

**Stephen F. Austin State University**  
Faculty Senate Agenda – Meeting #497  
Wednesday, April 10, 2024, 2:30 p.m. CST

[April Materials](#)

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

Senator	Present	Absent	Proxy
Ajero, Mario (CFA)	X		
Becnel, Jeremy (CSM)	X		Robert Henderson
Bentley, Lisa (CLAA)	X		
Bloxson, Julie (CSM)	X		
Bruck, Jason (CSM)	X		
Causin, Gina Fe (PCOE)	X		
Chakravartty, Arye (CLAA) (Chair-elect)	X		
Collins, Eden (CFA)	X		
Conn, CC (CFA) (Chair; non-voting member)	X		
Davis, Rebecca (NRCB)	X		
Day, George (CLAA)	X		
Drake, Sarah (PCOE)	X		
Hampton, Hunter (CLAA)	X		
Hoagland, Ericka (CLAA)	X		
Kennon, Lindsey (PCOE)	X		
Kidd, Rebecca (ATCOFA)	X		
Klein, Michelle (CSM) (Treasurer)	X		
Li, Wenjing (NRCB)	X		Robert Crocker
Martynova-Van Kley, Alexandra (CSM)	X		
McCleary, Daniel (PCOE)	X		
McDermand, Rob (NRCB)	X		
Midgley, Herbert (CFA) (Parliamentarian)	X		
Mishra, Rajat (NRCB)	X		
Payne, Emily (ATCOFA)	X		
Sengupta, Bidisha (CSM)	X		
Stoehr, Louise (CLAA)	X		
Straub, Sarah (PCOE) (Secretary)	X		Carol Abel
Thompson, Bailey (CLAA)	X		
Thompson, Leland (ATCOFA)	X		
Wagner-Greene, Victoria (PCOE)	X		
Walburn, Jake (CFA)	X		
Welsh, Tyler (CLAA)	X		

- II. Presentations
  - A. Claire Fite from Wellness Hub Counseling Services presented on resources and how faculty can support students
    - 1. New Telehealth options from the UT System

2. There are some concerns about a lack of diversity across campus so timely care (telehealth) helps to bridge those gaps and allow more flexibility
  3. New number is 936-468-4482
- B. Transition to Senate business session (faculty only)<sup>1</sup>
- III. Approval of minutes from meetings #496
- A. Request changes to #496:
  - B. Motion to accept by [Causin ]; 2nd [Collins ]
  - C. Motion passes
- IV. Approval of minutes from [emergency meeting](#)
- A. Request changes to Emergency Meeting Minutes:
  - B. Motion to accept by [Bruck ]; 2nd [ Stoehr ]
  - C. Motion Passes
- V. Officer Reports
- A. Chair (Conn)
    1. Dr. Weaver on campus last week
    2. CC and Arye going to FAC
  - B. Chair Elect (Chakravartty)
    1. Standing rules will be discussed
    2. If you have any information or data on the rising healthcare costs or premiums going up please send it to CC and Arye
  - C. Secretary (Straub, Wagner-Greene)
    1. No report
  - D. Treasurer (Klein)
    1. Adjustment in the budget of \$2,000
    2. Expenses have not changed
    3. Outstanding balance for axe handles
  - E. Committee Reports
    1. Internal Committees
      - a) Professional Welfare (Julie Bloxson\*, Eden Collins\*, Louise Stoehr, Rajat Mishra, Wenjing Li, Alexandra Martynova-Van Kley)
        - (1) Last month they were still determining the non-tenure track teaching award - it will be going to Jamie Derek from CoB. No award for research/creative activity, and service for NTT faculty
      - b) Administration & Finance (Rebecca Davis\*, Michelle Klein, Lisa Bentley, Leland C. Thompson)
        - (1) No report
      - c) Communication (Bailey Thompson\*, Sarah Straub, Ericka Hoagland, Hunter Hampton)
        - (1) No report
      - d) Elections (Mario Ajero\*, Rob McDermid, Bidisha Sengupta)
        - (1) Elections closed on April 5
        - (2) Results: New senators will be notified by CC, need to have another election to have a replacement for Senator Eden Collins
        - (3) Results: CLAA (Soehr, Conlon, Khan), CoSM (Barngrover), PCOE (Fargo, Cantu, Chelette, Barrios), NRCoB (McKenna, Mishra, Kaiser)
      - e) Ethics (Rebecca Kidd\*, Daniel McCleary, Tyler Welsh)
        - (1) No report

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<sup>1</sup> Public recording terminated at the break

- f) Faculty Government & Involvement (Herb Midgley\*, George Day, Sarah Drake)
  - (1) Bylaws/standing rules changes in new business
- g) Strategic Planning (Arye Chavravartty\*, CC Conn, Jeremy Becnel, Gina Fe Causin, Chris McKenna)
  - (1) Bylaws/standing rules changes in new business
- h) Academic Affairs (Tori Wagner-Greene\*, Jake Walburn, Emily Payne, Sarah Straub)
  - (1) Bylaws/standing rules changes in new business
- 2. University Committees - Reports from Faculty Senate Representative
  - a) Distance Education (Herb Midgley\*, Tyler Welsh, Daniel McCleary, Sarah Straub)
    - (1) Two candidates for CTL positions
    - (2) Summer CTL camps are great resources and they are looking for input from faculty regarding support preferences through survey
  - b) Student Wellness Task Force (Sarah Drake\*)
    - (1) No report
  - c) Staff Council Representative (Brittany Beck)
    - (1) Staff service awards April 18th 2-4 in STEM (president award, retirement, 10/20/etc year)
    - (2) Social group from faculty and staff - optional - wanting to revitalize this group
    - (3) Developing a 1 page document for the new president to include needs specific to staff (adequate staffing, equitable pay, equipment and deferred maintenance, professional development opportunities, streamline processes, transparency in decision making)
  - d) Grad Council (Chakravartty, ex officio)
    - (1) Changes in student scholarships and assistantships - proposal to increase the scholarship money
    - (2) Guidelines for graduate faculty status and new streamlined process
  - e) Core Curriculum Assessment (Chakravartty, ex officio)
    - (1) No report
  - f) ~~Ad-Hoc~~ Policy (HOP) Committee (Jason Bruck\*, Tori Wagner-Greene, Sarah Straub, Emily Payne, Jake Walburn, Perry Moon, Arye Chakravartty)
    - (1) [Policy Cycle Review](#)
      - (a) Green policies are little to no change
      - (b) Added back in instructor for he academic appointments HOP
      - (c) Asking senate for approval on the “green/low level” policies
      - (d) No concerns voiced
      - (e) Motion to approve policies to go to policy coordinator Senator Collins was the second
      - (f) Motion passes unanimously
    - (2) Children in the Workplace policy
      - (a) Changes were submitted to add a #5 which added that employees supervisor can ask employee to remove child from workplace

- (b) Recommendation of policy committee is to move this forward
  - (c) Staff council also evaluated the policy and brought up that some of the times the issue was that faculty/admins would bring their children and expect staff to babysit them
  - (d) They wanted to policy to be explicit with the punitive nature to be included
  - (e) Staff council was nervous about the remove of the “failure to comply” section since it was not longer clear what could happen to you if your brought your child to the workplace
  - (f) Open for discussion: do we need to include graduate assistant in the language to ensure they are not being used to watch someones children; supervisors should be monitoring the situations and hand out appropriate discipline
  - (g) Motion to move policy to the next step by Senator Kennon Second from Senator Davis
  - (h) Motion passes unanimously
- (3) Chair policy
- (a) Lots of changes were suggested regarding pay, responsibilities, etc.
  - (b) Made explicit chairs are not faculty
  - (c) Changes to interim appointments and them being evaluated yearly
  - (d) Charis wanted 5 year flat rate terms, senate wants 3
  - (e) Made changes to evaluation section and access to evaluation
  - (f) Next steps are to have approval from senate to move to Lorenzo
  - (g) Please provide feedback by Sunday to policy committee then hold a vote on Wednesday for policy committee meeting
- (4) HOP 01-101 was approved at the previous meetings but they want to run the new HOP 01-101 will not be in place until end of April
- (5) Jason, Gary, and Matt will meet regularly until we have the new process is place
- (6) Faculty compensation is with Lorenzo, next step is for Lorenzo to evaluate and make any possible changes, after that it will go to HOP committee then to president's desk.
- g) Ad Hoc Collegiality Committee (Tyler Welsh\*, George Day, Alexandra Van Kley)
- (1) All collegiality wording from school of science collected

## VI. Old Business

- A. Summer Policy Committee: Jason Bruck, Gina Fe Causin, Sarah Straub
- B. [Review of edited Standing Rules](#)
  - 1. Made change to Full-time before non-tenure track line
  - 2. Made some changes to officer roles

3. Asking for seven total course releases (chair, chair elect, and policy committee members)
  4. Changes to some of the current committee assignments (academic affairs, elections, removed faculty governance committee, added university operating policy committee, professional welfare, removed ethics committee, strategic planning committee)
  5. Move to accept changes [Wagner-Greene] second [Causin]
  6. Motion passes unanimously
- C. Review of Updated Ombuds Proposal
1. The president has 18 months to set up a strategic plan for SFA to take to SFA. We want the Ombuds request to be one of the items.
  2. Made statement in document to have a search in AY 24/25 with anticipated start date of Summer '25.
  3. CC will clean up document and send for review and we will vote during emergency meeting
- VII. New Business
- A. Announcement of new 2024-25 Senators
  - B. Gather all OWLE data regarding health insurance increases and other materials before April 24 so Arye and CC can carry to FAC meeting in Austin
  - C. Concerns regarding Faculty Success (FAR), Concur (travel), website (committee work?)
    1. Committee on this campus to find new software - needs to be disbanded and evaluated
- VIII. Adjournment
- A. Motion: 1st [Causin ], 2<sup>nd</sup> [Mishra]