



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, October 5, 2017
3:00 PM
Hannah Hall, Room 111

Presiding Senator

Dr. Jafus Kenyatta Cavil Chair, College of Education

Senate Members Present

Abobo, Cyril	Senator, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Bell, Edward	Senator, College of Pharmacy and 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
Jemison Pollard, Dianne	Senator, College of Liberal Arts and Behavioral Sciences
Kazakos, Demetrios	Senator, College of Science, Engineering and Technology
Lowe, Jeffrey	Senator, Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs
Maldonado, Edward (SpearIt)	Senator, Thurgood Marshall School of Law
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

Lancaster, Iris	Senator, College of Liberal Arts and Behavioral Sciences
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

None.

Call to Order

Senate Chair Jafus Kenyatta Cavil called the October 2017 general meeting of the TSU Faculty Senate to order at 3:08 p.m. on Thursday, October 5, 2017.



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Approval of the September 2017 Senate Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the September 14, 2017 meeting were reviewed, and Faculty Senate Chair Dr. Jafus Kenyatta Cavil called for a motion to approve the minutes. A motion was made by Senate Vice Chair Edieth Wu 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.

Announcements from the Chair

Faculty Senate Chair Jafus Kenyatta Cavil: Provided updates on both the Provost search and Deans search committees. He shared that he moderated the meet-and-greet event, which was showcased as the Faculty Open Forum presenting the three finalists vying for the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs' position. Additionally, he stated that at the final stage, the search committee is responsible for submitting a final recommendation to the president regarding the finalists. Subsequently, he and select Senators provided a report on the dean search committees for the Honors College, School of Communication, School of Business, School of Public Affairs, College of Liberal Arts, and School of Law.

Program Coordinator La Shanta Gill-May: Provided a status report on the participation in the voting process for the 2017 University Committee Election.

Guests

None.

Old Business

Faculty Senate Chair Jafus Kenyatta Cavil: Provided an update on the comprehensive evaluations of deans and department chairs. He confirmed that this process will take place as per the President. He also provided suggestions to Senators as to how they should liaison this process in their colleges and schools. Additionally, it was announced that a committee is charged with developing an instrument to use during this process. Members serving on the evaluation instrument committee are as follows: Dr. Victor Obot (COSET); Dr. Amruthesh Shivachar (COPHS); Dr. Luis Perez-Feliciano (SOPA); Dr. Lacey Reynolds (COE); Dr. Marion Smith (SOB); Dr. Iris Lancaster (COLABS); Dr. Peter Marchetti (TMSL); and Dr. Serbino Sandifer-Walker (SOC).

Several Senators discussed the tenure of department chairs in the colleges and schools

Several Senators: Discussed options of how to change the process for selecting department chairs and the duration of their tenure.



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New Business

Faculty Senate Chair Jafus Kenyatta Cavil: Provided an updated copy of the Board-approved Revised Workload Policy to address the equity disparities in teaching loads and workload issues.

Several Senators discussed best practices for issues relating to the Workload Policy

Several Senators: Discussed how certain inaccuracies, such as grammatical and typographical errors can be corrected in the Workload Policy. These suggestions can be addressed by sending this information to the chair of the committee. Senators discussed the need for shared workload reports among other colleges and schools, which would be useful to determine if there is equity compliance. Consequently, Faculty Senate Chair Cavil advised that Senators should submit a request to their deans for a report that shows the workload report over a particular timeframe, and inform the Senate if they are unable to retrieve this information.

Senator Nancy Griesinger: Shared that our healthcare provider has changed from United Healthcare to Blue Cross Blue Shield. Senator Griesinger discussed her personal experience with higher co-pays, premiums and out-of-network expenses with Blue Cross Blue Shield. She suggested that faculty should be made aware that they do not have to keep this provider, and that they do have an option to contact the Employer Retirement System (ERS) of Texas to express their concerns. She stated that if ERS receives these concerns from a number of people, they will consider changing the provider.

Update on Action Items

New Grade Policy – the university has returned to a paper-policy, however, faculty will receive an email notification that they have made a grade change; Faculty Senate Chair is awaiting a written policy.

Fall 2017 Enrollment – initially the enrollment number was 10,500 and as of the purge date, the enrollment fell slightly to 10,300.

Competitive Online Offerings – an Acting Assistant Provost/Assistant Vice President for Online Programs, Dr. Chantell Link has been tapped to aggressively lead the university in this effort.

Adjournment of Meeting

Senator Rockell Brown Burton: Motioned to adjourn the meeting. Senate Vice Chair Edieth Wu seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

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