**Faculty Senate with PAAG Meeting Minutes**

**April 9, 2025**

**4:00-6:00 pm – JCK 880 and via Zoom**

**Members Present:** Stacey Bender, Dale Blasingame, Peter Dedek, Dave Donnelly,

Valentina Glajar, Kevin Jetton, William Kelemen, Lynn Ledbetter, Noland Martin, Adetty Pérez de Miles, Piyush Shroff, Lois Stickley, Michael Supancic, Steve Wilson

**Members Absent:** Russ Lang

**PAAG Guests:** Kelly Damphousse, Vederaman Sriraman, Brendan Scott, Matt Brooks

**Guests:** Ryan Anderson, Arzu Ari, Angela Ausbrooks,   
Yasmine Beale-Rosano-Rivaya, Alex Burnett-Hayes, Cathy Cherrstrom,

Tracy Chiles, Craig Damin, Kimberlee Davis, Arabella DiChristina,  
Trina Dillard, Erin K. Dorrell, Shannon Duffy, Lauren Dungan,  
Melissa Garcia, David Gibbs, Karen Gibbs, Eric Gilbertson,   
Lauren Goodley, Maria Haiyasoso, Stacy Hunter, Farzan Irani,  
Jennifer Jensen, Injeong Jo, Samantha Krause, Arnob Kumar Saha,  
Rachel Leavitt, Kim Lee, Ny'Nika McFadden, Russell Moses,

Saeed Moshfeghyeganeh, Pradeep Ramanathan, Anadelia Romo,  
Chris Russian, Eunjin Jin Seo, Karen Sigler, Ewa Siwak, Dimitry Tetin,  
Kristen Tooley, Bob E. Vásquez, Kelly Visnak, Nicholas Weimer,  
Julie Weng

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

1. **Welcome Comments and Announcements** 
   1. Chair Ledbetter welcomed everyone to the meeting, introduced the Senate officers and senators-elect present.
2. **Presidential Academic Advisory Group (PAAG) Questions**
   1. Faculty Summer Salaries
      * Summer classes are a revenue source for all parties and are not being discouraged or discontinued. The goal is to grow summer enrollment and reverse the declining enrollment trends
      * The recent pay change was to shift to something that is more sustainable given the continued decline in summer enrollments paired with the increasing number of sections offered and faculty teaching them
      * Students striving to graduate with low-enrollment summer course sections will be handled on a case-by-case basis with the college deans
      * 12-month degree plans are exempt from the new summer teaching policy along with other non-traditional courses with prior approval (like internships).
      * The timing of the decision to the affected faculty is concerning but the discussions and efforts have been ongoing with the deans
   2. Faculty staffing for projected incoming 2025 freshmen class.
      * Chairs need to evaluate their enrollments and work with the deans to request new 1-year, per course or new faculty lines to handle the load
      * Non-TSI compliant students in the fall that need developmental level courses are hard-pressed to find open and available course sections and this is being addressed
   3. Merit Raises
      * 3% was originally budgeted for but later we were told that we can’t increase tuition, so it is being re-evaluated
      * Saving dollars during summer sessions by being more efficient will make more funds available for faculty and staff raises/merit
      * All revenue sources are being evaluated
   4. Response to requests for salary adjustments / retention offers.
      * A workflow exists for such cases from the chair to the dean to the provost office and a thorough analysis is conducted considering many factors
   5. Department of Education discussions and effects on R1
      * Indirect costs adjustments are being evaluated by all institutions
      * We, TxState, are in pretty good shape compared to other heavy research institutions
      * TxState is working to diversify our research portfolio, taking advantage of NSF, DOD and NIH funding sources
3. **PAAG Debrief**
   1. A communication breakdown continues to happen between the Provost office with the deans, chairs and ultimately the affected parties and needs clearer more timely communication and details for how exceptions will be handled
4. **Announcements**
   1. Newly elected senators not previously introduced were given the opportunity to do so
   2. April 17, 2024 11am-1pm Round Rock Nontenure Line Faculty reception event and all senators are invited
   3. The Faculty Senate amendment voting (opting-in as a candidate) is underway
5. **Approval of the Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**
   1. April 2, 2025 minutes were approved
6. **The Faculty Senate moved into an Executive Session to discuss:**
   1. NLFC donation to the Alex White Memorial fund process
   2. New IT Governance Committee faculty senate representative
   3. Current Faculty Senate Fellow project
   4. Current state of TX legislative initiatives as they relate to faculty senates
7. **Meeting Adjourned** 
   1. Chair Ledbetter adjourned the meeting at 6:09 p.m.

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

Wednesday, April 16, 2025 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. in JCK 880 and via Zoom