



FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES

Friday, April 22th 2022

1:00 P. M. – 2:00 P. M.

VIA WEBEX

FACULTY SENATORS IN ATTENDANCE

KoKo Aung, M.D., M.P.H., Vice President for Faculty Success, TTUHSC El Paso, Ex-Officio Non-Voting Member
Robert Danforth, D.D.S.; WLHSDM
Huanyu Dou, M.D.; FGSBS
Geoffrey D. Guttman, Ph.D., Nominating Committee Chair; WLHSDM
Gloria Loera, D.N.P., R.N., NEA-BC; GGHSON

Richard. W. McCallum, M.D., Faculty Senate President-Elect; PLFSOM
Jaclyn Reyes, M.S.N., R.N.,CNE, CMSRN; GGHSON
Clarissa Silva, Ph.D., R.N., Faculty Senate President; GGHSON
Anantha Ramana Vellipuram, M.D.; PLFSOM
Mingtao Zeng, Ph.D.; FGSBS

ABSENT FACULTY SENATE SENATORS

Prashant Joshi, M.D.; PLFSOM
Praveen Parachuru, B.D.S., M.D.S., Ph.D.; WLHSDM

Jennifer Salinas, Ph.D.; FGSBS

OTHER ATTENDEES

Cindy Camarillo, Sr. Director, Office of Faculty Affairs
Edgar A. Corral, Unit Manager, Faculty Recruitment, Office of Faculty

Sudhagar Thangarasu, M.D., Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine- Transmountain; PLFSOM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Clarissa Silva, Ph.D., R.N., Faculty Senate President

Dr. Silva called the meeting to order at 1:01 P. M., and welcomed all participants via WebEx.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Clarissa Silva, Ph.D., R.N., Faculty Senate President

Dr. Silva asked the Faculty Senate to review the previous meeting minutes from March, 25 2022. Dr. Guttman made a motion to approve the minutes, Dr. Loera seconded the motion, and the Faculty Senate voted unanimously to approve the minutes as presented.

III. FACULTY SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Clarissa Silva, Ph.D., R.N., Faculty Senate President

- a. **Faculty Senate Committee on University Affairs- Anantha R. Vellipuram, M.D.; Committee Chair:** Dr. Vellipuram reported the University Affairs Committee met in March and invited Andrea Tawney, Ph.D., Vice President for Institutional Advancement (IA) as a guest to discuss community advertisement and branding of TTUHSC El Paso, one of the committee’s strategic plan goals. Dr. Vellipuram stated there has been confusion regarding our school and university names, noting there is not a common name for TTUHSC El Paso utilized across the board. An example was raised regarding the “Red Raiders” mascot name and how it is rarely utilized. Dr. Vellipuram mentioned that IA provided information on their processes and funding guidelines when clinical departments request community promotional advertisements, which requires funds from the clinical departments requesting the service. Dr. McCallum stated the Red Raider mascot is a leftover identity from TTU Lubbock that does not apply to TTUHSC El Paso. He stated that TTUHSC El Paso and the University Medical Center are the main healthcare providers of El Paso, TX. Dr. Guttman stated all faculty members should make it a habit to speak about TTUHSC El Paso to colleagues at meetings and what it has to offer.
- b. **Faculty Senate Committee in Faculty Resources- Praveen Parachuru, B.D.S., M.D.S., Ph.D., Committee Chair:** Dr. Guttman reported on behalf of Dr. Parachuru stating that the Resources Affairs Committee has nothing to report this month.

- c. **Faculty Resources Committee on Research Affairs Mingtao Zeng, Ph.D.; Committee Chair:** Dr. Zeng reported the committee met on March 28, 2022. The committee discussed their strategic plan goals with the committee's ex-officio member, Dr. Deborah Clegg, Vice President for Research, and discussed ways to address faculty concerns regarding research. He stated the Office of Research plans to evaluate IRB processes for improvements. The Office of Research plans to implement a SharePoint website to provide a wide-reaching information source regarding research funding and research opportunities for all faculty. Also, a concern regarding the lack of protected time for research activities for all clinical faculty members was discussed.

Dr. Silva asked about if the Clinical Research Space in MSBII was already designated for faculty. Dr. Zeng stated that such a space is still in the works by the Office of Research and available to researchers who bring extramural funding and identified in the start-up packages upon recruitment of faculty investigators. The Research Committee will continue to follow progress and provide updates as they become available. Dr. Silva stated that his topic should be discussed with the TTUHSC El Paso President during the upcoming scheduled meeting.

Dr. McCallum congratulated Dr. Zeng for successfully receiving three patents for his research. Dr. Zeng congratulated Dr. McCallum for successfully receiving a seed grant. Dr. Zeng and Dr. McCallum observed the seed grant awards to faculty at the Research Colloquium yesterday made for a very successful event.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Clarissa Silva, Ph.D., R.N., Faculty Senate President

PLFSOM Representative for the Faculty Resources Committee- Geoffrey D. Guttman, Ph.D.; Nominating Committee Chair: Dr. Guttman reported the Nominating Committee met to review the nominees for the additional PLFSOM representative for the Faculty Resources Committee. Four (4) nominations were received, but only three (3) nominees provided the required statement describing their potential contributions to the committee. Dr. Guttman recommended the appointment of Zainab Jaber Al Lawati, M.D., M.Ed., Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, to serve on the Faculty Resources Committee.

Dr. McCallum made a motion to approve the appointment of Dr. Al Lawati as a member of the Faculty Resources Committee, which was unanimously approved by the Faculty Senate.

- a. **Bylaws Review Ad Hoc Committee Report- Prashant Joshi, M.D.; Committee Chair:** Dr. Joshi was unable to attend the Faculty Senate meeting. In his absence, ad hoc committee member, Dr. Loera, provided a brief report stating the Ad Hoc Committee will present three recommendations at the next Faculty Senate Meeting.
- b. **Approval of Faculty Senate Strategic Plan Goals** Dr. Silva reviewed the condensed Faculty Senate Standing Committee Strategic Plan Goals received from all committee chairs for final approval by the Faculty Senate. Dr. Guttman made a motion to approve the Faculty Senate Standing Committee Strategic Plan Goals with the exception of the Faculty Resources Committee, as this committee's final strategic goals had not yet been received from the committee chair. The Faculty Resources Committee strategic plan goals will be approved at the next Faculty Senate meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Vellipuram and Dr. Reyes, and unanimously approved by the Faculty Senate.

The approved Faculty Senate Standing Committee Strategic Plan Goals are as follows:

- **Research Resources Committee**
Reduce barriers to faculty research projects

- **University Affairs Committee**
 1. Work with IA to ensure advertisement and positioning of TTUHSC El Paso as the place to work/employer of choice.
 2. Work with HR to review and expedite and smoothen out hiring processes for staff vacancies in clinical areas, labs, and faculty support positions
 3. Address faculty IT issues including PC/hardware issues, limits on mailbox sizes and access to Gmail, etc.

4. Address library services for faculty

➤ **Diversity and Inclusion Committee**

1. Address faculty salary equity
2. Review faculty training and resources on DEI to include competencies and ensure the content is appropriate for the clinical and non-clinical faculty members

➤ **Nominating Committee**

1. Announces vacancies on standing and ad hoc committees to the voting faculty
2. Review lists of nominees for standing committees and present nominees to full Faculty Senate for approval
3. Consults with Faculty Senate President on recommending the naming of chairs of standing and ad hoc committees from among the elected Faculty Senators
4. Oversees the solicitation of nominees for President-Elect prior to annual election

➤ **Executive Committee**

1. Review and revise Faculty Senate Bylaws by year's end
2. Revise timeframes for seating Senators, electing Nominating Committee, and seating Standing Committee members to improve operational efficiency
3. Discuss and consider expanded term of office for Faculty Senate President
4. Hold Annual TTUHSC El Paso All-Faculty General Meeting
5. Prepare Annual Report of the Faculty Senate

V. NEW BUSINESS

Clarissa Silva, Ph.D., R.N., Faculty Senate President

- a. Transition to In-Person Meetings** Dr. Silva initiated a conversation by asking whether the current state of the Covid-19 pandemic and masking regulations will allow the Faculty Senate to meet in person beginning in June or July 2022. A concern was raised regarding faculty members based at the Transmountain location and the difficulty to attend in-person meetings at the Alberta location. The Office of Faculty Affairs will look into the possibility of implementing hybrid meetings to webcast in-person meetings to accommodate faculty at various locations.

V. ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS

Clarissa Silva, Ph.D., R.N., Faculty Senate President

Dr. Silva opened the floor for the open discussions.

Dr. Silva and Dr. McCallum discussed the possibility of holding a Faculty Senate retreat in the near future, possibly on a weeknight or during the weekend. The Faculty Senate retreat is still in the planning stages.

Dr. McCallum inquired about the Faculty Senate officers requested meeting with the TTUHSC El Paso President, Dr. Lange. Dr. Silva confirmed this meeting will take place on May 17th. She encouraged the Faculty Senate to speak with standing committee members and inquire about any pressing issues that they would like the Faculty Senate officers to address with President Lange.

Dr. McCallum brought up an issue regarding the purchase of a SAS statistical software purchase that Dr. David Cistola from the Francis Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences encountered. Due to a wait of over 6 months for this statistical software, the delay has impacted the progress of his research activities. Dr. McCallum is advocating for him because the faculty member needs assistance to figure out how to address a problem with the system.

Cindy Camarillo, Sr. Director of Faculty Affairs, noted that Paul Fierro from the IT Project Management Office recently presented a 3rd party application procurement process and workflow that will take effect on May 1, 2022. This PPT presentation outlines a defined process and workflow for procurement of Software as a Services (SAS), cloud based subscriptions and software vendors that could be shared to address Dr. Cistola’s issue. Faculty Affairs will provide the information to Dr. Cistola and the Faculty Senate.

Dr. Silva asked if the May 27, 2022 Faculty Senate meeting would work for all, as it falls on the Friday before the Memorial Day holiday. Dr. McCallum suggested to meet on Tuesday May 31, 2022. The Faculty Senate agreed to have the next Faculty Senate Meeting on Tuesday May 31, 2022 at 12:00 P.M.

Meeting adjourned at 1:57 P.M.

Clarissa Silva

Clarissa Silva (May 31, 2022 18:11 MDT)

Clarissa Silva, Ph.D., R.N.
Faculty Senate President 2022 - 2023

Date