

Faculty Senate

Meeting Minutes

April 2, 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

Absent:

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

Next meeting: May 7, 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 were approved**

Provost's Office Report – Dr. Maynard

Dr. Maynard spoke about the ongoing VP search. Questions and feedback will be open for the candidates.

Dean Pedro announced her retirement.

Discussed legislative updates and information about Senate Bill 37 that might be passed.

Simple Syllabus Update – Dr. Shefman

Introduction of Simple Syllabus, brief overview, and questions and answers.

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

Senate Committee Report – Faculty Life – Dr. Imrecke

No action items. Information items were discussed about changes/updates to policies.

Senate Committee Report – Teaching & Research – Dr. Walther

Committee report was discussed. No questions were asked.

Senate Committee Report – Budget & Facilities – Dr. Dugre

Committee report was discussed. No questions were asked.

Senate Committee Report – Curriculum – Dr. Baker

No actions items. Committee report was discussed. No questions were asked.

Senate Committee Report – Governance – Dr. Cotten

No action items. Discussed proposed new faculty handbook. No questions were asked.

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

- University Life – Yolanda Edmond for Dr. Gessler

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

- 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 – Dr. McMahon

Events coming up in April were discussed.

Veronica Ortiz will be retiring in May.

New Business – Dr. Lastrapes

Call was sent out for nominations for Faculty Senate President.

Ballots will most likely be sent out on Monday.

Call for Adjournment – Dr. Lastrapes

Meeting adjourned at 2:09 PM