Faculty Senate Minutes

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

JCK 880, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**Attending Senators**: Rebecca Bell-Metereau, Natalie Ceballos, Rachel Davenport, Jesse Gainer, Jennifer Jensen, Lynn Ledbetter, Lyn Litchke, Vince Luizzi, Benjamin Martin, David Nolan, Michael Supancic, Diego Vacaflores, Nicole Wesley.

**Guests**: Ameerah McBride (Chief Diversity Officer), Stephanie Towery (Library), Shannon Duffy (Senate Fellow).

Meeting called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Senate Vice Chair Ceballos

**Chief Diversity Officer**

Senators held a closed meeting discussion with Ameerah McBride, outgoing chief diversity officer, director of the [Office of Equity and Inclusion](https://www.txstate.edu/oei/), and Title IX coordinator.

**Grievance Policy**

Senators discussed possible changes to the [Faculty Grievance Policy AA/PPS 04.02.32](https://policies.txstate.edu/division-policies/academic-affairs/04-02-32.html). Currently, grievances usually go to the university ombudsman and then through the formal grievance process. Standards to file a grievance are high at the university and the suggestion is to possibly relax the standard for filing a grievance to have it heard. The [University of Texas at Austin’s (UT) grievance policy](https://policies.utexas.edu/policies/faculty-grievance-procedure) includes violations of academic freedom. Their policy could be used to expand our policy following UT’s lead. It could also be useful to create a new Policy and Procedures Statement (PPS) on academic freedom to expand the current grievance policy. Currently there is no reading from the general council on the policy other than the controlling standard being a violation of state or federal rights. This seems to be a strict standard of determination. Texas State could have a relaxed standard but the current interpretation is restrictive. The Academic Freedom Committee suggests adding grievance information into current policies. The senate will request an early review of the current grievance policy.

**Campus Communications Meeting**

Volunteers were solicited to attend the upcoming university campus communications meeting on October 22. Senator Litchke volunteered to attend the meeting.

**Policy Review**

Assignment of senators to review specific University and Academic Affairs policies:

* [UPPS 07.07.04 Student Employee Termination and Grievance Procedure](https://policies.txstate.edu/university-policies/07-07-04.html). Due October 18. Senator Martin
* [UPPS 03.01.05 University Income Recognition and Associated Cash-Handling Procedures](https://policies.txstate.edu/university-policies/03-01-05.html). Due October 18. (only accepting comments about the deletion of section 06) Senator Davenport
* [UPPS 07.07.03 Student Employment Procedures](https://policies.txstate.edu/university-policies/07-07-03.html). Due October 23. Senator Jensen
* [UPPS 05.07.01 Collecting Parking Violation Fees](https://policies.txstate.edu/university-policies/05-07-01.html). Due October 24. Senator Ledbetter
* [UPPS 04.04.03 Staff Employment](https://policies.txstate.edu/university-policies/04-04-03.html). Due October 24. Senator Wesley
* [UPPS 04.01.02 Information Resources Identity and Access Management](https://policies.txstate.edu/university-policies/04-01-02.html). Due October 25. Senator Nolan
* [UPPS 01.04.07 Appropriate Use of Information Resources](https://policies.txstate.edu/university-policies/04-01-07.html). Due October 25. Senator Vacaflores
* [AA/PPS 03.01.13 Addressing Allegations of Misconduct in Academic Research and Scholarship](https://policies.txstate.edu/division-policies/academic-affairs/03-01-13.html). Due October 25. Senator Bell-Metereau and the Academic Governance Committee
* [AA/PPS 03.01.01 Contracts and Grants of an Academic Nature](https://policies.txstate.edu/division-policies/academic-affairs/03-01-01.html). Due October 25. Senator Gainer and the Academic Governance Committee
* [UPPS 04.01.09 - Server Management Policy](https://policies.txstate.edu/university-policies/04-01-09.html). Due October 25. Senator McClellan
* [UPPS 07.10.01 Honor Code](https://policies.txstate.edu/university-policies/07-10-01.html). Due October 25. Senator Luizzi

**Announcements**

Senate Fellow Dialogue, Thursday, October 24, 4:00-6:00 p.m., Comal 116. Dr. Shannon Duffy, Faculty Senate Fellow, and the Faculty Senate’s Academic Freedom Committee will host the first of three Academic Freedom Dialogues.

Full Senate Meeting, Wednesday, October 23, 4:00-5:00 p.m., Reed Parr Room (JCK1100).

* 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Implicit bias training and a discussion of academic freedom.

**Approval of Minutes**

October 9, 2019 minutes were approved by senators.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by David Nolan