



# TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

## FACULTY SENATE

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

*Dr. Carla Brailey, Temporary Secretary*  
*Dr. Olurominiyi Ibitayo, Treasurer*

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

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### MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 5, 2018

3:00 PM

Hannah Hall, Room 111

#### ***Presiding Senator***

Dr. Jafus Kenyatta Cavil

Chair, College of Education

#### ***Senate Members Present***

Brailey, Carla	Senator, College of Liberal Arts and Behavioral Sciences ( <i>via phone</i> )
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
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 ( <i>via phone</i> )
Maldonado, Edward (SpearIt)	Senator, Thurgood Marshall School of Law
Nwagwu, Emmanuel	Senator, College of Education
Perez-Feliciano, Luis	Faculty Speaks Editor, Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs
Regis, Humphrey	Senator, School of Communication
Reynolds, Lacey	Senator, College of Education
Thoreson, Claire	Senator, The Graduate School
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
Bell, Edward	Senator, College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences
Ibitayo, Olurominiyi	Senator Treasurer, Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs
Ojode, Lucy	Senator, Jesse H. Jones School of Business
Saneifard, Rasoul	Senator Secretary, College of Science, Engineering and Technology
Tai, Chu-Sheng	Senator, Jesse H. Jones School of Business

#### ***Senate Counsel Not in Attendance***

Walker, April	Faculty Senate General Counsel, Thurgood Marshall School of Law
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#### ***Guest(s) from Faculty Assembly or University***

Adams, Daniel	Professor, College of Liberal Arts and Behavioral Sciences
Williams, Johnnie	Professor, Jesse H. Jones School of Business



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### **Call to Order**

Senate Chair Jafus Kenyatta Cavil called the April 2018 monthly meeting of the TSU Faculty Senate to order at 3:15 p.m. on Thursday, April 5, 2018.

### **Approval of the March 2018 Senate Meeting Minutes**

The minutes from the March 1, 2018 meeting were reviewed, and Faculty Senate Chair Jafus Kenyatta Cavil called for a motion to approve the minutes. Senator Vice Chair Edieth Wu suggested corrections to the statement of votes for confirming Senator Carla Brailey as temporary secretary. Senator Grace Loudd requested the name of her school is corrected. Senator Zivar Yousefipour motioned to accept the minutes with the suggested by Senators Wu and Loudd. Senator Emmanuel Nwagwu seconded the minutes to include the suggested modifications. The motion carried with one abstention.

### **Status Reports from the Faculty Senate**

2017-2018 Attendance Report for Faculty Senators: Submitted an updated report for informational purposes only to the Senate for its review and/or suggestions.

### **Announcements from the Chair**

Faculty Senate Chair J. Kenyatta Cavil: Shared updates regarding the initial President's Council on Equity commenced by President Lane with the goal of addressing equity issues and ensure an equitable work environment at this university.

### **Guests**

Dr. Daniel Adams: As Chair of the Faculty Excellence and Awards committee he announced the names of the current members serving the committee and he described its charge in detail and the number of awards it is responsible for. Dr. Adams also shared the committee's activities thus far and he mentioned that it is also charged with reviewing applications for sabbatical. Several Senators discussed their concerns regarding how sabbaticals are awarded. Senate Chair Cavil stated that he will request sabbaticals as an agenda item for discussion at the President's Cabinet.

*Senators discussed their concerns regarding its request to the Board to form a taskforce in relation to implementing a tobacco-free campus*

Dr. Johnnie Williams: Presented a proposal on a tobacco-free campus. Dr. Williams discussed statistics on the causes of deaths, demographics regarding tobacco use among adults and young adults in the United States. Furthermore, Dr. Williams provided overviews of the risks of smokers and non-smokers. Additionally, she discussed agencies and other municipalities in the State of Texas have implemented smoke-free policies. She suggested several options and strategies that can lead Texas Southern University to becoming a tobacco-free campus. Senator Rockell Brown Burton moved with a taskforce to explore possibilities of a smoke-free and



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tobacco-free campus. Motion seconded by Senator Grace Loudd. Faculty Senate Chair Cavil proposed to amend the motion to send Dr. Williams' presentation to faculty-at-large in order to receive a vote and garner support from the assembly. Furthermore, Vice Chair Wu commented that in the essence of time as the Faculty Senate are in a position to determine whether or not this body supports this initiative because each senator of this body represents their constituents. Several Senators discussed the most appropriate strategy to move forward with its request to the Board of Regents to consider forming and implementing a taskforce to develop a tobacco-free campus environment. The motion carried unanimously with no opposing votes.

### **Old Business**

Senator Rockell Brown Burton: Expounded that the topic of limitations of teaching 50-minute classes. She stated that there is more feasible to have classes meet Mondays and Wednesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays and Tuesdays and Thursdays, in order to reduce the frustrations with teaching schedules. Additionally, she discussed challenges she has experienced with completing research, teaching stating the one hour and 15 minutes is more conducive to accomplish teaching activities during class time. Senate Chair Cavil suggested a study is conducted to explore these options. Several senators discussed suggestions to these proposals.

Faculty Senate Chair Cavil: Announced the following senators: J. Kenyatta Cavil, Reynolds, Edward Bell, Luis Perez-Feliciano, Claire Thoreson, Iris Lancaster, Carlton Perkins and Nana Asare, agreed to serve on the committee to review and update senate bylaws. He stated that he intends to move forward by activating the committee.

Senator Claire Thoreson: Discussed and identified her concern with the language in Section 5.1 Workload Priority. Senator Thoreson and several senators agreed that the language is ambiguous and considered that it could be left up to an individual's interpretation, which can be problematic.

### **New Business**

None.

### **Adjournment of Meeting**

Senator Mammo Woldie: Motioned to adjourn the meeting. Senator Carlos Handy seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

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