

The University of Texas at Tyler

Office of the Faculty Senate

Thursday July 15, 2021
12:30-1:40 p.m.
Zoom Meeting

AGENDA

- 12:30** **Welcome and Call to Order** **Dr. Rick Helfers**
- If you have issues with Canvas, please reach out to Scott Dillingham's team.
 - Positive rates of Covid are on the rise, so please encourage everyone to get vaccinated.
- 12:32** **Approval of June Meeting Minutes** **Dr. Amentahru Wahlrab**
- Unless there are corrections or amendments, I would like to have a recommendation to approve the June minutes. Approved at 12: 34
- 12:35** **Provost's Update** **Dr. Amir Mirmiran**
- Thanks to Dr. Helfers for being an advocate for faculty and shared governance. Also, looking forward to working with Dr. Sass as incoming President of Faculty Senate.
 - Convocation is being planned for in person plus a faculty welcome event
 - Fall enrollment looks good. record breaking freshman enrollment. Returning student numbers are lower than hoped and compared to past years.
 - SVP Tolliver working on education drive for students about getting vaccinated.
 - On track for SACSCOC approval
 - RFP for OER or affordable textbook development (core courses or courses with high enrollment)
 - Need to create an editorial board for UT Tyler press.
 - Budget: still waiting for final approval. Got what need for unfreezing faculty lines and able to start with faculty searches in mid-august.
 - Look out for announcements about 50th anniversary
 - 99.7 new FM public radio station. Utrr.org. <https://utpublicradio.org/>.
- 12:50** **Community Scientist Program** **Dr. Jessica Escareno**
- See PPT presentation for details. Some interesting mechanisms for getting feedback about research design from participants, stakeholders, public trust etc. essentially you can have a one hour zoom meeting with trained community researchers who can give feedback about feasibility, relevance, diversity, and other valuable responses. You get feedback from real people and hopefully increase community literacy in science. It bridges the gap between scholars and the public. Free to faculty. Contact Dr. Jessica Escareno: Jessica.escareno@uthct.edu.
- 1:10** **Faculty Senate Update** **Dr. Rick Helfers**

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- Thank you to Lynett!
- Senate vote on resolution endorsing a Fellowship Advisory Committee: approved.
- Summary of all committees. Lots of work summarized here. see the audio/video of the meeting for details. Holy moly we have done a lot of work on this campus!
- Dr. Rick Helfers passed the gavel to Dr. Sarah Sass. Dr. Sass, on behalf of all, awarded an outstanding leadership award to Dr. Helfers for his service this past year.
- From everyone, thank you very much to Dr. Helfers though he still has six weeks left as President 😊

1:40

Adjournment

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