

Stephen F. Austin State University
Faculty Senate Agenda – Meeting #503
Wednesday, December 4, 2024, 2:30 p.m. CST

Begin Recording

- I. Call to Order (Chakravartty)
 - A. Present
 - B. Absent (no proxy):

Senator	Present	Absent	Proxy
Kidd, Rebecca (ATCOFA)	X		
Payne, Emily (ATCOFA)	X		
Thompson, Leland (ATCOFA)	X		
Chakravartty, Arye (CLAA) *Chair	X		
Bentley, Lisa (CLAA)	X		
Conlon, Kyle (CLAA)	X		
Hampton, Hunter (CLAA)	X		
Hoagland, Ericka (CLAA)	X		
Khan, Mohammad (CLAA)	X		
Stoehr, Louise (CLAA)	X		
Welsh, Tyler (CLAA)	X		
Barngrover, Brian (CSM)	X		
Klein, Michelle (CSM) *Treasurer	X		
Bloxson, Julie (CSM)	X		
Bruck, Jason (CSM) *Chair-Elect	X		
Martynova-Van Kley, Alexandra (CSM)	X		
Sengupta, Bidisha (CSM)	X		
Barrios, Todd (PCOE)	X		
Cantu, Jennifer (PCOE)	X		
Chelette, Amber (PCOE)	X		Tori Wagner-Greene

Faragó, Flóra (PCOE)	X		
Straub, Sarah (PCOE) *Secretary	X		
Kenyon, Lindsey (PCOE)	X		
Midgley, Herbert (CFA) *Parliamentarian	X		
Ajero, Mario (CFA)	X		
Hoss-Jameson, Haley (CFA)	X		
Walburn, Jacob (CFA)	X		
Kaiser, David (NRCB)	X		
McKenna, Chris (NRCB)	X		
Mishra, Rajat (NRCB)	X		
Li, Wenjing (NRCB)	X		
Kownslar, Edward (Library Representative)	X		

II. Presentations

A. Neal Weaver, President

1. Not able to attend

B. Lorenzo Smith, Provost

1. Conversation on Provost transition, Dean Knepp is chair of the search committee for Provost
2. Questions re: Committee work (Dr. Abbott to transition into these committees)
3. Faculty Senate communicated the positive impact that Provost Smith has had on our university
4. Motion to formally show gratitude for the positive impact that Provost Smith has had at SFA
 - a) Motion to accept by [Hoss-Jameson]; 2nd [Bruck]
 - b) Motion passes




C. Forrest Lane, Dean ORGS

1. Shared current data and identification of challenges (DRAFT action plan and ORGS Fast Facts)
2. Identified pathway for addressing challenges including a focus on marketing and recruitment
3. Faculty Senators brought up GRA pay discrepancies and a few issues to consider moving forward
4. Brought up HOP 04-204 (Graduate Admission and Assistantships) - includes descriptions for TAs and RAs
5. Dr. Lane has been appointed to the Second Century Committee
6. Request for monthly meeting with representatives of Faculty Senate - Dr. Lane agreed

D. [Library](#) - Phil Reynolds

1. Faculty Senate expressed concern about the extra work and questionable value add
 2. Reynolds stated that this works as another way for people external to SFA to access this without explicitly searching for SFA
- III. Transition to Senate business session (faculty only)

End Recording

- IV. Approval of minutes from meetings [#502](#)
- A. Motion to accept by [McKenna]; 2nd [Stoehr]
 - B. Motion passes
- V. Officer Reports
- A. Chair (Chakravartty)
 1. HOP Committee met and passed a few policies (shared in mySFA)
 2. Hopes to schedule a meeting with President Weaver next week re: Senate role in Provost Search
 - B. Chair Elect (Bruck)
 1. Expressed appreciation for Provost Smith
 2. Axe Handle request for Provost Smith (Honorary)
 - C. Secretary (Straub)
 1. No report
 - D. Treasurer (Klein)
 1. No expenses incurred
 2. Balance available \$2000.00
 - E. Committee Reports
 1. Internal Committees
 - a) **Academic Affairs:** Bidisha Sengupta*, Flóra Faragó, Tyler Welsh, Amber Chelette, Brian Barngrover, Todd Barrios, Muhammad Khan
(1) No report
 - b) **Administration and Finance:** David Kaiser*, Michelle Klein, Lisa Bentley, Leland C. Thompson, Kyle Conlon, Jacob Walburn
(1) No report
 - c) **Elections:** Mario Ajero*, Alexandra Martynova-Van Kley, Wenjing Li
(1) No report
 - d) **University Operating Policy Committee:** Tori Wagner-Greene*, Jason Bruck, Chris McKenna, Emily Payne, Louise Stoehr, Haley Hoss-Jameson
 - (1) [Green Folder Policies](#) 
 - (a) No policies for review
 - (2) [Yellow Folder Policies](#) 
 - (a) No policies for review
 - (3) Red Folder Policies 
 - (a) No policies for review
 - (4) Policy Updates
 - (a) **HOP 00-000 Phased Retirement** was returned to the HOP but requested revisions were not clear, next meeting in January 2025
 - (b) **HOP 02-109 Performance Review of Officers Reporting to the Provost and Executive Vice**

President for Academic Affairs passed with no revisions

- e) **Professional Welfare:** Julie Bloxson*, Rajat Mishra* (co-chair), Mario Ajero, Rajat Mishra, Kyle Conlon, Jennifer Cantu
 - (1) No report
 - f) **Strategic Planning Committee:** Jason Bruck*, Arye Chakravartty, Chris McKenna, Herb Midgley*
 - (1) No report
 - g) **Communication Committee:** Hunter Hampton*, Sarah Straub, Ericka Hoagland, Lindsey Kennon, Rajat Mishra, Brian Barngrover, Rebecca Kidd, Haley Hoss-Jameson
 - (1) January Roll Out for Communication Enhancement Plan
2. University Committees - Reports from Faculty Senate Representative
- a) **Distance Education:** (Herb Midgley*, Tyler Welsh, Sarah Straub, Lindsey Kennon)
 - (1) No report
 - b) **Student Wellness Task Force:** (TBD*)
 - c) **Staff Council Representative:** (Chair Ryan Dietrich)
 - (1) Employee Advisory Council met (UTS 2 representatives per institution) to review university-level updates
 - (2) In-Person meeting scheduled for February
 - (3) Second Century Committee meets next week
 - (4) Master Planning Committee meets this week to review buildings on campus for update/renovation prioritization
 - (5) Old Business: Translation Network for Staff and President's Award (funding required)
 - d) **Grad Council:** (Chair of Academic Affairs Committee, ex officio)
 - (1) Recruitment
 - (a) Dr. Lane discussed the role of enrollment management from the Graduate Studies viewpoint. University is receiving approximately \$22 million in graduate revenue.
 - (b) Customized communication plans include three rounds of communication for prospective students, lead (intended) students and applicants. Communication plan will be college/program based. SMS text messages will be sent. 10 emails, 3 text messages will be launched this week. Digital/Social marketing after the communication is set. Carnegie is hired and designing the protocols.
 - (2) Policies on graduate education need revision.
 - (a) Regarding credit for work experience discussion, it was proposed that not all work experience merit credit hours.
 - (b) Dr. Lane formulated a strategic plan to enhance existing graduate programs and facilitate the development of new ones. Discussions are ongoing.
 - e) **Core Curriculum Assessment:** (Chair of Academic Affairs Committee, ex officio)
 - (1) SFASU 1101 is in discussion to become a **required** course. It is being discussed in the College of Liberal and Applied Arts.
 - (2) Office of Institutional Effectiveness updates include refining the data collection methods. Recommendation from SACS to assess

the core curriculum in spring and fall and make target improvements and report to SACS in January. Use a sample of students who completed all the core courses from SFA and do a population based study, not just a sample based study, to check the improvements over time. Review syllabi.

(3) Town Hall meeting will be in February. Core curriculum improvement objectives will be discussed.

f) **Ad Hoc Collegiality Committee** (Tyler Welsh*, Alexandra Van Kley, Kyle Conlon)

(1) No report

VI. Old Business

A. Ombuds position (UT Arlington, RGV, San Antonio, Austin, Dallas, El Paso all have Ombudsman)

1. This conversation has been halted at the university-level

2. Chair will be reaching out at UTS-level for support, [Faculty Advisory Council](#)

B. Second Century Committee

1. No report

VII. New Business

A. Proposed development of Ad Hoc Committee for Research

1. Alternate Proposal: RAC will have voting in the spring, request for Faculty Senate representative on RAC

2. Alternate Proposal: Strategic Planning Committee assumes this role

3. Return to Original Proposal: Proposed development of Ad Hoc Committee for Research and Graduate Studies with one representative per College

a) Per 2024 Standing Rules, Chair may appoint at his discretion

b) Request for interested parties to email Chair prior to January 22, 2025 meeting

B. Workload - Policy Summary sent out after #502 Faculty Senate Meeting

1. Bloxson shared [summary results](#) and themes from faculty feedback

2. Motion to put the Workload Policy forward through the HOP Process: 1st [Hoss-Jameson], 2nd [Stoehr]

3. Discussion: Transition meeting with Chair Chakravartty/Chair-Elect Bruck with Provost Smith and Interim Provost Abbott; concern expressed at the power of the Chair with this policy. However, this is in compliance with UTS.

4. Call the Vote: [Wagner-Greene]

5. Motion passes

C. Motion for [Contingent Resolution Regarding Faculty Involvement in Provost Search Committee](#):

A grace period will be given for a response from the Chair of the Provost Search Committee through December 9th, 2024. The motion proposes that the Provost Search Committee include at least one faculty representative from each College and a non-tenure track faculty member, selected by the Faculty Senate, with an eighth from the Library.

1. Reference: [UT Provost Search Committee Announced - The University of Texas at Austin Office of the President](#) in the Resolution

2. Reference: Previous SFA Provost Search Committee included 14 individuals - one representative from each college

a) Reference 12/03/2020 Email from SFA Provost Search Committee (provostsearch@sfasu.edu)

b) Faculty (Co Chair), IT Officer (Co Chair), 1 HR Liaison, 1 Dean, 2 Chairs, 1 Representative per College, 1 NTT, 1 Academic Affairs Staff Member

3. Motion: 1st [McKenna]; 2nd [Barngrover]
 - a) Motion passes

VIII. Adjournment

- A. Motion: 1st [Wagner-Greene], 2nd [Payne]
- B. Motion passes
- C. Meeting adjourned at [5:05 PM]