



# Faculty Senate Bulletin

February 2022

*What I think the political correctness debate is really about is the power to be able to define. The definers want the power to name. And the defined are now taking that power away from them. — Toni Morrison*





### This month:

- Part Time Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award
- Committee Preference Survey
- Assessment of Chairs/Directors
- Academic Freedom Corner
- University Lecturers Series

- **University Lecturers Events**

## **Part Time Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award**

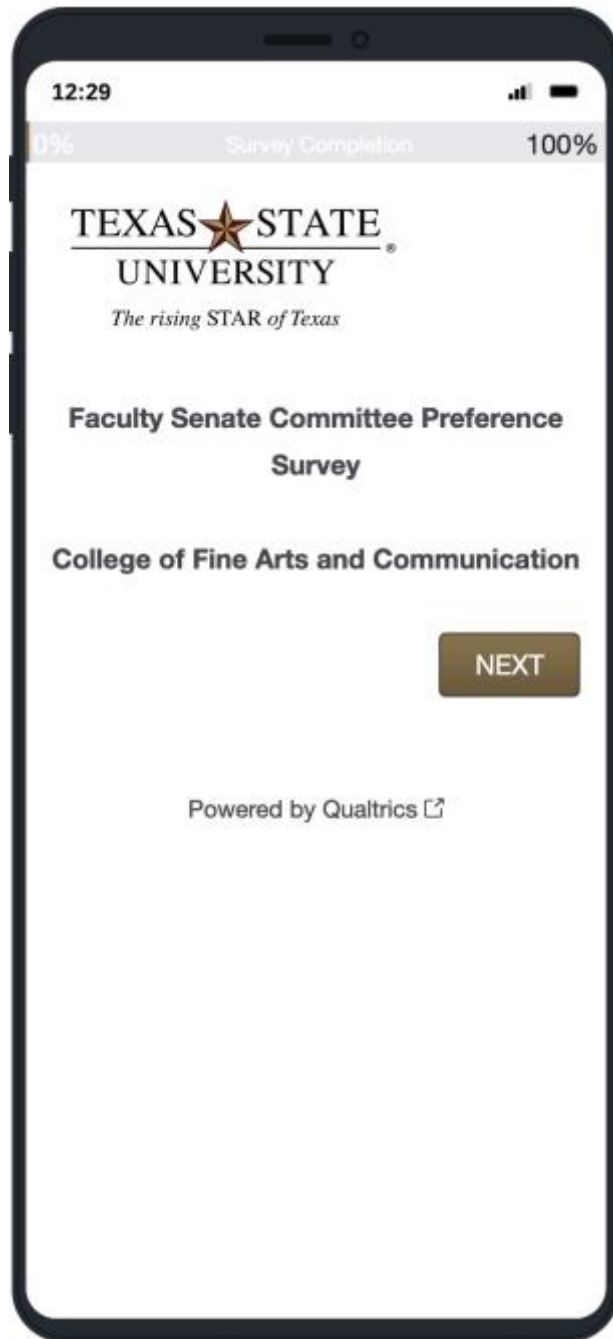
The Faculty Senate, in conjunction with the Nontenure Line Faculty Committee, is pleased to call for applications for the Part-Time Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award. These annual awards have been established to recognize the excellent teaching conducted by our part-time faculty, which contributes greatly to the culture of scholarship and learning at Texas State University. All faculty members teaching 75% or less FTE in the preceding calendar year are eligible for these awards. One award, consisting of a certificate signed by the college dean and a salary stipend of \$1,000, may be given per academic college.

Applicants should submit application materials following the instructions specified in the policy and procedures posted on the [Part-Time Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award web page](#).

Each college review committee will be composed of the Nontenure Line Faculty Committee (NLFC) members and department NLFC liaisons in the college. The NLFC will submit award recommendations to the Faculty Senate for endorsement. Awards will be presented at college fall convocation meetings.

The deadline to submit applications to [faculty senate@txstate.edu](mailto:faculty senate@txstate.edu) is **Monday, March 25, 2022, by 5:00 pm**.

## Committee Preference Survey



This month, the Faculty Senate distributed a survey to determine faculty members' preferences for committee service. You should have received an email from the Faculty Senate with a Qualtrics link. Please contact us at [facultysenate@txstate.edu](mailto:facultysenate@txstate.edu) if you didn't receive an email.

We estimate that it will take about ten minutes for faculty to review the committees and indicate three ranked preferences. The survey will close Monday, March 7, 2022. The Faculty Senate encourages all

faculty members to participate in shared governance by volunteering for university level committee service.

## Assessment of Chairs/Directors

Academic Affairs Policy and Procedure Statement 01.02.11 calls for the job performance of school directors and department chairs at Texas State University to be evaluated annually. Part of the evaluation process is a survey that invites Texas State faculty members to assess their director or chair on a number of standard performance measures. Institutional Research has recently distributed this survey for faculty to provide their perceptions of their director's or chair's performance during calendar year 2021. Please take the time to participate in this important evaluation process.



## Academic Freedom Corner

JOIN THE ACADEMIC FREEDOM COMMITTEE FOR A DIALOGUE

In recognition of Academic Freedom Week, the AFC is hosting an open dialogue with the faculty on Friday, February 18, 2022 at 11 a.m. in Comal 116 and via zoom. The topic is "Academic Freedom and the Pandemic."

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 952 6602 0507

Passcode: 717965

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### RECENT ACTIVITIES OF AFC

- AFC revisited its project of creating a policy statement on cyber-harassment. Issues that remain include how best to integrate it with existing policies on such matters as civility and harassment.
- AFC drafted a questionnaire for faculty, soon to be distributed, to guide the committee in how it can best promote academic freedom and minimize violations at Texas State.
- Committee member Vince Luizzi recently published "[Where Academic Freedom Begins](#)" in *University World News*



## 2022 - 2023 University Lecturers Series

The University Lecturers Committee reviews requests from colleges, schools, departments and campus organizations for assistance to bring outstanding guest lecturers or mini-symposia speakers to the university during the long semesters (funding is not available for Summer sessions). Limited Student Services Fee funds are awarded based on the committee's review of proposals and recommendations to the senate. A call for proposals was issued on November 11 to alert faculty and university organizations to the February 11, 2022 proposal due date for lectures to be offered in Fall 2022 or Spring 2023. More information is available on the [committee's website](#).



## University Lecturers Events



Tuesday, February 15, 4:00 - 5:30 pm via Zoom ([registration required](#))

Faculty Senate presents **Professor Sirry Alang: *Who Fixes Broken Systems? Undoing Legacies of Exclusion in Colleges and Universities***

Moderator: Ben Martin, Associate Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry

Racism is an extremely timely topic and of broad interest across the university among faculty, staff, and students. Consistent with the efforts in which Texas State has invested to address diversity, equity, and inclusion, this presentation will address ways universities contribute to society's inclusion/exclusion.

Higher education is a microcosm of society. Our educational institutions are formal sites for knowledge creation. For good, we shape minds. For bad, we shape minds. Minds that enter different fields – law enforcement, politics, education, business, science, health care, art, humanities, and so forth. What happens when the processes of knowledge production, dissemination, and application are grounded in white supremacy? How can colleges and universities contribute meaningfully towards building a just and equitable society?

Sirry Alang, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor of Sociology and Health, Medicine and Society at Lehigh University. Her research explores the role of social structures and institutions in creating and undoing inequities.

Sponsored by University Lecturers Committee, Institutional Inclusive Excellence - Student Initiatives, Institutional Inclusive Excellence - Faculty and Staff Initiatives, and the Common Experience

For more information or accommodations, contact Valerie Anderson, [va10@txstate](mailto:va10@txstate).

Register [here](#)

## 63rd Faculty Senate, 2021 - 2022



Applied Arts: [Michael Supancic](#), Criminal Justice

Business Administration: [Andrew Ojede](#), Finance and Economics

Education: College of Education: [Taylor Acee](#), Curriculum and Instruction; [Stacey Bender](#), Health and Human Performance

Fine Arts & Communication: [Dale Blasingame](#) (Co-Secretary), Journalism and Mass Communication; [Lynn Ledbetter](#) (Chair), Music; [Nicole Wesley](#), Theatre and Dance



Health Professions: [Danette Myers](#), Health Information Management

Liberal Arts: [Rebecca Bell-Metereau](#), English; [Peter Dedek](#), History; [Jennifer Jensen](#) (*Vice Chair*), Geography; [Roque Mendez](#), Psychology

Science and Engineering: [Rachel Davenport](#), Biology; [Ben Martin](#) (*Co-Secretary*), Chemistry and Biochemistry; [Stan McClellan](#), Engineering

## Contact Us!

Do you have a question, concern or issue you want the Faculty Senate to address? Want to make a suggestion? [Contact the senate via our website.](#)

More information about these and other topics can be found in the Faculty Senate minutes posted on the [Faculty Senate website](#), or by contacting your Faculty Senator (email links above) or [Senate Liaison](#). The Faculty Senate encourages you to voice your concerns and comments on any faculty and shared governance topics to these representatives or directly to the senate.

*photo credits: Stephanie Schulz-Down and Chandler Prude, Office of University Marketing*