

## TAMU Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

August 9, 2021

3:00pm

Via Zoom

<http://facultysenate.tamu.edu>

*The full video recording of the meeting can be accessed on the Faculty Senate website:*

<https://facultysenate.tamu.edu/Faculty-Senate-Meeting-Recordings>.

### CALL TO ORDER

Speaker Dale Rice called the third meeting of the 39<sup>th</sup> Session to order at 3:00pm. Due to ongoing social distancing practices resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was conducted via Zoom. Speaker Rice reminded Senators of the Zoom features to be used during the meeting.

### GUEST SPEAKER

Speaker Rice welcomed guest speaker Dr. Alicia Dorsey, Assistant Provost for Institutional Effectiveness & SACSCOC Liaison. She presented on the decennial review by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) occurring in the upcoming academic year. Dr. Dorsey identified three components of the review:

- 1) An off-site review of the university's initial report by a team of peer evaluators for compliance certification.
- 2) Crafting a second report to update the on-site team of any changes and developing the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP).
- 3) A series of on-site visits to all TAMU campuses (depending on travel restrictions) in March.

During Dr. Dorsey's presentation, Speaker Rice stopped the meeting so that problems with the meeting's livestream could be addressed to ensure the Senate's meeting was available to the public. After an eight-minute break, Dr. Dorsey was able to finish her address to the Senate.

A question was posed by the following Senator: Senator Clint Magill, College of Agriculture & Life Sciences.

Speaker Rice thanked Dr. Dorsey for speaking to the Senate.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Dr. Jocelyn Widmer**, Assistant Provost for Academic Innovation, and **Dr. Juan Garza**, Assistant Vice President for Academic Services & Director of Provost Information Technology Office – [Attachment A](#) – ***For Informational Review – FS.39.040***

Dr. Widmer provided her monthly update on the progress of Canvas (LMS) via a video, and the meeting time was devoted to questions only. The following Senator posed a question or offered comments: Senator Adam Haney, TAMU Galveston.

Speaker Rice thanked Dr. Widmer and Dr. Garza.

## **SPEAKER COMMENTS**

Speaker Rice began his comments by acknowledging faculty concerns about returning to classrooms during the surge of new COVID cases in Texas due to the Delta variant. He noted that a COVID syllabus statement would soon be completed by the Provost's office. He emphasized the resilience of Texas A&M faculty and encouraged all to remain flexible. Speaker Rice closed by announcing the departure from the University of Senator and Executive Committee (EC) member Jay Ramadoss, and that an election would be conducted in September to fill his seat on the EC.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The motion passed to approve the July 12, 2021 minutes as presented. ***Attachment B – Passed – FS.39.041***

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

The motion passed to approve the August 9, 2021 Consent Agenda as presented.

***(Full Consent Agenda with FS #'s can be found under Adjournment below.)***

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Core Curriculum Council Course Report – *Attachment C – Passed – FS.39.056***

The motion passed to approve the Core Curriculum Course Report as presented.

***(Full CCC Report can be found under Adjournment below.)***

## **OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Recommendation of August 2021 Degree Candidates**

Secretary Tracy Hammond made the motion to certify the August 2021 degree candidates.

TOTAL – 2,040  
TAMU-Main – 1685  
TAMU-Galveston – 85  
TAMU-HSC – 121  
TAMU-Law – 30  
TAMU-Qatar – 11

The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Proposed Revisions to Student Rules**

Student Rule 5.1 Change of Curriculum – ***Attachment D – Passed – FS.39.057***

The motion to approve Student Rule 5.1 was passed unanimously.

### **Proposal for the Intercollegiate School of Engineering Medicine (ENMED) at Texas A&M University – For Informational Review**

Interim Provost Mark Weichold presented on the proposed Intercollegiate School of Engineering Medicine. Access the slide presentation [here](#).

Questions and comments were then made by the following Senators: Senator Andrew Klein, College of Geosciences; Senator Catharina Laporte, College of Liberal Arts; Senator Heather Ramsey, College of Science; Senator Julian Leibowitz, College of Medicine; Senator Raymundo Arroyave, College of Engineering; Senator Joan Wolf, College of Liberal Arts; and Senator Debjyoti Banerjee, College of Engineering. Questions were answered by Provost Weichold; Dean Amy Waer, College of Medicine; Dr. N.K. Anand, Executive Associate Dean of Engineering; and Dr. Roderick Pettigrew, Executive Dean of the EnMed program.

### **Emergency Item: Proposed Resolution on COVID-19 Guidelines for Fall 2021 – *Attachment E – Passed – FS.39.058***

This item was added to the agenda due to the time-sensitive nature of the resolution. The EC drafted the resolution believing it was the moral responsibility of the Faculty Senate to express their concerns regarding the inadequate protections faculty would be facing when classes begin. Speaker Rice outlined the approval process to be used where each “whereas” line of the resolution would be addressed one at a time including discussion, revision, and a vote to approve. This process was followed while Betsy Peterson, Executive Assistant to the Faculty Senate, made the revisions while sharing her screen so that each item could be clearly seen for voting.

Speaker Rice continually checked to make sure a quorum was present and the Senate voted to extend the meeting past 6:00pm to continue work on the resolution. The final vote to approve the amended resolution passed.

Speaker Rice shared he that had just received a message that the Faculty Council at the University of Texas Austin also approved their version of the resolution.

### **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Speaker-Elect Patti Smith convened the Committee of the Whole.

Senator Catharina Laporte, College of Liberal Arts, congratulated retiring Senator Bruce Neville, University Libraries, and thanked him for his service. Senator Janice Epstein, College of Science, also thanked Senator Neville, and expressed confusion over recent parking lot changes.

Speaker-Elect Smith returned the meeting to Speaker Rice.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10pm.

## APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA for August 9, 2021

### GRADUATE COUNCIL

**New Miscellaneous Request – Bulk/Mass Prefix Change – *Passed – FS.39.042***  
[PSYC to PBSI \(Graduate level\)](#)

**New Courses – *Passed – FS.39.043***

[OCEN 665: Computational Fluid Dynamics](#)

[PERF 684: Professional Internship](#)

[SOPH 694: Advanced Public Health Practice and Capacity Building](#)

**Change in Courses – *Passed – FS.39.044***

[CSCE 612: Applied Networks and Distributed Processing](#)

[CSCE 664: Wireless and Mobile Systems](#)

[ECON 656: Field Experiments in Economics](#)

[EDCI 710: Latinx Students and Education](#)

[EPSY 637: Qualitative Grounded Theory Methodologies](#)

[MGMT 629: Financial Analysis Modeling in HR](#)

[MMET 629: Leadership and People Management in Technology Enterprises](#)

[NUEN 630: Monte Carlo Methods for Particle Transport](#)

[NUEN 647: Uncertainty Quantification and Data Science for Engineering Applications](#)

[OBIO 674: Immunology](#)

[PBSI 623: Psychological Assessment I](#)

[RPTS 674: Administration, Management and Leadership in Youth Programs](#)

### UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

**New Miscellaneous Request – Bulk/Mass Prefix Change – *Passed – FS.39.045***  
[PSYC to PBSI \(Undergraduate\)](#)

**New Courses – *Passed – FS.39.046***

[ITAL 221: Field Studies I](#)

[ITAL 222: Field Studies II](#)

[PBSI 445: Psychological and Social Determinants of Health Disparities](#)

**Change in Courses – *Passed – FS.39.047***

[AERO 211: Aerospace Engineering Mechanics](#)

[AGLS 436: Insurance and Estate Planning](#)

[AGLS 437: Tax Planning](#)

[AGSM 335: Water and Soil Management](#)

[AGSM 435: Irrigation Principles and Management](#)

[AGSM 477: Air Pollution Control and Regulatory Compliance](#)

[BICH 414: Biochemical Techniques I](#)

[BUSN 203: Statistical Methods for Business](#)

[CSCE 421: Machine Learning](#)

[CSCE 449: Applied Cryptography](#)

[ENGL 203: Writing about Literature](#)

[GEOG 309: Geography of Energy](#)

[PBSI 235: Introduction to Behavioral and Cognitive Neuroscience](#)  
[PBSI 306: Abnormal Psychology](#)  
[PBSI 311: Psychology of Animal Behavior](#)  
[PBSI 320: Sensation-Perception](#)  
[PBSI 323: Psychology of Adolescence](#)  
[PBSI 330: Personality](#)  
[PBSI 332: Neuroscience of Learning and Memory](#)  
[PBSI 333: Biology of Psychological Disorders](#)  
[PBSI 336: Drugs and Behavior](#)  
[PBSI 340: Psychology of Learning](#)  
[PBSI 345: Human Cognitive Processes](#)  
[PBSI 346: Psychology of Language](#)  
[PBSI 350: Cognitive Neuroscience](#)  
[PBSI 352: Organizational Psychology](#)  
[PBSI 353: Personnel Psychology](#)  
[PBSI 360: Health Psychology and Behavioral Medicine](#)  
[PBSI 371: Forensic Psychology](#)  
[PBSI 440: Hormones and Behavior](#)  
[PBSI 450: Clinical Psychology](#)  
[SPMT 295: Introduction to the Culminating Experience](#)

**Change in Programs – *Passed* – FS.39.048**

**College of Agriculture & Life Sciences**

Department of Agricultural Economics

[BS-AGBU: Agribusiness - BS](#)

**Change in Programs – *Passed* – FS.39.049**

**College of Agriculture & Life Sciences**

Department of Agricultural Economics

[BS-AGEC-FMS+: Agricultural Economics - BS, Food Marketing Systems Option](#)

**Change in Programs – *Passed* – FS.39.050**

**College of Agriculture & Life Sciences**

Department of Agricultural Economics

[BS-AGEC-FRE+: Agricultural Economics - BS, Finance and Real Estate Option](#)

**Change in Programs – *Passed* – FS.39.051**

**College of Agriculture & Life Sciences**

Department of Agricultural Economics

[BS-AGEC-PEA+: Agricultural Economics - BS, Policy and Economic Analysis Option](#)

**Change in Programs – *Passed* – FS.39.052**

**College of Agriculture & Life Sciences**

Department of Agricultural Economics

[BS-AGEC-RUE+: Agricultural Economics - BS, Rural Entrepreneurship Option](#)

**Change in Programs – *Passed* – FS.39.053**

**College of Agriculture & Life Sciences**

Department of Biochemistry & Biophysics

[BS-GENE: Genetics - BS](#)

**Change in Programs – Inactivation Proposal – *Passed* – FS.39.054**

**TAMU Qatar**

Department of Mechanical Engineering

[MINOR-MEEQ: Mechanical Engineering - Minor \(Qatar\)](#)

## W&C COURSES

### **Courses Submitted for W Certification – *Passed* – FS.39.055**

[MEEN 401-W: Introduction to Mechanical Engineering Design](#)

[NUEN 303-W: Nuclear Detection and Isotope Technology Laboratory](#)

[PHIL 336-W: Advanced Topics in Philosophy of Law](#)

[PHIL 352-W: Africana Philosophy](#)

[PHIL 371-W: Philosophy of Literature](#)

[PHIL 413-W: Eighteenth-Century Philosophy](#)

[PHIL 415-W: American Philosophy](#)

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*End of Consent Agenda*

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### **CORE CURRICULUM COUNCIL COURSE REPORT – *Attachment C – Passed* – FS.39.056**

#### **Recertification for Foundational Component Area: Creative Arts**

[FILM 251-GE: Introduction to Film Analysis](#)

#### **Recertification for Foundational Component Area: Language, Philosophy & Culture**

[ENGL 207-GE: Human Thinking and Digital Culture](#)

#### **Recertification for Foundational Component Area: Life and Physical Sciences**

[ATMO 201-GE: Weather and Climate](#)

[BIOL 111-GE: Introductory Biology I](#)