preparations are happening. The goal is to make the ceremony brisk so that the focus is on the students.
- Funding is being acquired for many building projects, pending approvals from the Board of Regents:
 - Remodeling the library for handicapped accessibility
 - A new nursing building
 - A new science building
 - Parking to accommodate growth
 - Medical school building
 - The School of Nursing and others can use space as well as needed
- Thank you to everyone who participated in Patriot Pride Day. It was a significant recruiting effort and several families put down deposits.
- While enrollment on our campus is steady, we need to focus on growing our graduate programs and on retention. With new enrollment and transfer students we are doing great.
- Dr. Calhoun has heard there are problems with the Evergreen salary study and that some people would like to use something different. For now, Dr. Calhoun will use the Evergreen numbers, but later on, people can offer other metrics that they feel are more accurate.
- Dr. Calhoun believes we need to get "the formula" (funds from the state per student) increased. The TX budget is in a good position, so now may be a good time. It is on his radar.
- The School of Pharmacy does not receive state funds, so this is making our cost of attendance for our pharmacy program much higher than other state schools, and Dr. Calhoun believes that this needs to be fixed.
- We are moving forward with a child care facility. It will cost \$1.5 million to remodel. Dr. Calhoun will ask the legislature.

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12:59

Provost's update

Dr. Amir Mirmiran

- Dr. Julie Delello, Professor and Director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, will be returning to her faculty position in the fall. Dr. Mirmiran thanks her for her leadership in this program since 2016 when it was founded. It has expanded significantly during that time:
 - Many workshops every year with many faculty participating
 - Added student writing and work-life balance working groups
 - Spearheaded a Master of Education in Learning Technology
 - Procured a faculty development space in the library
- Search for Associate Provost for Online Continuing Education is ongoing. The committee is screening candidates (50) and will bring finalists to campus.
- The “committee on committees” is doing their work to streamline committees.
- Please include the Career Success Conference in your syllabi in the fall, and give your students off from class on that day to attend. The conference is still looking for speakers. If you know any good alumni to recommend, please do so.
- The UT System is considering extending the COVID accommodations for tenure and promotion by one additional year.
- The waiver of the SAT/ACT requirement is being extended by one year.

1:06

Health Campus update

Dr. Julie Philley, Executive Vice President for Health Affairs

- The university is working on its vision for Health Affairs. The Health Affairs deans (Nursing, Pharmacy, School of Medicine, Health Professions) met this morning and will continue meeting monthly.
- The medical school
 - Will consist of a 200,000 square-foot building downtown.
 - Will have a shared faculty space including a faculty lounge available to all faculty who are working downtown.
 - Dr. Willis (Dean of the School of Medicine) is busy hiring new faculty
 - Soon there will be a website for medical school applications. They are expecting thousands of applications for the 40 slots.

1:08

Landry Smith

Incoming Student Government Association President

- Landry is a Jr./Sr. History major
- He will meet with faculty and staff senate presidents once per month
- He will be continuing a lot of the initiatives of his predecessor, including:

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- The Wellness Initiative
- The Safety and Accessibility Walk (this will be extended to other campuses as well)

1:11

Andrew Pettee, Assistant Vice President and Dean of Students

Dr. Thomas Maryon, Assistant Professor

Department of Healthcare Policy, Economics, and Management

- Dean Pettee:
 - Academic dishonesty
 - We are building a culture of academic integrity by taking a proactive approach to academic dishonesty
 - Last year, there were 100 academic dishonesty reports.
 - This is in line with national trends, where there was an uptick attributed to the pandemic
 - This year, there were 57 reports.
 - CARE
 - Dean Pettee invites you to reach out. Of 480 CARE reports, 80% come from faculty and 20% come from non-faculty.
 - He thanks us for helping to handle delicate situations. Students are seeking resources and this will positively impact retention.
- Dr. Maryon:
 - Talked about an academic integrity initiative started in his School of Community and Rural Health that is being expanded campus-wide:
 - A working group which has been established.
 - This includes librarian involvement.
 - The development of faculty training modules and student training modules.
 - He wants to prototype them on Canvas to get feedback. The focus right now is on plagiarism but this can be expanded.
 - Dr. Idell pointed out synergy between these modules and CITI (RCR) training modules that cover similar topics.
 - Streamlining procedures for responding to academic integrity.
 - Assessments:
 - Assessment of what concerns students have about writing (the origination of a lot of the academic integrity reports). The idea to understand how this contributes to academic integrity issues.
 - Assessment of how integrating technology into the workspace (e.g., more online content) contributes to student challenges with writing
 - Assessment of the training itself

1:28

Office of Research and Scholarship

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Dr. Steve Idell, Executive Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School
Dr. Kouider Mokhtari, Associate Vice President for Research and Associate Dean of the Graduate School

- Dr. Idell:
 - Internal grants have been awarded. Seven out of 16 proposals were funded. Letters are going out now. Those rejected are being encouraged to reapply.
 - Faculty recruiting is going well. Outstanding candidates in CAS and COE are applying to the UT System for start-up packages.
 - Graduate recruitment is ongoing. There are boots on the ground to tell people about our programs. Dr. Idell encourages us to spread the word and spread our passion about our graduate programs.

1:30

Faculty Senate President update

Dr. Sarah Sass

- Senators are planning a conversation with the President, Provost, and ORS about shared governance and now that we are merged/R2, how research is valued and defined and discuss any changes in our T&P and hiring processes
- Dr. Amentahru Wahlrab is our President-Elect for 2022-2023
- Our at-large senator election will be conducted in May; Treasurer and Secretary elections this summer after we have the new senator list from colleges and schools
- Senators- please look at the University committee list in advance of our May 12th Senator's only meeting
- **Lyceum** is tomorrow! Schedule posted
- **May 2nd 12-1:30**– Faculty and Staff Awards ceremony- Thank you to Dr. Nathan Smith (Faculty Affairs) and Sydni Blundell (Staff Senate) for co-organizing this event – please RSVP!
- Climate survey is out – please fill it out!
- Career Success Conference on Thursday, October 20, 2022 from 8a-3:30p – please include in Fall syllabi

1:30

Dr. Paul Streufert

Founding Director of the Honors College

- The Lyceum is tomorrow on the 3rd floor of the University Center, from 9:00AM – 3:00PM. Please come if you are able and give the students your time, focus, and attention.

1:34 Adjournment