

TAMU Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

June 15, 2020

3:00pm

Via Zoom

<http://facultysenate.tamu.edu>

CALL TO ORDER

Speaker John Stallone called the first meeting of the 38th Session to order at 3:00pm. Due to ongoing social distancing practices due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was fully conducted via Zoom. Speaker Stallone began by reminding Senators of details of how to participate remotely via Zoom using the hand-raising, polling, and chat features.

GUEST SPEAKER

Speaker Stallone welcomed guest speaker Dr. Karen Butler-Purry, Associate Provost for Graduate and Professional Studies. Dr. Butler-Purry thanked Speaker Stallone for the opportunity to speak to the Senate about the Graduate School Task Force's proposal for creating a Graduate School within the University. Dr. Butler-Purry's slide presentation and the draft of the Graduate School Proposal are linked here. She presented on the:

- Background leading to the creation of the Task Force
- The Task Force charge and membership
- The timeline and scope
- The proposal to create the Graduate School
- The rationale
- The benefits of re-branding as a Graduate School
- The guiding principles
- The administrative organization of Graduate Operations
- Proposed changes and continuation of current practices

Dr. Butler-Purry then took questions from the following Senators:

Hank Walker, College of Engineering
Jorge Alvarado, College of Engineering

Dr. Butler-Purry encouraged faculty to provide comments through the link provided in the presentation. Speaker Stallone thanked her for speaking to the group.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Jocelyn Widmer, Assistant Provost for Academic Innovation

Dr. Widmer provided her monthly update on the progress of implementing the new learning management system (LMS). This included a technical update, Canvas "by-the-numbers" live, the timeline for Summer 2, the online training course, academic liaisons for each college, next steps for faculty members, feedback from student workers, and next steps for implementation. For greater detail, see Dr. Widmer's slide presentation and notes

Dr. Widmer took questions from the following Senators:
Alva Ferdinand, School of Public Health
Julie Harlin, College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

SPEAKER COMMENTS

Speaker Stallone reflected on the two challenges confronting everyone: the COVID-19 pandemic, and racism and the resulting violence. The full text of his comments can be found here.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The motion passed to approve the May 11, 2020 minutes as distributed. **Attachment A – Passed**

CONSENT AGENDA

The motion passed to approve the June 8, 2020 Consent Agenda as presented. **Passed**
(Full **Consent Agenda** with FS #'s can be found below *Adjournment*.)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

No Core Curriculum Course Report.

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Revisions to Minimum Syllabus Requirements - Attachment B – Passed – FS.38.025

Speaker Stallone asked if there was any discussion, and the following Senators had questions or concerns:

Stefanie Harris, College of Liberal Arts
Hank Walker, College of Engineering
Angie Hill Price, College of Engineering

Faculty member 'Jon Jasperson, who served on the committee drafting the Minimum Syllabus Requirements, clarified that the statement should appear exactly "as-is," meaning that faculty can **add** to the statement, but cannot **remove** language.

The motion passed to approve the Minimum Syllabus Requirements found in Attachment B.

Emergency Item – Resolution to End Institutional Racism and Other Forms of Hate at Texas A&M University - Attachment E – Passed – FS.38.028

Speaker Stallone stated that the Executive Committee approved the resolution and asked him to place it on the agenda for consideration by the full Senate. The motion was made for approval, with comments or questions from the following Senators and the Dean of Faculties:

Stefanie Harris, College of Liberal Arts
Joan Wolf, College of Liberal Arts
Bobby Reece, College of Geosciences
Adam Kolasinski, Mays Business School
Dan Collins, College of Science
Angie Hill Price, College of Engineering
Bruce Neville, University Libraries
James Erickson, College of Science
Alva Ferdinand, School of Public Health
Jim Woosley, College of Education & Human Development
David Earnest, College of Medicine
Raquel Sitcheran, College of Medicine
Blanca Lupiani, Dean of Faculties

The motion passed to approve the Resolution found in Attachment E.

Senator Beth McNeill expressed concern over the inability to abstain from voting via Zoom poll; Senator and former Parliamentarian Julie Harlin clarified that abstentions can only occur during a “call to vote,” not votes by hand-raising.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Speaker-Elect Dale Rice convened the Committee of the Whole.

An unidentified Senator posed a question in the “Chat” section, wondering if there would be Senate meetings in July and August. Speaker-Elect Rice answered that tentatively there would be meetings, due to the large amount of changes due to COVID-19 accommodations. Also, meeting via Zoom makes it easier for Senators to attend when away from campus.

It was noted that Provost Fierke is scheduled to address the Senate at the July 13th meeting, and the importance of the information she can provide.

Another question from the “Chat” section inquired as to whether there would be face-to-face instruction in the fall regardless of COVID-19 resurgence. Associate Provost Mike Stephenson provided the information that currently the plans are to keep in-person instruction unless something changes drastically.

Speaker-Elect Dale Rice turned the meeting back over to Speaker Stallone.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:56pm.

INCLUDED BELOW: Approved Consent Agenda

CONSENT AGENDA for June 2020

GRADUATE COUNCIL

New Courses – *Passed* – FS.38.001

[ACCT 659: Introduction to Academic Research](#)

[ANTH 663: Analytical Methods in Archaeology and Conservation](#)

[ANLY 610: Deploying Enterprise Data Models and Building Optimization Models](#)

[ANLY 620: Strategic Analytics](#)

[GENE 659: Genome Assembly](#)

[SPED 604: Introduction to Applied Behavior Analysis](#)

[SPED 605: Leadership in Applied Behavior Analysis](#)

Change in Courses – *Passed* – FS.38.002

[BIED 618: Early Language and Literacy](#)

[BIED 683: Field Practicum in...](#)

[BIED 684: Professional Internship](#)

[BIOL 606: Microbial Genetics](#)

[CPSY 662: Professional Issues and Ethics in Counseling Psychology](#)

[CPSY 666: Practicum in Counselor Supervision](#)

[EDCI 640: Language/Literacy for Multicultural Young Learners](#)

[EDCI 650: The Multicultural Young Child in Family and Culture](#)

[KINE 601: Reading Research Publications in Kinesiology](#)

[KINE 651: Introduction to Human Clinical Research](#)

[MATH 614: Dynamical Systems and Chaos](#)

[MATH 666: Seminar in Geometry](#)

[MATH 696: Mathematical Communication and Technology](#)

Change in Courses – Inactivation Proposal – *Passed* – FS.38.003

College of Medicine

Department of Medicine

[EDHP 521: Curriculum Management, Leadership and Evaluation](#)

Change in Courses – Inactivation Proposal – *Passed* – FS.38.004

College of Medicine

Department of Medicine

[EDHP 523: Educational Research Design Practicum](#)

Change in Courses – Inactivation Proposal – *Passed* – FS.38.005

College of Medicine

Department of Medicine

[EDHP 524: Manuscript Development Practicum](#)

Change in Programs – *Passed* – FS.38.006

Mays Business School

College of Business

[MS-ANLY: Master of Science in Analytics](#)

Change in Programs – *Passed* – FS.38.007

College of Geosciences

Department of Geography

[MS-WMHS: Master of Science in Water Management and Hydrological Science](#)

Change in Programs – *Passed* – FS.38.008

College of Dentistry

Department of Dentistry

[PHD-OCBS: Doctor of Philosophy in Oral and Craniofacial Biomedical Sciences](#)

Miscellaneous: Bulk/Mass Prefix Change – Passed – FS.38.009

College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

Department of Nutrition and Department of Food Science

[Graduate Courses \(NFSC to NUTR/FSTC\)](#)

UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

New Courses – Passed – FS.38.010

[AGSM 105: The World Has a Drinking Problem - Global Water Scarcity](#)

[MKTG 437: Sales Analytics](#)

Change in Courses – Passed – FS.38.011

[CHEN 205: Chemical Engineering Thermodynamics I](#)

[IDIS 424: Purchasing Applications in Distribution](#)

[MGMT 311: Legal and Social Environment of Business](#)

[MGMT 312: Commercial Law for Accountants and Managers](#)

[OCEN 214: Mechanics of Deformable Bodies](#)

[OCEN 344: Reinforced Concrete Structures](#)

[OCEN 311: Fluid Statics and Dynamics](#)

[SOCI 230: Classical Sociological Theory](#)

[SOCI 312: Population and Society](#)

[SOMS 181: Developing and Instructing Others](#)

Change in Courses – Inactivation Proposal – Passed – FS.38.012

College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

Department of Biochemistry & Biophysics

[BICH 281: Seminar in Biochemical Research](#)

Change in Courses – Inactivation Proposal – Passed – FS.38.013

College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

Department of Biochemistry & Biophysics

[BICH 289: Special Topics in...](#)

Change in Courses – Inactivation Proposal – Passed – FS.38.014

College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

Department of Biochemistry & Biophysics

[BICH 291: Research](#)

Change in Courses – Inactivation Proposal – Passed – FS.38.015

College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

Department of Biochemistry & Biophysics

[BICH 407: Horizons in Biological Chemistry II](#)

Change in Courses – Inactivation Proposal – Passed – FS.38.016

College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

Department of Biochemistry & Biophysics

[GENE 289: Special Topics in...](#)

Change in Courses – Inactivation Proposal – Passed – FS.38.017

College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

Department of Biochemistry & Biophysics

[GENE 291: Research](#)

Change in Courses – Inactivation Proposal – Passed – FS.38.018

College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

Department of Biochemistry & Biophysics
[GENE 315: Genetics of Plants](#)

Change in Courses – Inactivation Proposal – *Passed* – FS.38.019

College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

Department of Biochemistry & Biophysics
[GENE 450: Recombinant DNA and Biotechnology](#)

Change in Courses – Inactivation Proposal – *Passed* – FS.38.020

College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

Department of Biochemistry & Biophysics
[GENE 481: Genetics I Seminar](#)

Change in Courses – Inactivation Proposal – *Passed* – FS.38.021

College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

Department of Biochemistry & Biophysics
[GENE 482: Genetics II Seminar](#)

W&C COURSES

Courses Submitted for C Certification – Galveston – *Passed* – FS.38.022

[MARS 460-C: Capstone Undergraduate Research Experience I](#)

Courses Submitted for W Certification – *Passed* – FS.38.023

[ANTH 489-W: Special Topics in...](#)

[MSEN 302-W: Unified Materials Lab II](#)

[PHIL 305-W: Philosophy of the Natural Sciences](#)

[PHIL 307-W: Philosophy of the Social Sciences](#)

Courses Submitted for W Certification – Galveston – *Passed* – FS.38.024

[MARS 461-W: Capstone Undergraduate Research Experience II](#)