Stephen F. Austin State University
Faculty Senate Agenda – Meeting #498
Wednesday, May 1, 2024, 2:30 p.m. CST

May Materials

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

Senator	Present	Absent	Proxy
Ajero, Mario (CFA)	X		
Becnel, Jeremy (CSM)	X		
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		Katy Trotty
Li, Wenjing (NRCB)	X		
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		
Thompson, Bailey (CLAA)		X	
Thompson, Leland (ATCOFA)	X		
Wagner-Greene, Victoria (PCOE)	X		
Walburn, Jake (CFA)	X		
Welsh, Tyler (CLAA)	X		

II. Presentations
     A. Lorenzo Smith, Provost
          1. Faculty Book Group to keep AI Conversation going (Marc Guidry and Megan Weatherly)

2. STARS Funding ($800k), reviewing FY 24 budget for potential summer funding (non-STEM faculty), not confirmed
3. Budget FY 25
    a) Funding contingent upon **enrollment**
    b) Budget will be further confirmed over summer months
    c) Will advocate for increased funding for Academic Affairs
4. Interim President Oglesbee will transition to Senior VP for Organizational Effectiveness instead of VP for Finance and Administration; this is a newly created position that will need to be included in the upcoming budget discussions - Faculty expressed concern for a newly generated position that has the potential to reduce funding into AA
    B. Transition to Senate business session (faculty only)[1]
III. Approval of minutes from meetings #497
    A. Motion to accept by [Causin]; 2nd [Stoehr]
    B. Motion passes
IV. Approval of minutes from emergency meeting April 17
    A. Request changes to Emergency Meeting Minutes:
    B. Motion to accept by [Bruck]; 2nd [Causin]
    C. Motion Passes
V. Welcome new senators 🎊
VI. Officer Reports
    A. Chair (Conn)
        1. FAC - Info regarding Healthcare/Employee Benefits
            a) A&M & UT are independent from ERS. They have a mandated benefits advisory council and bids contracts every six years
            b) 2023 had a 25% rate increase and UTS is hoping to negotiate a better deal for 9/1 of 2025 -- choose to have a PCP (more affordable) or PPO (better for preexisting conditions)
    B. Chair Elect (Chakravartty)
        1. No report
    C. Secretary (Straub)
        1. No report
    D. Treasurer (Klein)
        1. [Senate Financials Document](#)
        2. Received $2,000 transfer from Provost office in April 2024 (need clarity on what that is related to)
    E. Committee Reports
        1. Internal Committees
            a) Professional Welfare (Julie Bloxson*, Eden Collins*, Louise Stoehr, Rajat Mishra, Wenjing Li, Alexandra Martynova-Van Kley)
                - No report
            b) Administration & Finance (Rebecca Davis*, Michelle Klein, Lisa Bentley, Leland C. Thompson)
                (1) Summary posted in Teams
            c) Communication (Bailey Thompson*, Sarah Straub, Ericka Hoagland, Hunter Hampton)
                (1) No report
            d) Elections (Mario Ajero*, Rob McDermand, Bidisha Sengupta)
                (1) Officer elections in New Business

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[1] Public recording terminated at the break

e) Ethics (Rebecca Kidd*, Daniel McCleary, Tyler Welsh)
  (1) No report
f) Faculty Government & Involvement (Herb Midgley*, George Day, Sarah Drake)
  (1) No report, will end with AY 24
g) Strategic Planning (Arye Chavravartty*, CC Conn, Jeremy Becnel, Gina Fe Causin, Chris McKenna)
  (1) No report
h) Academic Affairs (Tori Wagner-Greene*, Jake Walburn, Emily Payne, Sarah Straub)
  (1) No report
2. University Committees - Reports from Faculty Senate Representative
  a) Distance Education (Herb Midgley*, Tyler Welsh, Daniel McCleary, Sarah Straub)
    (1) Two candidates for CTL position are in review (sent via email by Megan Weatherly)
  b) Student Wellness Task Force (Sarah Drake*)
    (1) No report
  c) Staff Council Representative (Grace Romero)
    (1) Eager for further collaboration
    (2) Staff Recognition Ceremony has recently passed
    (3) New officers will be elected in upcoming meeting, Brittany Beck will be Chair as of 9/1/24
  d) Grad Council (Chakravartty, ex officio)
    (1) Graduate Dean is reorganizing funding for graduate assistantships
    (2) Assistantships will no longer be provided to Athletics Office
    (3) Questions asked pertaining to access to LEAP
    (4) This is perceived as a starting point but not the end of the conversation regarding tuition assistance, grad assistantship, etc.
  e) Core Curriculum Assessment (Chakravartty, ex officio)
    (1) No report
  f) [Policy (HOP) Committee](url) (Jason Bruck*, Tori Wagner-Greene, Sarah Straub. Emily Payne, Jake Walburn, Perry Moon, Arye Chakravarrty)
    (1) Motion to accept Green Folder Policies
      (a) Motion to accept by [Payne]; 2nd [Ajero]
      (b) Motion passes
    (2) Request for UMC Review of 05-709
    (3) Motion to accept Yellow Folder Policies
      (a) Motion to accept by [Stoehr]; 2nd [Causin]
      (b) Motion passes
    (4) Motion to accept Red Folder Policies
      (a) Motion to accept by [Davis]; 2nd [Wagner-Greene]
      (b) Motion passes
    (5) Motion to accept Predatory Journal recommendations
      (a) Motion to accept by [Day]; 2nd [Sengupta]
      (b) Motion passes
    (6) Summer Committee Work overview
  g) Ad Hoc Collegiality Committee (Tyler Welsh*, George Day, Alexandra Van Kley)

      (1) Work ongoing with collection of references to collegiality across Colleges

      (2) Request for support for collegiality references to be sent to Senators Welsh, Day, Van Kley

VII. Old Business

  A. Concerns regarding Faculty Success (FAR), Concur (travel), Cayuse (grants, IRB), website (committee work?)

    1. Conversation on potential development of an ad hoc committee for this

    2. Website as a recruitment tool is, in present iteration, ineffective → Organizational Efficiency

    3. Chair to submit request to the new Senior VP of Organizational Efficiency for website navigation enhancements to be leveraged as a recruitment tool and for transparency regarding software approval (FAR, Concur, Cayuse, etc.)

VIII. Break (5 minutes)

IX. New Business

  A. Thank You's and Farewells to outgoing senators

	Outgoing Senators
CLAA	George Day Bailey Thompson *Louise Stoehr*
CoSM	Jeremy Becnel
PCOE	Gina Fe Causin Sarah Drake (NTT) Daniel McCleary Victoria Wagner-Greene
NRCoB	Rebecca Davis Rob McDermand *Rajat Mishra*

	Incoming Senators
CLAA	Kyle Conlon (Psychology) Mohammed Khan (Social Work) Louise Stoehr (Language, Culture, & Philosophy)
CoSM	Brian Barngrover (Chemistry/Biochemistry)
PCOE	Flora Farago (Human Sciences) Jennifer Cantu (Human Sciences) Amber Chelette (Kinesiology & Health Science Todd Barrios (NTT - Human Sciences)
NRCoB	Rajat Mishra (Management & Marketing)

	Chris McKenna (Business Communication & Legal Studies)
	David Kaiser (NTT - Economics & Finance)

      B. Outgoing Chair Remarks followed by the passing of the gavel (Conn)
1. HOP 01-101
2. Increase in promotion compensation
3. Struck punitive language from Children in the Workplace Policy
4. Ombuds recommendation on President's desk
5. Continued financial support for Summer Policy Committee
6. Adapted Standing Rules to align with UT and include a Policy Committee
7. Established ad hoc committee to review Collegiality

      C. Elections of Incoming Chair Elect (Chakravartty)
1. Nominations: Jason Bruck, approved by acclamation

      D. Elections of officer: Secretary, Parliamentarian and Treasurer (Chakravartty)
1. Secretary Nomination: Sarah Straub, approved by acclamation
2. Treasurer Nomination: Michelle Klein, approved by acclamation
3. Parliamentarian Nomination: Herbert Midgley, approved by acclamation

      E. Chair's Initial Address to Senate (Chakravartty)

X.   Adjournment
      A. Motion: 1st [Wagner-Greene], 2nd [Davis]