

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

UTHSC Faculty Senate Meeting

Zoom Monthly Meeting
January 9, 2024

Attendance: (senators, administrators, and faculty)

Attending: PJ Koltnow, Jillian McCarthy, Karen Derefinko, Tracy McClinton, Alina Cernasev, Alicia Diaz Thomas, Alicia Barnes, Anne Zachry, Jayc Sedlmayr, Ayman Abdul H Aldayeh, Terrance Cooper, Laura Reed, Dave Bhattacharya, Kimberly Morris, Tayebeh Pourmotabbed, Kevin Freeman, Rajashekhar Gangaraju, Ronald Rafael Espinal, Laxmichaya Sawant, Mary Erickson, Laurentia Nodit, Leo Lamsen, Myra M Meekins, Tyler Melton, Ashton Brooks, Zheng Fan, Ted Cory, Donna Lynch-Smith, Kristen Bettin, Kim Carter, Nina K Sublette, Phyllis Richey, Fatima Ahmed, Chris Wood, Jeffrey Bieber, Hassan Almoazen, Jill Maples, Rachel Barenie, Jaqueline D Venturin, Jeff Kalmowicz, Wen Lin Sun, Chalet Tan, Yi Lu, Richard Smith, Karine Guerrier, Vickie Baselski, Vrushali Abhyankar, David W Petersen, Emma Murray, Twisha Oza, Liza Makowski, Elizabeth A Fitzpatrick, Scott Hollis, Fuming Zhou, Shelley White-Means, Thaddeus A Wilson, Muneeza Khan, Ben Maddox, Bobby Bellflower, Brion Randolph, Ioannis Dragatsis, Elisha McCoy, Carol Likens, Ramesh Narayanan, Maria Tirado, Rebecca B Reynolds, Cheran Elangovan, Carrie Harvey, Jason Yaun, X. Frank Zhao, Reginald Frye, Richard Walker, Jess Newman McDonald, Tom Laughner, Stephanie A Storgion, Ricketta H Clark, Salvatore Mancarella, Onome Ataga, Djamel Lebeche, Denis DiAngelo, Michael Fan, Dani Kruchevsky, Djamel Lebeche, Maunil Bhatt, Nico West, Crystal Pourciau, Dawn E Havrda, Ladoris Warren, Swapna Thota, Kimberly Kennel, David Ashbrook, Ramesh Krishnan, Mike McDonald, Sunbal Ashraf, Lisa Beasley, Harry T Cosby, Ike Ifedili, TJ Patel, Brad Canada, Susan H Morgan, Gabor Tigyi, Ken Tilashalski, Cathy Crill, Mahmoud Hassouba, Michelle Lynn Abramovitz, Louise Manasco, Tanaz

Vaghaiwalla, Lauren Arnold Bell, Dani Kruchevsky, Ashton Brooks, Maria Carrillo, Ja'Quay D Brister, Frank Park, Orpheus L Triplett, Laura Enomoto, Ji Min yochim, Terri H Finkel, Sharon Little, Cem Kuscu, Cheran Elangovan, Yanhui Zhang, Monica Jablonski, Eun Jin Paek, James M. Lewis, Vinay Jain, Lynn Ellen Dobrunz, Valarie Fleming, Stephanie Cage, Cynthia Russell, Peter Buckley, Paul Wesolowski, Raaj Kurapati, Chief Berryhill, Lee Weaver, Dan Young, Tim Florence.

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm CST/5:00 pm EST

Faculty Senate Meeting

Presiding: Mr. Paul J. Koltnow, President

Introduction of Mr. Paul Wesolowski, Vice Chancellor of Strategic Partnerships

- Vice Chancellor Wesoloski introduced his background in industry and academia
 - Role: Look at all UTHSC relationships and find out how we are related
 - How do we build bridges, and how do we leverage this?
 - Targeting bigger institutions first
- Experiences so far
 - Surprised about lack of relationships
 - Has visited many potential partners, described how we can work together, what benefits will come of this
 - Belief that we are all in this together, in the “state community”
 - In general, we all want to help people
 - Has not met a partner who refuses to work together
 - Regional One has been a great partner, as has the VA

- They want to move forward and be better partners, regardless of past issues
 - Advantages of the University of Tennessee Health Science Center:
 - Diversity of disciplines, populations, diversity of experiences
 - This is something that can attract new students, residents, fellows
- Communication
 - Needs that are not being met, please reach out
 - Invite Vice Chancellor Wesolowki to your department meetings
- Relationship with Advancement
 - We all have an obligation to fundraising
 - Vice Chancellor Wesoloski tries to go to all events possible
 - You never know where opportunities are
- Relationship with local corporations and businesses
 - Bigger businesses are not yet picking us as a partner
 - We pay football coaches a lot because they can bring in more money than academics – this is a reality
 - We have to find ways to touch the passions of these businesses
 - We want to be good community members in Memphis
- Challenges
 - Question: Regional One
 - Regional One received \$350 million from Shelby County, asked the state to match
 - Have not yet heard from state
 - State did like the idea
 - Question: Regarding philanthropy: Are there opportunities?
 - We are trying to look across the available business partners, and trying to leverage our brand
 - There is no specific corporation or brand that jumps out yet

- Health hubs and insurance agencies like Blue Cross seem promising
- Question: How to address mental health issues
 - Services for the university are being developed
 - Considering other campuses as well
 - If not in person, can services be provided over Zoom?
 - Recently recruited Dr. Jessi Gold to spearhead this
 - Baptist has a mental health facility – there is a possibility to have residents there
 - Regional One can also offer expanded services
- Question: Plough Center – what are plans for advancement?
 - Ideal scenario is to find a partner who will also use the facilities
 - Targeting individuals will lend to chasing more projects, becomes tedious
- Question: Mental Institution on campus – MMHI
 - The facility is currently run by the state
 - We don't have a relationship with them, other than supportive

Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer Raaj Kurapati and Chief Anthony Berryhill

- Open Campus policy
 - Message went out over email about a policy to address concerns from senate and students about building access
 - Pandemic made access more restrictive, but this no longer makes sense
 - Now all badges open all campus buildings
 - Campus security relies on all of us
 - We need to be a “hard target”
 - When we go into buildings, do not allow “piggybacking”

- If no badge and person has come in, call campus security (do not confront them yourself)
- This would make a huge difference
 - Take time to make sure door locks behind you
 - Openly wear your badge
 - Do not prop doors open, particularly exterior doors
- Rave Guardian App
 - Can download on phone
 - Allows you to communicate with dispatchers 24/7
 - When you plan to walk to car, message so that dispatch can monitor you and know if you made it
- Alert Us System
 - Emergency Messaging system (text, desktop, email will all be alerted)

Approval of the December 12, 2023 minutes.

- The floor was opened for discussion of the December 12th, 2023 meeting minutes. No edits were recommended. Dr. Rajashekhar Gangaraju motioned to accept the minutes as written. Motion was seconded by Dr. Richard Walker.
- Poll Everywhere Vote:
 - Approve: 98% (43/44)
 - Do not approve: 0% (0/44)
 - Abstain: 2% (1/44)

Announcements

- None

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm CST/6:05 pm EST.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dr. Karen Derefinko
Faculty Senate Secretary