

## **TAMU Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**

May 13, 2019

3:15pm

Rudder 601

<http://facultysenate.tamu.edu>

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Speaker Harlin called the meeting to order at 3:15pm.

### **AWARD PRESENTATIONS**

Speaker Harlin announced the Aggie Spirit Awards were being given to four deserving students, thanks to the generosity of Senators who donated. She read excerpts from the nominators' letters for the four winners, inviting each recipient up in turn to accept their award.

**Theresa Coleman**, Dentistry, nominated by Dr. Katie Julien

**Dillon Duncan**, Agriculture and Life Sciences, nominated by Dr. Leo Lombardini

**Kyndall Foust**, Education & Human Development, nominated by Dr. Meg Patterson

**Virginia B. Neese**, Medicine, nominated by Dr. Bryn Esplin

Speaker Harlin then introduced the Richard Stadelmann Faculty Senate Service Award winner, Senator Jay Ramadoss, who was invited to the podium to receive his award.

### **GUEST SPEAKERS**

Speaker Harlin introduced the team of guest speakers from TAMU Human Resources who spoke on Workday issues relevant to faculty.

**Jeff Risinger, Vice President of Human Resources & Organizational Effectiveness**

**Ms. Elizabeth Schwartz, Director of Total Rewards, Human Resources**

**Mr. Bradley Blair, Executive Director, TAMUS Human Capital Management**

VP Risinger expressed appreciation for the Senate survey that solicited feedback from faculty. He believes we are transitioning from stabilization to optimization. Ms. Schwartz spoke to the concerns raised in the survey results, and Mr. Blair spoke more globally about the state of Workday. All communicated that it is their top priority to make sure Workday is working for everyone.

The team then fielded questions from the following Senators:

David Earnest, College of Medicine

Angie Hill Price, College of Engineering

Beverly Irby, College of Education and Human Development

Jorge Alvarado, College of Engineering

Speaker Harlin thanked the team for their efforts and for speaking to the Senate. She then welcomed Dean Bobby Adieh to the podium.

**Robert B. Ahdieh**, Dean and Anthony G. Buzbee Endowed Dean's Chair, TAMU School of Law

Dean Ahdieh presented information about the TAMU School of Law: past, present, and future.

- Past: The Law School was established in 1989 as a freestanding school, was then acquired by Texas Wesleyan in 1992, and acquired by Texas A&M University in 2013. Since then the Law School has embraced Texas A&M and has flourished.
- Present: He shared multiple slides depicting the growth of the Law School in national rankings, outcomes, faculty size and diversity, and reputation and rankings.
- Future. There are three particular areas they are focusing on going forward:
  - Expanded Master's Degree, Executive Education & Distance Programs
  - Partnership possibilities with College Station colleges and departments such as joint degrees, joint appointments and programs, and research collaborations.
  - Texas A&M engagement with the Dallas/Fort Worth area – he invited all to consider holding gatherings such as conferences, symposia, and speakers at the Law School when a metropolitan location is appropriate. Also executive education programs, student externships, etc.

Dean Ahdieh then opened the floor to questions from the following Senators:

Jay Ramadoss, College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences.

Jorge Alvarado, College of Engineering

Rajesh Miranda, College of Medicine

David Staack, College of Engineering

Speaker Harlin thanked Dean Ahdieh for speaking to the Senate.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No announcements.

## **SPEAKER COMMENTS**

Speaker Harlin had brief comments, as she would be presenting the State of the Senate address later in the meeting:

- Elections for Senate and Committee seats were completed and an email with the results was sent to all faculty. Results can also be found on the home page of the website.
- Senators were encouraged to complete the Inactive Status for the summer form; Betsy would resend that link the following day.
- There would be a reception following the meeting for all Senators, to which deans, department heads and administrators were invited, as well as our distance Senators.
- She met with System Administrators several weeks prior to discuss the MyEvide health assessment requirement. She believes their concerns were heard, but rather than eliminate it, they were working on adding an assessment through Blue Cross Blue Shield, and on how to communicate this to faculty and staff.
- As Speaker-Elect Klein was still in Antarctica, the gavel would be passed to him at the June meeting; Robin Means Coleman will be speaking at the June meeting.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The motion passed to approve the April 8, 2019 minutes as distributed. ***Attachment A – Passed***

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

The motion passed to approve the Consent Agenda. (*Consent Agenda* can be found below *Adjournment*.)

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

No unfinished business was conducted.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Core Curriculum Council Course Report – *no report***

### **Other Committee Reports**

#### **Task Force for SAP: Selection, Evaluation, and Retention of Deans and Department Heads – Appendix – *Attachment M – passed – FS.35.529***

Speaker Harlin recapped the results of the faculty survey on the Appendix for the SAP on the Selection, Evaluation and Retention of Dean and Department Head Standard Administrative Procedure. The motion then passed to approve the Appendix for the SAP on the Selection, Evaluation and Retention of Dean and Department Heads. The Task Force members stood to applause for their work on the committee.

No further committee reports were heard, but Speaker Harlin requested all committees to submit their spring semester committee report by the June 10 meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was conducted.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Recommendation of May 2019 Degree Candidates**

Secretary Sicilio moved approval for the following degree candidates:

- TOTAL – 10,903
- TAMU-Main – 9,129
- TAMU-Galveston – 283
- TAMU-HSC – 758
- TAMU-Law – 160
- TAMU-Qatar – 89
- TAMU-VMBS – 484

The motion passed to certify the May 2019 degree candidates.

### **State of the Senate Address – Speaker Julie Harlin (full text found at end of minutes)**

### **Appreciation of Out-going Speaker**

Speaker Harlin was awarded with a resolution on her tenure as Speaker, read by Speaker-Elect Andrew Klein via a video recording from Antarctica, and was presented with several gifts.

## **Appreciation of Out-going Executive Committee Members**

Speaker Harlin presented Certificates of Appreciation to all of the year's Executive Committee Members, and a photograph was taken of the group.

## **Election of Speaker-Elect, Secretary/Treasurer, and Executive Committee**

Elections were handled online for the first time, with Senators being provided the URL's to ballots for each respective race.

## **Announcement of Election Results**

### Speaker-Elect:

John Stallone

### Secretary/Treasurer:

Alva Ferdinand

### At-Large Members:

Dan Collins

Catharina Laporte

Rajesh Miranda

Angie Hill Price

Heather Ramsey

Dale Rice

Mark Sicilio

Grace Townsend

Jim Woosley

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

New Speaker-Elect John Stallone was invited to the podium for the Committee of the Whole.

### **Claire Katz, College of Liberal Arts**

Senator Katz shared a difficult story of becoming a target for right wing media sites after leading discussions on the intersection of anti-Semitism and Islamaphobia. Senator Katz proposed creation of a code of ethics for the University's journalism students. She thanked a number of administrators who have been supportive.

Speaker-Elect Stallone turned the meeting back over to Speaker Harlin.

## **ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:26pm.

**ATTACHMENTS BELOW: Approved Consent Agenda, Speaker Harlin's *State of the Senate Address***

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

## GRADUATE COUNCIL

### **New Courses – *Attachment B – passed – FS.36.518***

CSCE 711 Introduction to Modern Cryptography  
MGMT 682 Seminar in Strategic Entrepreneurship  
MGMT 683 Seminar in Organizational and Strategic Leadership  
OCNG 680 Paleoclimate

### **Change in Courses – *Attachment C – passed – FS.36.519***

ECEN 641 Microwave Solid-State Integrated Circuits  
EDAD 623 Advanced Fieldwork Methods  
EDCI 604 E-Learning Classroom Management  
EHRD 638 Issues in Adult Education  
FINC 645 International Finance  
ISEN 645 Lean Engineering  
PETE 603 Advanced Reservoir Engineering I  
PETE 633 Data Integration for Petroleum Reservoirs  
PETE 657 High Performance Computing for Earth Science and Petroleum Engineering  
SCSC 646 Advanced Studies in Cotton Fiber Quality and Its Measurements  
SCSC 654 Analysis of Complex Genomes  
SCSC 655 Analysis of Complex Genomes—Lab  
STAT 631 Statistical Methods in Finance

### **Change in Programs – *Attachment D – passed – FS.36.520***

#### **Mays Business School**

Department of Business

MS-ANLY Master of Science in Analytics

## UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

### **New Courses – *Attachment E – passed – FS.36.521***

GEOL 208 Life on a Dynamic Planet

### **New Courses – *Attachment F – passed – FS.36.522***

#### **Texas A&M University at Galveston**

MART 265 Introduction to Dynamic Positioning OSVDPA Phase I

### **Change in Courses – *Attachment G – passed – FS.36.523***

ANTH 202 Introduction to Archaeology  
ANTH 210 Social and Cultural Anthropology  
CHEN 320 Numerical Analysis for Chemical Engineers  
CHEN 323 Chemical Engineering Heat Transfer Operations  
CHEN 364 Kinetics and Reactor Design  
CHEN 451 Introduction to Polymer Engineering  
CHEN 459 Gas and Petroleum Processing  
COSC 450 Facility Management Principles and Practices  
CSCE 110 Programming I  
CSCE 221 Data Structures and Algorithms  
CSCE 312 Computer Organization  
CSCE 313 Introduction to Computer Systems  
CSCE 314 Programming Languages  
ESET 210 Circuit Analysis  
ESET 219 Digital Electronics  
HIST 242 United States Maritime History  
MKTG 335 Professional Selling  
MMET 275 Mechanics for Technologists

MUSC 226	History of Rock
OCEN 201	Introduction to Ocean Engineering
OCEN 221	Engineering Mechanics: Statics
OCNG 443	Oceanographic Field and Laboratory Methods
OCNG 453	Hydrothermal Vents and Mid-Ocean Ridges
POLS 206	American National Government
POLS 207	State and Local Government
THAR 281	History of the Theatre II

**Change in Courses – *Attachment H – passed – FS.36.524***

**Texas A&M University at Galveston**

MARA 301	Ocean Transportation I
MARA 363	The Management Process
MARA 416	Port Operations, Administration and Economics
MARA 421	Admiralty Law
MARA 424	Economics of Transportation
MARA 450	Maritime Supply Chain Management
MARE 205	Engineering Mechanics I
MARE 207	Electrical Power I
MARE 452	Senior Design Project II
MAST 345	Texas Maritime Culture and History
MAST 441	Maritime Piracy

**Change in Programs – *Attachment I – passed – FS.36.525***

**College of Science**

Department of Statistics  
 MINOR-STAT Statistics - Minor

**Change in Programs – Inactivation Proposal – *Attachment J – passed – FS.36.526***

**College of Education and Human Development**

Department of Educational Psychology  
 CERT-CU11 Creative Studies - Certificate

**W&C COURSES**

**Courses Submitted for C Certification – *Attachment K – passed – FS.36.527***

ECEN 404-C	Electrical Design Laboratory II
ESET 419-C	Engineering Technology Capstone I

**Courses Submitted for W Certification – *Attachment L – passed – FS.36.528***

ANTH 436-W	Ancient Egypt
ATMO 463-W	Air Quality
BUSN 225-W	Business Competency
DCED 401-W	Dance Pedagogy
INTS 409-W	Culture, Neoliberalism and Globalism
ISTM 410-W	Management of Information Systems
RELS 481-W	Senior Seminar
WFSC 485-W	Directed Studies

---

*End of Consent Agenda*

*DR. JULIE HARLIN, SPEAKER OF THE FACULTY SENATE*  
THE ANNUAL STATE OF THE SENATE ADDRESS  
MAY 13, 2019

The State of the Senate...it sounds like a presidential television special, doesn't it? For me, the State of the Senate is a reflection of our accomplishments over the past year. When I considered our year together, I am, quite frankly, overwhelmed and humbled by what we have accomplished together. I recall shortly after I was elected Speaker Elect, President Young asked me what my goals for the Senate were. I articulated then that it was to improve the relevance and responsiveness of the Senate for Faculty and Administrators. I feel confident in saying that we have made strides in reaching that goal.

Often we throw around terms like "shared governance," "collaboration," and "cooperation." The big surprise for me this year was to see these terms in action and see the results of what can happen when faculty, administrators, students, and staff work together to solve the issues before us. Not only did we review and approve hundreds of courses, course changes, programs, program changes, and student rules, we also engaged in important dialog regarding issues important to faculty across our institution.

Let me start with some of our highlighted accomplishments, the first being the Entrepreneurship Minor. You will recall that the Faculty Senate rejected the initial proposal. Rather than sit on that, we worked with a task force to develop a framework that not only improved the proposal, but may serve as a framework for a university level minor in the future.

The second major issue we faced were the changes to the Dean and Department Head Rules, first initiated by our System last year. Though we faced some challenging times with this issue last fall, it serves as another example of the Senate functioning in the spirit of shared governance. The Task Force we created worked to develop a document that will serve the best interests of faculty in the selection, evaluation, and reappointment of deans and department heads in the future.

The Senate initiated a number of faculty surveys this year: Student Rule 7, RELLIS Parking, Workday Issues, and the Selection, evaluation, and reappointment of Deans and Department Head. In each case, the results of the surveys and the comments provided by faculty were used to inform our Senate leadership as well as our administrators. I am excited to see the purposeful responses from our administrators to the many issues of concern to faculty. Some of the results include approval of significant changes to Student Rule 7, changes in the process for RELLIS parking, opportunities to work with our administrators to improve Workday, and faculty service on many of the Student Success Initiatives currently underway.

Not only did we work on internal collaborations, we also found ways to collaborate and forge partnerships with colleagues at our System institutions as well as University of Texas at Austin. These opportunities arose as we experienced the challenges associated with the Field of Study requirements at the Higher Education Coordinating Board and the MyEvide Health Assessment.

Our year together was not perfect. We still have some unresolved issues in some of our colleges; occasionally we experience uncivil discourse within the Senate; we still have some questions about partnerships we are working to understand; we still struggle with communicating effectively and efficiently. But, I believe we have moved forward

this year in many of these areas. By creating task forces and ad hoc committees, paired with wide faculty input through the Senate surveys, we have worked to become both relevant and responsive to the faculty we serve. This has helped us become more relevant to many of our administrators. I personally believe that the Senate is well positioned for the future because of your work and participation in the shared governance process.

Quite honestly, not much of this would have been possible without the support of our Executive Assistant, Betsy Peterson, who has had a whirlwind year learning the ins and outs of her position. When I think back to one year ago, when we were without a dedicated support person and were scrambling to do so many of our important functions, I am thrilled at our current situation of Senate support. I look forward to better years ahead with Betsy's guidance and help to future Speakers.

Personally, this has been a landmark year. I cannot recall a year as busy or productive as this one. I am reminded of the importance and value of service. Though there have been challenges and it hasn't always been easy, I am humbled to have had the opportunity to serve you over this past year. I have learned so much from this experience and from you. Perhaps the best part has been all the friendships I now have with so many of you. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you this year. I know I leave the Senate in the capable hands of Speaker Andrew Klein for the year ahead.