



Texas Southern University Faculty Assembly/Senate

Dr. Rasoul Saneifard, Chair
Dr. Edieth Wu, Vice Chair

Dr. J. Kenyatta Cavil, Secretary
Dr. Olurominiyi Ibitayo, Treasurer

Dr. Luis Perez-Feliciano, Faculty Speaks Editor
Dr. Vera Hawkins, Parliamentarian

FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 06, 2017
Hannah Hall, Room 111, 3:00 PM

Senator Members Chair & Vice Chair

Dr. Rasoul Saneifard College of Science, Engineering and Technology (Chair)
Dr. Edieth Wu Thurgood Marshall School of Law (Vice Chair)

Senate Members Present

Abobo, Cyril	Senator, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Asare, Nana	Senator, College of Education
Bell, Edward	Senator, College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences
Brailey, Carla	Senator, College of Liberal Arts and Behavioral Sciences
Cavil, J. Kenyatta	Senator Secretary, College of Education
Griesinger, Nancy	Senator, College of Science, Engineering and Technology
Hollomon, Mario	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
Lancaster, Iris	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	Senator Editor, Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs
Perkins, Carlton	Senator, Jesse H. Jones School of Business
Regis, Humphrey	Senator, School of Communication
Reynolds, Lacey	Senator, College of Education
Saneifard, Rasoul	Senator Chair, College of Science, Engineering and Technology
Thoreson, Claire	Senator, The Graduate School
Woldie, Mammo	Senator, Jesse H. Jones School of Business
Yousefipour, Zivar	Senator, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Senate Members / Colleges Not in Attendance

Anga, Ahunanya	Senator, Thurgood Marshall School of Law
Tymczak, Christopher J.	Senator, College of Science, Engineering and Technology
Walker-Hawkins, Vera	Senator Parliamentarian, School of Communication
Wu, Edieth	Senator Vice Chair, Thurgood Marshall School of Law

Senate Counsel in Attendance

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

Guest(s) from Faculty Assembly or University

Brown, Robin	Executive Director, Office of Information Technology/Ellucian
Villarreal, Luis	Chief Information Officer, Office of Information Technology



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Call to Order

C = Comments, R = Response, and Q = Question

Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard called the April 2017 meeting of the TSU Faculty Senate to order at 3:10 p.m. on Thursday, April 6, 2017.

Approval of the March 2017 Senate Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the March 2, 2017 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Senator Dianne Jemison-Pollard to approve the minutes and seconded by Senator Secretary J. Kenyatta Cavil. The motion carried unanimously unless further modifications are necessary within thirty (30) days.

Announcements

Discussion on floor by Senators regarding the vacancy for the Faculty Speaks Editor

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Congratulated each of the newly elected executive committee members (Dr. J. Kenyatta Cavil as Faculty Chairperson, Dr. Edieth Wu as Faculty Vice Chairperson, Dr. Rasoul Saneifard as Faculty Secretary, Dr. Olurominiyi Ibitayo as Faculty Treasurer, Dr. Mammo Woldie as Faculty Parliamentarian and Dr. Luis Perez-Feliciano as Faculty Speaks Editor) for the next Faculty Senate 2017-2019 cycle. However, he asked for Senators to provide their input on how to fill the vacant, Faculty Speaks Editor position.

C: Several Senators: Discussed how the Faculty Speaks Editor position should be occupied. Senator Diane Jemison Pollard motioned to approve Senator Luis Perez-Feliciano to continue as Faculty Speaks Editor for the 2017-2019 cycle, with the condition that the Senators provide articles to the newly approved senator. Senator Humphrey Regis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with no opposing vote.

Discussion on floor by Senators regarding the Election Process and Faculty Senate Bylaws

C: Several Senators: Shared their recent issues experienced during the previous Senate election process. The Senators and the Faculty Senate General Counsel April Walker agreed to revamp and clarify the Faculty Senate Bylaws. Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard and other Senators suggested a committee is formed to review the entire document. The following Senators agreed



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to serve on this committee: J. Kenyatta Cavil, Iris Lancaster, Carlton Perkins, Lacey Reynolds, Nana Asare, Luis Perez-Feliciano and Edward Bell.

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Announced that the Senate will need to select someone to fill the Faculty Ombudsman position. He asked for suggestions on how to proceed on this matter. Senator Secretary J. Kenyatta Cavil suggested that a request is sent for nominations in order to accept those interested in the position. In addition, he recommended that the newly formed committee define the Ombudsperson's role and responsibilities for inclusion into the Faculty Senate Bylaws.

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Announced that Dr. Thelma Harmon (Assistant Professor, TMSL) was nominated and selected to serve on the University Faculty Manual Committee. However, it was recently discovered that she is an administrator, which disqualifies her from the post. Consequently, she will be removed from the list of original members serving on this committee and replaced by Dr. Johnnie Williams (Professor, JHJ), who was nominated to serve as the first alternate on this committee.

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Discussed that the current summer budget has been cut. As a result, adequate funding will not be available for summer assignments for all faculty. He added that in the past, administrators proposed a fixed summer salary, which was previously opposed by the Senate. However, now this topic is on the administration's table once again in an attempt to resolve ongoing issues related to summer funding for teaching.

Guests

C: Mr. Villarreal/Ms. Brown: Discussed ongoing, systemic issues related to grades being changed in Banner without proper authorization by the instructor. Mr. Villarreal shared a few OIT initiatives that included automated email notifications, timing of audit trails and management of time it takes for incomplete grades to be changed. Also, they are working toward a system that can identify the name of the individual who changes a grade. Furthermore, there are plans to upgrade to Banner 9, which offers more security features, however implementation depends upon the University's capital plan. In conclusion, the Senators expressed a dire need for a secure system to prevent these issues and identity theft occurrences. In response, Mr. Villarreal



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asked the Senate for specific details on these occurrences, which he states is one of the best ways to prevent future infractions.

New Business

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Shared the Provost's letter to Senator Thoreson informing her that she has been reinstated to her tenure track position in the College of Education. He explained that this case involved this Senator being treated unfairly and unjustly and demonstrates how the Senate fought to have the faculty member reinstated.

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Reassured Senator Ibitayo and other Senators that this body will continue to monitor issues relating to violations of the faculty manual by administrators.

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Suggested that faculty keep records of the dates and times that they post their grades. Several Senators shared their experiences regarding mid-term grades not being posted during Spring Break week. Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard suggested inviting the University Registrar to the next monthly meeting to address these issues.

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Shared that some colleges have initiated the process of holding elections to designate new college senators to serve as their representatives during the next 2017-2019 cycle. He added that there are no term limits for the college senators.

Old Business

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Announced that the administration's proposal of a four-day summer work week did not pass because there was insufficient time to plan the 2017 summer school assignments. However, he stated that this proposal will be implemented for the 2018 summer session, which includes a work week from Tuesday through Friday with the day starting at 7:30 a.m. and ending at 6:00 p.m. with a 30-minute lunch break. The proposed schedule change will generate a savings for the University of \$12,987.58 per day for a total of \$467,552.23 during the summer semester.

Adjourn Meeting

Q: Ask for the question. Senator Mammo Woldie moved that the meeting be adjourned. Senator



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Clair Thoreson seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.