



FACULTY SENATORS IN ATTENDANCE

Christina Blanco, D.N.P., R.N., WHNPBC, FAANP, GGHSON
Gloria Loera, D.N.P., R.N., NEA-BC; GGHSON
Clarissa Silva, Ph.D., R.N., Faculty Senate President-Elect; GGHSON
Rosemary Walulu, Ph.D., R.N., ACRN; GGHSON
Subramanian Dhandayuthapani, Ph.D.; GSBS
Laxman Gangwani, M.Sc., M.Tech. Ph.D.; GSBS

Munmun Chattopadhyay, Ph.D.; GSBS
Mingtao Zeng, Ph.D.; GSBS
Anantha Ramana Vellipuram, M.D., PLFSOM
Richard. W. McCallum, M.D., Nominating Committee Chair; PLFSOM
Gustavo J. Rodriguez, M.D., Faculty Senate President PLFSOM

FACULTY SENATORS ABSENT

Karinn M. Chambers, M.D.; PLFSOM

GUESTS

KoKo Aung, M.D., M.P.H., Vice President for Faculty Success, TTUHSC El Paso
Rosemary Prieto, Executive Associate, Office of Faculty Affairs

I. CALL TO ORDER

Gustavo Rodriguez, M.D., Faculty Senate President

Dr. Rodriguez, Faculty Senate President called the meeting to order at 12:03 PM after meeting quorum and welcomed all. Attendees joined via WebEx as voted upon at the May Faculty Senate meeting.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Gustavo Rodriguez, M.D., Faculty Senate President

The meeting minutes for July 30, 2021 were unanimously approved by the Faculty Senate as presented.

III. FACULTY SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee Chairs

a. Faculty Affairs Committee – Gloria Loera, D.N.P., R.N., Committee Chair, reported the following:

- The Committee has not met, next committee meeting will be held on September 27, 2021.
- The Faculty Affairs Committee would like to encourage all Senators and committee members to speak with their fellow faculty members to inquire on any issues that may need to be discussed regarding faculty affairs and faculty resources.

b. Research Affairs Committee – Mingtao Zeng, Ph.D., Committee Chair, reported the following:

- The next committee meeting will be, Tuesday, September 28th 2021.
- New research-related opportunity open to all faculty organized by Women in Medicine and Sciences (WIMS) and UTEP's Border Biomedical Research Center and the College of Health Sciences – Faculty Research Networking Mixer, September 9th, 2021 beginning at 5:15 PM, held at UTEP Interdisciplinary Research Building (IDRB)

Q&A:

Q: Who should faculty contact if they would like to participate in presenting?

A: Announcement regarding information on how to attend or participate in this event was sent out by the WIMS Research Collaborations Committee regarding this research event. Details on who to contact are within the email.

c. **University Affairs Committee** – Rosemary Walulu, Ph.D., R.N, Committee Chair, reported the following:

- The committee has not met as they meet quarterly. Nothing to report at this time
- The next committee meeting is scheduled for October 6, 2021.

d. **Nominating Committee** – Richard McCallum, M.D., Nominating Committee Chair, reported the following:

- The committee met on Monday, August 23rd, 2021 to announce that Dr. Richard McCallum would recuse himself from all President-Elect related discussions, as a current candidate to avoid a conflict of interest.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Gustavo Rodriguez, M.D., Faculty Senate President

- Faculty Senate Standing Committee Annual Reports** - An email was sent on Friday, August, 20th to the standing committee chairs requesting their annual standing committee report. Per section 4.1, Committee Operations “Each committee is to issue an annual report of its activities and recommendations to the Faculty Senate”. The deadline to submit committee reports to the Executive Committee is September 9th, 2021.
- President-Elect Voting, September 2021** - As a reminder, all eligible senators for President-Elect were contacted to notify them of their eligibility. The Nominating Committee has received their statements of interest and they will be shared prior to the voting as outlined in section 2.3.1 of the Faculty Senate Bylaws.
- New Faculty Senators, September 2021** - All Faculty Senate vacancies have been communicated to the governing bodies of the GGHSON GSBS, and WLHSDM. The new faculty Senators will be announced in the new fiscal year

Q&A

Q: The Faculty Senate is a very big commitment. Do we have a formal process to recognize them and announce the completion of their terms as Faculty Senators?

A: In September we will have the Passing of the Gavel during the Senate meeting where we announce the new senators and recognize the outgoing senators and officers. We will discuss with Faculty Affairs regarding the process to formally recognize the outgoing senators and will discuss this item at the next Executive Committee meeting.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Gustavo Rodriguez, M.D., Faculty Senate President

- Faculty Senate Bylaws - Approved**– Dr. Lange has approved the Faculty Senate Bylaws. The updated version can be found on our Faculty Senate Webpage under the Bylaws section.
- Faculty Senate Meetings to continue via Webex** - The Executive Committee revisited the previous discussion item regarding the format of the upcoming Faculty Senate meetings and have suggested to continue to meet via Webex due to the COVID-19 Delta variant and the directive received from the President’s Office to limit in-person meetings and avoid eating and drinking in large group gatherings. Lunch will continue to be provided for the Faculty Senate meetings in the same format we have been using.

c. Diversity and Inclusion Updates:

- It was discussed at a preliminary meeting with the Chair of the CDI and representatives from the Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Global Health that the Faculty Senate shares the idea that diversity and inclusion are major issues impacting universities in the current climate.
- The idea was shared that we need to centralize committees to address diversity and inclusion for faculty on our campus to include student
- They are in agreement that Diversity and Inclusion-related topics and activities should have faculty participation across all schools
- It was agreed to continue this discussion and Dr. Silva will resume this conversation as the next Faculty Senate President.

Q&A

Q: Did the Senate President meet with CDI leadership to discuss the goal of merging with the Diversity and Inclusion Committee?

A: Yes, the meeting occurred and there was some resistance with merging as the council has already been in existence and they feel they are a more complex committee that address not only faculty but students and other personnel as well

Q: Will the University Affairs Committee will only consist of IT and the Library?

A: As of September 2021, we will have the original standing committees

Q: Will there be a reporting system set up? How will we be in communication with the CDI committee?

A: It was discussed that the CDI had no good process of communicating campus wide. Faculty Senate will be in collaboration with them to share their information and communicate it campus wide. The plan, which has not been finalized, however, the idea was shared that the Senate committee should consider including the CDI leadership to provide updates and report on their activities.

VI. ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

Open Discussion

Dr. Rodriguez opened the floor for a round table discussion.

Discussion:

Q: Is there an update on the AAMC StandPoint Survey results?

A: The results will first be shared with the respective school Deans. After the Deans have reviewed, the respective department-specific results will be shared with the department chairs. The Faculty Senate will receive the part of the survey results that is relevant to governance and any other items related to all faculty, the President approves dissemination.

- Announcement for the PLFSOM White Coat Ceremony was shared for August 28th 2021. This is a School-based event, and due to Covid-19 limitations, invitations were limited.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Gustavo Rodriguez, M.D., Faculty Senate President

There being no further business to discuss, Dr. Rodriguez adjourned the meeting at 12:46 P.M. He reminded the Faculty Senate that the next meeting will take place, September 24th 2021 via WebEx.


Gustavo Rodriguez (Sep 28, 2021 11:38 MDT)

Gustavo Rodriguez, M.D.
Faculty Senate President 2020 - 2021

September 24, 2021

Approved Date