

The University of Texas at Tyler
Office of the Faculty Senate

Thursday April 17, 2025

12:30-1:50 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting

https://uttyler.zoom.us/rec/share/Ai7uJjCOOyT0id2zXMeIjJRQycck5du2ijvZbHSBklDL_xZAYO_ePFxnm6Ut9yz.Tz1mGBdWnF010Txe

Passcode: w?+H2@Sz

Faculty Senate

	Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027
At Large	Nelson Fumo	Dominick Fazarro*	Kevin Gosselin*
CAS	Matthew Kelly*	Kenneth Bryant*	Katrin Kellner
Soules College of Business	Vivek Pandey*	Brent Beal*	Marwan Al-Sharmi
CEP	Forrest Kaiser*	Ramona Grad	Gina Doepker*
COE	Chung Goh	Aaditya Khanal	Ali Ghorshi
SON	Dixie Rose*	Gina Dudley*	Michelle Nelson
COP	Ayman Hamouda	Santosh Aryal	Farah Deba
Library	Nicholas Bambach	Michael Skinner	Esmeralda Rodgers
SHP	Jessica Escareno	Ahmed Abdelal	Arturo Arce-Esquivel*
SOM	James Menard*	Pierre Neuenschwander*	Sujitha Nandimandalam

*means member was in attendance

Senate Executive Officers 2024-2025

Joshua Banta* President	Yanira Oliveras* President-Elect
Amentahru Walhrab* Past President	Catherine Ross* Parliamentarian
Dixie Rose* Secretary	Pierre Neuenschwander* Treasurer

In Person Attendance: LouAnn Berman, Poonam Kumar, Mena Souliman, Scott Dillingham, Jeff Noblitt, Daniel Deslatte, Susan Rossman, Colleen Swain

Zoom Attendance: Elizabeth Lisot-Nelson, Yonjoo Cho, Woonhee Sung, Ann Beebe, Gisele Armond Abron, Cara Wreyford, Cindy Davis, Hannah Buchanan, Deborah Crumpler, Belinda Deal, Sarah Bowdin, Laura Waits, Coby Dillard, David Milan, Kathryn Lake, Chuck Brown, Valerie Miller, Jaema Krier, Troy White, David Christian, Chuck Brown, Isai Ramirez, Zahide Sunal, Gina Nickels-Nelson, Stacey Hiles, Kim Nimon, Kailey Henderson, Brittany Folden, Tanya Schlemmer, Laura Waits

12:30 Welcome and Call to Order, Dr. Josh Banta

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Minutes were approved
- Reminder to sign in either on the sign in sheets or in the chat on zoom

President updates (Dr. Julie Philley, President)

- New Athletic Director on April 2 – great resource here on campus
- Dean searches wrapping up
- Dr. Kumar leaving for new opportunity within UT System: will be talking with stakeholders for next best steps
- Monitoring federal contracts and changes and truly understanding before acting; staying in close contact with UT System to stay in alignment
- SB37 – nothing new to report as far as the amendments, but monitoring
- Graduation in a couple weeks – email or let her know ways to make the celebration better for the students and their families
- Housing – challenge for a long time; working hard to act upon strategic plan; have support for new dorms, but will take some time; Andy Petite working hard to meet needs and answer concerns
- UTMB visit – we are unique with owning part of our health systems; breaking ground on west loop for urgent care; suggested a faculty senate meeting when SOM building opens in fall; taking first round of projects to board in August; new stairs open this month
- Always happy to take questions and get your feedback
- Mechanical and electrical engineering and nursing with successful site visits!

Josh Bantu – thank you for all your work on homecoming

Scott Dillingham, Executive Director, Office of Digital Learning -

Office of Digital Learning Updates

- *See slides for more details*
- Google AI Essentials – coursera@uttyler.edu to get on list

- For students: close to having AI course to roll out for micro-credential
- Procturing Services: Moving to Respondus Monitor (already available in Canvas)
- Question: Is it okay to search coursera and then notify if something looks interesting? Yes, just reach out if outside of the Career Academy and they can help facilitate.
- Question: Went to conference where taught how to create an AI assistant for your course and Cathy Ross is ready to help if desired
- Question: What about ID verification using Respondus Monitor? Working with Respondus team to upload student photo
- Question: Do we verify identities on admission? We do check IDs before allowing set up of a patriot's email
- In reference to ProctorU – get a lot of false positives and are hoping Respondus will assist in reducing false positives
- Have we found a way to provide certificates for completion of coursera course? We can help facilitate creating UTT based micro-credential courses

Faculty Senate President's Updates

- See slides for more details
- Faculty Senator at-Large
- Commencement ceremonies
- Accessibility training

Faculty Senate Business

- Motion: Kenneth Bryant moved to accept changes as presented on slide to the HOP section regarding Emeritus Faculty
- Dominick Fazarro seconded
- No discussion
- Motion passed with 15-1 vote
- Question: Are we going to discuss opening emeritus status to non-tenure track?
Response: several other items will be presented to the HOP committee, but this particular change was big enough to warrant a vote

1:31 – Adjournment