**Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**

**January 22, 2025**

**4:00-6:00 pm – JCK 880 and Zoom**

**Members Present:** Stacey Bender, Dale Blasingame, Peter Dedek, Dave Donnelly,
Valentina Glajar, William Kelemen, Russell Lang, Lynn Ledbetter,
Nolan Martin, Adetty Pérez de Miles, Piyush Shroff, Lois Stickley, Michael Supancic, Steve Wilson

**Members** **Absent:** Kevin Jetton

**Guests:** Ryan Anderson, Cathy Cherrstrom, Stacey Cropley, Lauren Goodley,
Jeff Housman, Samantha Krause, David Levy, Pradeep Ramanathan,
Aimee Roundtree, Karen Sigler, Antoinette Sol

**Chair Ledbetter opened the meeting at 4:00 p.m. with remarks and comments**

1. **Welcome Comments**
	1. Chair Ledbetter welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Senate officers
	2. Commented about how smooth and timely the notifications have been about campus incidents and matters including the weather alert/snow and ice day 1/21/2025
2. **Full Senate Meeting with Liaisons – Feb. 12, 2025 (Zoom Only)**
	1. The senate will be collecting feedback from our constituencies related to advantages and disadvantages of using both Zoom and TEAMS as we have been asked to provide this feedback early in the semester and much sooner than we normally meet in the spring semester typically just after Spring Break.
	2. No official survey is needed, but need to get to get as much informal and/or formal feedback as the faculty can about how these online tools or systems work for their teaching, meetings, and anything else both on and off our campus such as:
	* Ease of Use and Accessibility
	* Functionality and Features
	* Reliability and Connectivity
	* External Collaboration
	* Cost Considerations
	* Impact on Productivity
	* Strategic Decision-Making
	1. Statistics were shared about higher tool usage (Zoom, Teams, or both) and both Senate liaisons and senators are charged to poll their departments for thoughts and preferences regarding both online systems for a May 2025 recommendation.
	2. This could be based on a perceived system redundancy and/or software licensing costs and Matt Hall, Matt Hall, Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer,has been asked for clarification on the rationale for these tools with some more faculty direct input than what has already been provided.
3. **Miscellaneous Announcements**
	1. The passing of an esteemed faculty member: Dr. George Burke from the School of Health Care Administration and donations are being accepted to the New Braunfels Presbyterian Church or the Parkinson's foundation.
	2. Annually, at the end of each school year, the university holds a “Bobcat Pause” ceremony to recognize the passing of students, faculty and staff reading the names of the names of any individuals that have passed away (Students: Student Government, Staff: Staff Council and Faculty by the Faculty Senate)
	3. Fall, 2025 graduation ceremony Faculty Senators Mace Bearers feedback was discussed along with the graduation ceremony itself
	4. The Texas Council of Faculty Senates next meeting will be Feb. 21-22, 2025, in Austin, TX and attended by Senators Donnelly - who will formulate the TXST Roundup Report - and Senator Jetton

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1. **Approval of the Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**
	1. December 4, 2024 minutes were approved
2. **The Faculty Senate moved into an Executive Session to discuss the following:**
	1. Review of Committee Roster Recommendations
	2. Committee Preference Survey
	3. Assorted other matters before the Faculty Senate
3. **Meeting Adjourned**
	1. Chair Ledbetter adjourned the meeting at 5:57 p.m.

**The next faculty Senate Meeting will be:**

Wednesday, January 29, 2025, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. in JCK 880 and via Zoom