

Faculty Senate

Meeting Minutes

March 5, 2025 / Bayou 1313 & Teams / 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Senators

Present: Anne Anders, Jennifer Arney Cuevas, Sheila Baker, Yvette Bendeck, Nelson Carter, Stephen Cotten, Neal Dugre, Kathleen Garland, Anne Gessler, Michelle Giles, Jennifer Grace, Charitha Hettiarachchi, Rebecca Huss-Keeler, Daniel Imrecke, Lorie Jacobs, Preeti Jain, Vanessa Johnson, Nicholas Kelling, Renée Lastrapes, Yingfu Li, Queinnise Miller, Zack Mustafaev, Alfredo Perez-Davila, Ivelina Pavlova-Stout, Roberta Raymond, Leroy Robinson, Gene Shan, Yi Su, Lisa Sublett, Ishaq Unwala, L. Jean Walker, Christine Walther, Omah Williams-Duncan, Lin Yi, Se-Hyoung Yi

Administrative Guests: Marty Baylor, David Brittain, David Garrison, LeeBrian Gaskins, Allison Gillespie, Jennifer Irvin, Beth Lewis, Kathryn Matthew, Marci McMahon, Yolanda Nimmer-Williams, Veronica Ortiz, Joan Pedro, Shreerekha Pillai, Tina Powellson, Glenn Sanford, Terry Sheppard, Troy Voelker, Edward Waller, Brice Yates

Next meeting: April 2, 2025 / Bayou 1313 & Teams / 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Call to Order – Dr. Lastrapes

1:00

Approval of Faculty Senate minutes – Dr. Lastrapes

Minutes approved

Provost's Office Report – Dr. Matthew for Dr. Maynard

Dr. Matthew spoke about the academic calendar and how dates are decided upon. She advised that since this is college specific, go to your dean with any questions or concerns first. These concerns can be addressed during deans council.

Bayou Renovation Update – Doug Wells

Mr. Wells discussed the SSCB conversion renovation in detail. Finance business operations will be moving to this area and leaving NOA II. He discussed the universities SUE score "space usage efficiency". Other projects including the Bayou renovation were discussed.

[Committee Reports are attached. There was discussion about the committee reports as follows:](#)

Senate Committee Report – Faculty Life – Dr. Imrecke

A review of the report and an overview of the changes to the policies was provided. There were 3 policies that the committee voted to retire.

Standards of Conduct

Vote: unanimously Yes

Legal Responsibilities

Vote: unanimously Yes

Search and Selection Procedures

Vote: unanimously Yes

Voluntary Modification of Faculty Employment Program Policy – Questions and discussions over the changes rationale occurred.

Vote: unanimously Yes

Faculty Dismissal Policy – Questions, discussion, clarifications, and proposed updates occurred.

Vote: 28 Yea; 0 Nay; 1 Abstain – with proposed changes to language

Senate Committee Report – Teaching & Research – Dr. Walther

A review of the report and overview of the policy changes was provided. No questions were asked.

Senate Committee Report – Budget & Facilities – Dr. Dugre

A review of the report was provided. No questions were asked.

Senate Committee Report – Curriculum – Dr. Baker

A brief review of each proposal was provided. Minor discussions and clarifications occurred.

Combined & Parallel UG/Grad Policy - Renew

Policy on Program Renews – replace EPCC with Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee - Renew

Grad Early Childhood Int. Certification 18 hours to 15 hours - PASS

PK-3 Bilingual UG (B.S.) - PASS

Public Health B.S. - PASS

Program Discontinuance – PASS with 1 abstain online .

Senate Committee Report – Governance – Dr. Carter for Dr. Cotten

A review of the report was provided. No questions were asked.

Shared Governance Reports – Drs. Gessler, Huss-Keeler, and Kelling

- University Life – Dr. Gessler

A review of the report was provided. No questions were asked. Feedback was requested.

- Facilities & Support Services – Dr. Huss-Keeler

A review of the report was provided. No questions were asked.

- Planning and Budget – Dr. N. Kelling

A review of the report and a summary breakdown of the previous PBC meeting was provided. Questions and discussions on the numbers displayed, reserves, expenses, inflation, inquiries for FY26 updates, VSIP outcomes, and questions about future cuts occurred.

Center for Faculty Development – Veronica Ortiz for Dr. McMahon

Faculty Development Funds – is still available. The next deadline for applications is March 2025.

Writing Challenge – The month-long challenge started this week.

New Business – Dr. Lastrapes

No new business

Call for Adjournment – Dr. Lastrapes

2:49