

# Faculty Senate Minutes

D. Craig for N. Garcia-Franken

2024-09-13

## Draft notes taken in Senate:

Called to order at 12:18 pm

## Prior minutes approval

Minor correction (misspellings). Unnikrishnan move to approve with minor corrections, seconded

## President remarks

New EPML senator, need new senator for Library (moved to admin) Tamus  
assembly of fac senates

- Cordial
- Sharp & Hallmark there
  - asked about textbooks
    - Leitch will ask for comments
- Keep personal social media separate.
- Chancellors positive about TAMUSCFS
  - maybe legislature attack in on FSs.

Terry meeting yesterday

- Potential attack on faculty senates next session of legislature.
  - Maybe around May '25

Byrd: good idea to look at SACSCOC statements on faculty governance.

Terry also would like feedback on textbooks. Leitch asks for feedback from Senators and their faculty.

Senator: notes difficulties for instructors: heavy load, no merit, lot of work for them to switch.

A senator noted that phone number shared last time worked (but long wait) also got a faculty-direct, which will be shared.

## Byrd remarks

Faculty need to check CVs inside interfolio: particularly changes to credentialing. Cross-listed classes - credential for both. Graduate classes - need to be signed up with Graduate School.

Constitute Committees:

**Faculty Handbook:** (each college)

ANS: David Craig

BUS: Turkan Kilic ENG:

Audrey Meador ESS: Kristy

Bartlett FAH: Matt Reardon

NHS: Blake Price

Motion to approve slate: Reardon, seconded, passed

## Joint Faculty-Student Committee on Academic Affairs

- ANS: Bridget Guerrero
- BUS: Brandli Stitzel
- ENG: Vinu Unnikrishnan
- ESS: Brandon Bang
- FAH: John Shanks
- NHS: Kerrie Young

Motion to approve slate: Callie Hisek, seconded, passed.

## Unfinished Business

### Magister Optimus

Not awarded - departure

To award in May, would need handbook change.

## Motion

Hisek: Moves to award no Magister Optimus this year. Seconded, motion passed.

President asks FH committee to look at wording of MO award as check.

## Univ Committee Vacancies

- Traffic Appeals: Nominees (any college): Harry Wu, (alternate 2-year term)
- Fac Development: ESS: Shanna Peebles (2yr)
- Fac Emeritus: Michelle Bartlett
- Student Handbook: Lina Hajje
- Library committee NHS 1 yr: Kerrie Young
- University curriculum NHS 3 yr: Traci Fredman

All by acclamation except Student Handbook

Library senator vacancy - president working on election. Faculty Dev

leave - need to get info in soon.

#### **Piper Professors Regents Professors:**

Terry encourages these, nominees could be same for both. Get information out take nominees for both. Please share links. –Application processes are long.

**Next meeting Senate puts nominees forward.**

#### **Digital textbooks**

Please send comments to President Leitch, solicit from colleagues.

#### **Merit Pay**

Leitch asks for comments for discussion with University President.

#### **Discussion**

Previous president, 10 increases in 10 years, current (8 years) 3 merit increases. Equity issue for hires under Wendler. Salary inversions between tenured and new hires. Starting to fester.

Once had committee make comparison of WT to equivalent institutions and sent data with justification to legislature, got large raise. (Under Long and Killebrew, so long ago.)

Put numbers before those who can change it. Something needs to be done—have full-time (tenured) faculty looking for second jobs. Amarillo College pays more than WTAMU.

Faculty don't feel supported, as those who deal directly with students.

**Add** discuss technology with President: computers are inadequate, difficulty in getting apps needed for research. Not able to get clearance from IT to load needed software. People to handle software.

#### **Motion:**

Callie Hisek: Move that Senate form a committee to evaluate salary comparisons with similar universities, one per college. Seconded and passed.

Constitute committee (Equity Pay Committee):

- Jim Rogers, ANS
- David Howe, BUS
- COE, Fisseha Alemayehu
- ESS, Shanna Peoples

- FAH, Callie Hisek
- NHS, Traci Fredman

#### Training pay/merit issue

President charges Senate Handbook Committee to look at HR training demand, merit pay issues.

#### Travel card issues

Pro- and CBA cards, why are we forced into it?

Ask colleagues how many hours spend on travel and CBA cards. Motion to adjourn (Callie Hisek) meeting adjourned