



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

FACULTY SENATE

Dr. Jafus Kenyatta Cavil, Chair
Dr. Edieth Wu, Vice Chair

Dr. Rasoul Saneifard, Secretary
Dr. Olurominiyi Ibitayo, Treasurer

Dr. Luis Perez-Feliciano, Faculty Speaks Editor
Dr. Mammo Woldie, Parliamentarian

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

3:00 PM

Hannah Hall, Room 111

Presiding Senator

Dr. Jafus Kenyatta Cavil Chair, College of Education

Senate Members Present

Bell, Edward	Senator, College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences
Brailey, Carla	Senator, College of Liberal Arts and Behavioral Sciences
Brown-Burton, Rockell	Senator, School of Communication
Griesinger, Nancy	Senator, College of Science, Engineering and Technology
Handy, Carlos	Senator, College of Science, Engineering and Technology
Ibitayo, Olurominiyi	Senator Treasurer, Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs
Kazakos, Demetrios	Senator, College of Science, Engineering and Technology
Lancaster, Iris	Senator, College of Liberal Arts and Behavioral Sciences
Loudd, Grace	Senator, College of Liberal Arts and Behavioral Sciences
Lowe, Jeffrey	Senator, Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs
Ojode, Lucy	Senator, Jesse H. Jones School of Business
Perez-Feliciano, Luis	Faculty Speaks Editor, Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs
Reynolds, Lacey	Senator, College of Education
Thoreson, Claire	Senator, The Graduate School
Walker, April	General Counsel, Thurgood Marshall School of Law
Woldie, Mammo	Senator Parliamentarian, Jesse H. Jones School of Business
Wu, Edieth	Vice Chair, Thurgood Marshall School of Law
Yousefipour, Zivar	Senator, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Senate Members / Colleges Not in Attendance

Abobo, Cyril	Senator, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Boyd, Joseph	Senator, Jesse H. Jones School of Business
Maldonado, Edward (SpearIt)	Senator, Thurgood Marshall School of Law
Nwagwu, Emmanuel	Senator, College of Education
Saneifard, Rasoul	Senator Secretary, College of Science, Engineering and Technology

Senate Counsel in Attendance

Walker, April Faculty Senate General Counsel, Thurgood Marshall School of Law

Guest(s) from Faculty Assembly or University

Hawkins, Stacie	Director, Office of Human Resources and Payroll Services
Link, Chantell	Acting Provost, Academic Support and Online Learning
Provost, Georgia	Consultant, Community Awareness Program (CAP)



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Call to Order

Senate Chair Jafus Kenyatta Cavil called the November 2017 monthly meeting of the TSU Faculty Senate to order at 3:10 p.m. on Thursday, November 9, 2017. Senator Claire Thoreson moved to call the meeting to order, which was seconded by Senator Rockell Brown Burton.

Approval of the October 2017 Senate Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the October 5, 2017 meeting were reviewed, and Faculty Senate Chair Jafus Kenyatta Cavil called for a motion to approve the minutes. Senate Vice Chair Edieth Wu motioned to approve the minutes, which were seconded by Senator Lacey Reynolds contingent upon modifications, changes and/or editions within thirty days. The motion carried unanimously with no opposing votes.

Status Reports from the Faculty Senate

Program Coordinator La Shanta Gill-May provided an update on the latest University Committee Results based on the election results of October 3, 2017. Consequently, the following university committees were constituted: Faculty Research, Faculty Hearing, Faculty Advisory, University Library, Committee on Inquiry, University Rank, Tenure, Promotion & Salary, and Faculty Excellence Awards committees. The motion was made by Senator Luis Perez-Feliciano and seconded by Senator Zivar Yousefipour to approve the university committees. The motion carried unanimously with no opposing votes.

Announcements from the Chair

Faculty Senate Chair Jafus Kenyatta Cavil: Shared a memo from the Division of Student Services on Special Events on Campus that during the discussions that faculty still have academic freedom to invite guests into the classrooms as long as it is academically-related and in this case it is not necessary to go through the Special Events notification process. However, if any events are scheduled to be held outside of the classroom, then the process for Booking Special Events on the Campus will apply.

Faculty Senate Chair Jafus Kenyatta Cavil: Provided updates on the dean search committees: Dr. Maurice Odine was selected as dean of the School of Communication; Dr. Dianne Jemison Pollard has been selected as dean of the Thomas F. Freeman Honors College. The dean search in the Thurgood Marshall School of Law has been suspended as a result of the naming of an acting dean, former Board of Regent member Gary Bledsoe; the dean search committee for the School of Public Affairs has concluded its search activity and forwarded their recommendations to the Provost. However, Senate Chair Cavil informed that this level in the process has been halted until further notice due to the new incoming Provost, Dr. Kendall Harris. Several Senators expressed their concerns regarding the administration's decision to halt the remaining search processes.



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Guests

Dr. Chantell Link: Provided updates on the expansion plans for the online program offering initiatives over the next Spring 2018 and Fall 2018 semester. Dr. Link announced recent information sessions for English, Biology, and Computer Science. The initiatives also include developing plans for online orientation, online advising and online tutoring for transfer and non-traditional students.

Several Senators discussed their concerns regarding the implementation of new online program offerings

Several Senators discussed their concerns with the plan for the new online offering initiatives such as student readiness, academic load, evaluation policy and perceived implementation issues. Senate Chair suggested a committee is formed to address these concerns. Senator Carla Brailey suggested the initial name of the committee as, Online Enhancement Committee. Consequently, Senator Carlos Handy suggested that Feasibility is added to the name. Furthermore, Senator Rockell Brown Burton recommended that combination of Feasibility and Enhancement is included in the committee name. Senator Brailey accepted the both friendly amendments. The motion carried unanimously with no opposing votes to form the Ad Hoc Committee on Feasibility and Enhancement for Online Programs. The committee members are: Senator Carla Brailey, Senator Rockell Brown Burton, Senator Grace Loudd, Senator Carlos Handy, and Senator Iris Lancaster.

Ms. Georgia Provost: Shared a proposal for two program initiatives: 1) TSU Retired Faculty and Staff Association and 2) TSU Faculty and Staff Alumni Association to establish prior to the next legislative session in Austin, Texas in 2019. She asked Senators for their endorsement of the initiatives to improve strategies in acquiring revenue and alumni participation. Senator Jeffrey Lowe motioned that the Faculty Senate endorse the above-named initiatives. Senate Vice Chair Edieth Wu seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with no opposing votes.

Old Business

Ms. Stacie Hawkins: Shared updates on the university's new PPO health care provider Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas, which will be Health Select's new plan administrator for the next six years. Senate Chair Cavil shared his plan is to invite senate members to attend the next State of Texas Senate meeting to propose discussing Teacher Retirement System (TRS) of Texas actionable items.

Senator Mammo Woldie: Raised concerns surrounding Workload Policy issues relating to faculty with large size classroom sizes having the same teaching load as other faculty. He proposed that this matter is taken into consideration. Several Senators discussed their concerns of student-to-faculty-ratio is currently not addressed in the Workload Policy, including clarification of the evaluation cycle. Consequently, Senator Carlos Handy agreed to provide more information regarding this matter.



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Several Senators discussed their concerns regarding the Secretary position

Senator Lacey Reynolds: Inquired about the status of the Secretary position now that Dr. Rasoul Saneifard was appointed to Interim Associate Provost/Associate Vice President for Academic and Faculty Affairs.

Senate Chair Jafus Kenyatta Cavil: Responded that the current Secretary position is vacant since Dr. Rasoul Saneifard was appointed to the Interim Associate Provost/Associate Vice President for Academic and Faculty Affairs. In addition, Several Senators discussed their interpretation of the rules of the bylaws relating to this matter. After lengthy discussions, Senators suggested that the bylaws are amended and updated to address matters that arise in the Senate. In retrospect during the April 6, 2017 Senate meeting, the following Senators agreed to serve on the committee to review and update the Faculty Senate Bylaws: Dr. J. Kenyatta Cavil, Dr. Iris Lancaster, Dr. Carlton Perkins, Dr. Lacey Reynolds, Dr. Nana Asare, Dr. Luis Perez-Feliciano and Dr. Edward Bell.

Senator Jeffrey Lowe: Motioned to appoint an interim Secretary at the next Senate meeting in December; Senator Olurominiyi Ibitayo seconded the motion. Senator Carlos Handy recommended that this motion is amended and revisited during the next meeting. Senator Lowe accepted his friendly amendment. Consequently, Senate Chair Jafus Kenyatta Cavil restated to the Senate that this matter is tabled for further discussion at the next meeting in December 2017.

New Business

Faculty Senate Chair Jafus Kenyatta Cavil: Suggested that the Faculty Senate draft a resolution to award Dr. Bobby Wilson, a plaque for his dedicated service as Interim Provost in the absence of a permanent provost. Senator Parliamentarian Mammo Woldie motioned to approve a presentation of a plaque award to Dr. Wilson on behalf of the Faculty Senate/Assembly. The motion was seconded by Senator Lucy Ojode. The motion carried unanimously with no opposing vote.

Adjournment of Meeting

Senator Mammo Woldie: Motioned to adjourn the meeting. Senator Jeffrey Lowe seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Mrs. La Shanta Gill-May, Program Coordinator of the Faculty Senate