



Faculty Senate Minutes
October 6, 2021

Senate Leadership in Attendance

Jacqueline Fay, Chair

Kayunta Johnson-Winters, Secretary

Bill Carroll, Vice Chair

Guests

Alicia Gill-SAC
Katie Hageman-Provost's Office
Kaitlyn Burge-Student Body President
Antoinette Sol-Provost's Office

Attendance

Name - First	Name. - Last	College/School	Department
Venkat	Devarajan	College of Engineering	Electrical Engineering
Stephen	Mattingly	Engineering	Civil Engineering
Amy	Austin	Liberal Arts	Modern Languages
Lauren	Brewer	College of Business	Marketing
Antoinette	Sol		Provost's Office
Bijan	Youssefzadeh	CAPPA	School of Architecture
Keith	Burgess-Jackson	Liberal Arts	Philosophy and Humanities

Alan	Cannon	COBA	Information Systems & Operations Management
Kaushik	De	COS	Physics
Ramez	Elmasri	Engineering	CSE
Alan	Bowling	Engineering	Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
Venkat	Devarajan	College of Engineering	Electrical Engineering
IOANNIS	SCHIZAS	COE	EE
George	Alexandrakis	CoE	Bioengineering
Cynthia	Plonien	CONHI Nursing	Graduate
Shouyi	Wang	Engineering	Industrial, Manufacturing and Systems Engineering
Sergio	Espinosa	COLA	Music
Andrew	Milson	Liberal Arts	History
Wei	Chen	COS	Physics
Amanda	Jackson	COLA	Theatre Arts
Caitlyn	Burge	Liberal Arts	Student Government
Stefan	Romanoschi	Engineering	Civil Engineering
Song	Jiang	College of Engineering	CSE
Doug	Grisaffe	College of Business	Marketing
Michael	Nelson	College of Nursing and Health Innovation	Kinesiology
Andrzej	Korzeniowski	Science	Mathematics
John	Diltz	Business	Finance and Real Estate
(Max) Qinhong	Hu	COS	EES
Tom	Rusher	CAPPA / School of Architecture	Architecture

Teik	Lim	President Office	
Jeffrey	McGee	COB	MANA
Julienne	Greer	CoLA	Theatre Arts and Dance
Brent	Sasley	COLA	Political Science
Jared	Kenworthy	Science	Psychology
Amy	Speier	COLA	Sociology and Anthropology
Noelle	Fields	Social Work	Social Work
Alicia	Gill	SAC	Sac
Christy	Spivey	COB	Economics
Melissa	Walsh	Science	Biology
Imre	Demhardt	CoLA	History
Fletcher	Coleman	College of Liberal Arts	Art and art history
Nilakshi	Veerabathina	CoS	Physics
Michael	Holmes	CONHI	Undergraduate Nursing
Kathryn	Warren	COLA	English
David	Levine	Engineering	Computer Science
Taner	Ozdil	CAPPA	Landscape Architecture
Darlene	Hunter	School	Social Work
Matthew	Fujita	Science	Biology
Theresa	Jorgensen	Science	Mathematics
Jodi	Tommerdahl	Education	Curriculum & Instruction
Anne	Nordberg	Social Work	Social work
Joyce	Myers	College of Education	Curriculum and Instruction
Chunke	Su	Liberal Arts	Communication

Bill	Carroll		
CY	Choi	COB	Economics
Barbara	Tobolowsky	College of Ed	Educational Leadership and Policy Studies
Karabi	Bezboruah	CAPPA	Public Affairs and Planning
Naoko	Witzel	CoLA	Linguistics & TESOL

Call to order, 2:31 P.M., Jacqueline Fay

2:33 P.M. President Lim

Fall enrollment-41,000 for fall enrollment. It dropped 2.8%. However, we have the largest Freshman class ever. This is our 5th year in a row in which we have a large freshman class. We have recruited the best freshmen in Texas.

We have strong international enrollment. We have seen an 18.5% increase in international students. 14,000+ degrees and certifications. This is another record year.

The more that we graduate, the more we need to bring in in order to maintain enrollment. We are still in pandemic mode, but we are still improving.

TIER 1: Enormous accomplishment for both past and present that we accomplished together. Still thinking about how to celebrate this together. There is more to come on this.

Enroll funds \$800M in endowment, we were added, but other institutions will see a drop.

UTSA will likely be Tier 1 in a year or two, which means UTA will see a drop. There is a talk about increasing this, so that institutions can maintain, but it's just a talk.

Strategic funds \$20M annually. Please work with the deans and VPs. Now that we are Tier 1, we have to continue to move forward.

2:39 P.M. Provost Pranesh Aswath

CDE and CRTLE have increased their offerings in terms of digital course content and online delivery of course. Please keep track of the newsletters that come out and visit their websites. They are doing surveys. Please fill out.

Dashboard for COVID is out and announced today. Employees are asked to get tested randomly in 20% segments. They are asked on Saturdays, and reminders on Wednesday and Friday. If you are called to get tested one week, you are unlikely to get another request for several weeks.

Encourage compliance with this reliable data.

The data is promising. Positivity rate has dropped substantially.

Had a fall faculty and associates meeting. It was well attended in Rio Grande. We have the National Night Out in Brazos Park. It was well attended. There are many more events happening on campus. We urge you to be cautious.

2:43 PM Questions

Faculty Senator: Was invited to test one week and got another the following week. Was this a glitch?

Aswath: We checked on this. It was a reminder for you to get it done the following week. The fact that you got tested, the results were not back. Therefore, you received a reminder. The system had not been updated just yet.

They are thinking of doing reminders on Sunday so results are back within the week.

Faculty Senator: Will we be Tier 1 forever? OR do we have to continue to meet the standards?

President Lim: We have the money to continue to become a better Tier 1. However, none of the other Universities are audited again setting up strategic funds should ensure we don't turn back. The good news is that we are still in the upward trajectory.

Faculty Senator: I heard that there is a lot of non-compliance with testing. Should we increase that number to 30% or 40% so that data can still come in? Today, the Shorthorn said that not all students want in-person classes. The data has not been systematically collected. Will you address this?

Provost Aswath: If you go 40-50% it will be the same people getting tested. We don't want all the same people getting tested all of the time. We would rather do a campaign to have people be in compliance. Drop in faculty testing. We want to do a campaign to encourage testing. This semester we have 30K students taking online classes. This flexibility for students already exists and what we want to continue to do.

Faculty Senator: How are NTT faculty promotions funded? It's different from the TT side. Colleges will have to find the money for these promotions. What worries me is that COLA is in debt and won't have the money for this.

President Lim: COLA is NOT in a deficit. We transferred millions of dollars last year. Going from the old to the new budget model, there are consequences as a result that we have to work through but colleges won't hurt financially. Regardless of where the money comes from, the support of promotion is something guaranteed by the central administration. Once the commitment is made, we will move forward with it. If you are promoted, you will get your raise. There are various accounts throughout the university that can support this.

Bill Carroll: Strategic Fund- I view this as a good thing. However, there are a couple of issues that seem to be problematic. 1. This \$20M would need to be per year. Where does that money come from? You only get \$6M from Tier 1 funding. Where is the other \$14M coming from? 2. We are often told that we can't do x, y and z because we are in an interim administration. We don't want to tie the hands of the future of administration by making certain decisions today. Why doesn't this apply to the strategic funds? We have budget and faculty salary issues. Faculty feel we have pay issues. Why isn't this being addressed?

President Lim: The money came from the NRUF funds. The rest came from money that already existed in the past. Some money came from money already in the provost's and president's office. What we have done is to make this available to presidents and deans. Now that we are Tier 1, we don't need the funds to continue the drive. Institutions such as UT-Arlington have to be able to do many things at the same time, we must be able to support strategic plans, faculty salary, hiring and budgetary issues in the colleges. The strategic funds are not the only funding that we have. Since last year, 1.5% across the board cut, outside of this, the colleges have not lost any money at all. With the new budget money we promised that everyone would have a harmless two years. However, if our enrollment drops to 50% then all bets are off. We can't stop and must move forward now that we have achieved Tier 1. Tier 1 initiative is not something new.

Jacqueline Fay: I know that the deans and VPs will be administering money for strategic funds. The faculty senate should have a voice. Will there be a mechanism for the faculty senate to provide feedback?

President Lim: Yes. Two ways that you can do this is: 1) If faculty senate would like to engage the deans, please do so. Meet with them and talk to them if you have ideas. 2) Once a proposal is received, the proposals will be shared openly with no decisions made. There will be a time for comment. Faculty senate can play a role there. There is no problem with proposal coming through this and shared openly.

Provost Aswath: The initial deadline for submission of proposals is Dec. 1st. Then there will be time to comment until about the first week of January. You can work with deans and VPs for comments and suggestions for further collaborations.

Faculty Senator: We do need to continue an upward trajectory to achieve Tier 1. It is important to get solid faculty input. The normal process of faculty hiring and increasing faculty and this has no impact on the budget. Faculty hiring should continue and the university still cares about increasing faculty, while holding colleges harmless from the new budget model. I didn't get these points from conversations with chairs and deans.

Provost Aswath: We will try to put together a communication for this. Faculty hiring is more of a college affair moving forward. Provost will not keep the provost's strategic fund. Decisions will be at the college level.

Faculty Senator: The deans and the chairs that I have spoken with in the last few weeks don't understand or know the process. There seems to be confusion about the application process.

Provost Aswath: I have hammered this point in to the deans. Deans are well aware and I will bring it up at the next Dean's Council.

Faculty Senator: A proposal comes from a single dean. Each college has a pet project. Is there a separate pathway to avoid the competitive nature of this?

Provost Aswath: This multi college proposals are likely to be ranked higher. You are probably likely to increase your chances of getting it funded. At the end of the day, the money is still there. I can't speak for the future president, but hopefully the money will still be there.

Provost Aswath exited at 3:16 P.M.

3:18 P.M. We had a quorum. The minutes were approved.

3:19 P.M. Toni Sol

- People come to campus and causing disruptions, you can ask them to leave and they can be arrested.
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- Almost mid-term. Please have grades in on time.
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- Still recruiting for ACUE. Applications are due on 10/15.
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- Leadership academy due to 10/30
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- Compliance training is due on October 22, 2021.

Faculty Senator: Entering grades-Had students appear in MyMav but not in Canvas. University entered it as "empty." Students who were not supposed to be dropped, were dropped. Fear that he would not be in compliance.

Toni Sol: Will talk to registrars. This is their issue.

3:31 P. M. Joshua Mackrill-LGBTQ Coordinator in the Division of Student Affairs

- Workshops for faculty and staff.
 - Social Worker coming in for health care.
 - Next Tuesday, "Read Out Loud." Will be in front of the library.
 - Nov. 3, Drag show at the Rosebud. All proceeds go to the scholarship for LGBTQ students at UTA.
 - Website has a lot of community resources.
 - ALLY Training.
- Want to develop a LGBTQ Resource Group for Faculty and Staff. Advocacy component.

Amber Smallwood: elearning Transformational Model

Chairs' Report:

COVID-19 planning-having received COVID-19 data on a weekly basis. Formed COVID-19 Task Force. Chaired by Kaushik De.

Met with Dr. Lakey at UT-System. Agreed to have a COVID-19 Daily Dashboard.

Presidential Search- recent town hall at UTA with the chancellor. Chancellor Chairing Search Committee.

The Senate has three representatives:

- Kaushik De
- Jacqueline Fay
- Alan Bowling

They are happy to receive comments.

The senate website is on target.

Elearning audit has been completed. This is public information on the UT-System audit website.

Jacqueline Fay is the representative on the Tuition Review Committee, which is chaired by Kaitlyn Burge. Make allocations about revenue.

FAC-Presentation about the Family Leave Pool was created at UT-System.

- Will be implemented by Regents Rule at all UT-System campuses. It is designed to provide leave for children who enter a family, as well as family who have become ill. People can donate leave hours to the pool. To be eligible, you can't be a student, employed 4 1/2 months and work 20 hours per week. It can't be donated to a certain person. It must be donated to the pool.
- There was a presentation from UT-System legal department about self-reporting. It was to encourage faculty to self-report foreign involvement in research. Self report foreign influence on research before involvement in research. Volunteer information before it's an issue.

Bill: There hasn't been much of that that has happened. They are just trying to make sure that we keep stuff out of the media and disclose. If faculty self-identify, the penalty is less.

Mike Nelson: They did a good job making it clear that if you have questions, just come forward. No one is out to get you. Regardless to what category you fall in, you can deal with it.

Jacqueline: They will come to any meeting and explain.

Faculty Senator: Is this research only? Or other activities? Currently serving as president of an economic association, which mainly consists of Korean economists. A big part of the job is fundraising. Would we be subjected to this type of regulation?

Mike Nelson: I don't know the answer to that. This falls into that category of where you would want to ask them.

Jacqueline: Open access-publications-UT System aim and presentation. Taskforce that made 10 recommendations. Will forward the website.

Committees on FAC-Mike is on the research committee, Bill is on the academic affairs committee, Jacqueline is on the governance committee

Bill: On the academic affairs committee, we set an agenda each fall. One of the issues is the faculty compensation issue. This will be a priority of the committee.

Jacqueline: Chair's Report Continued:

Made a request and continued conversation for the ombudsperson position. We will continue to advocate for this.

Faculty Senator: There was talk about the ombudsperson office. At one point it was going to come out the Office of DEI or HR. Do you know who is coordinating this?

Jacqueline Fay: Hadn't heard anything. It would be helpful to know if other offices supported this.

Bill: We've been discussing this for several years. Could be the same thing. Been in discussion with HR about this.

Bill COACHE

Technical issue getting the report posted. Moving into the next phase. Forming another committee, bigger than the steering committee. Should be completed by the end of October.

Going out to present to different groups on campus. Wants to make sure no one on campus is unaware of the results.

Were selected by COACHE to make a presentation to the cohort.

Open faculty forum will be on Oct. 27, 2021 from 11:30-1:30 P.M.

Jacqueline: Preview report on the website for COACHE

Faculty Senate reception for 11/10/21 at the UAB in the University Club.

Strategic Funding Initiative:

Faculty Senator: The primary concern that I had is that they set aside money for certain things but not others, such as an ombudsman. I am still concerned about how it's done, because it's rushed. It's this year's money and they want to spend it this year. The communication is lacking and how they plan to do this isn't clear. I don't see the role of the faculty senate nor faculty in general in shared governance. The process involves Deans and central administration. There is no process to get input from faculty. Faculty should have more input in the shared governance model.

Jacqueline: No consultation on the senate. No way to get ideas out across colleges and present those.

Ombudsperson-the need is not moving. There is a larger concern. Need to have input.

4:49 P.M. Andrew Milson-voted new parliamentarian

Vote: 37 out of 51 yes, 2 no's and 1 abstain.

Committee Reports:

Kaukshik De (chair)- 5 senators

Teresa Jorgensen

David Levine

Chunke Su

Naoko Wetzel

Recruited 4 experts: Aaron Carlson, Paul Chippindale, Tiffany, David Ngyren.

Came up with 5 priorities:

1. Wanted Dashboard-has gone live on campus
2. Make data driven decisions and provide feedback and input.
3. Want University to have a robust vaccination campaign.
4. Upload vaccination record again. It got lost. Upload in MyMav. You will win prizes.
5. Masking while in doors and in the classroom.

Agreed to make masks available on campus.

5:06pm Meeting Adjourned

