

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES (Final)

Virtual Monthly Meeting by Zoom
November 9, 2021

Attendance: (senators, administrators, and faculty)

Attending: Charisse Madlock, Tony Ferrara, Amila Orucevic, Athena Davenport, Beth Choby, Bill Dabbs, Cathy Sanchez, Cindy Russell, Elisha McCoy, Emma Murray, Frank Park, Heather Moss, Helmut Steinberg, Ioannis Dragatsis, Jacqueline Venturin, J. Beiber, Jeffery Kalmowicz, Jian Jianxiong, Jillian McCarthy, Kirk Hevener, Kristi Forman, Alexia Williams, Laura Reed, Lisa Beasley, Lyndsay Pittman, Margaret Hartig, Maria Carrillo, Martin Donaldson, Maryann Clark, Mathew Davis, Melissa Taylor, Michael Herr, Mike Ebbs, Molly Erickson, Myra Meekins, Mancy hart, Paul Koltnow, Phyllis Richey, Richard Smith, Ricketta Clark, Robert Jean, Shaun Rowe, Shawna Clark, Shelley White-Means, Stephanie Lancaster, Stephen Pishko, Tayebah Pourmotabbed, Ted Cory, Terry Cooper, Thad Wilson, Tony Marion, Tracy McClinton, Wen Lin Sun, Yanhui Zhang, Zheng Fan, Tauheed Ishrat, Catherine Sanders, Vijay, Shaunta Chamber, Nawajes Mandal, Vrushali Abhyankar, R. Zeng, Karen Derefinko, Rachel Barenie, Artangela Henry, and one attendee on a phone

Meeting called to order at pm 4:01 CST/5:01 pm EST

Speaker: Anthony Ferrara, Senior Vice Chancellor for Finance and Lyndsay Pittman, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management

- The speakers discussed UTHSC's utilization of Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF).
- HEERF I, The coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic security act (CARES): UTHSC was Awarded \$499,039.
- HEERF II, The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA): UTHSC was Awarded \$499,039.
- HEERF III, The American Rescue Plan (ARP): UTHSC was Awarded \$1,256,350.
- HEERF I and II funds have been spent. \$149,161.21 remains for HEERF III.
- A more significant allocation was made to undergraduate institutions. UTHSC was at liberty to allocate to graduate students. The federal

government dictated the numbers for financial aid vs. institutional support.

- An email was sent out to eligible UTHSC students (from all campuses) who could complete an application based on their identified needs.

Approval of October minutes:

- The floor was opened for discussion of the October 12th, 2021, meeting minutes. Following no discussion, Dr. Hartig moved to accept the minutes. Dr. Rowe seconded. Minutes passed with 47 (98%) “yes”, (0%) “no,” and 1 (2%) “abstain.”

Chancellor search update:

- The search committee selected two candidates for campus interviews.
 - Peter F. Buckley, MD, Dean, School of Medicine, Virginia Commonwealth University, Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs, VCU Health System
 - Alicia D. H. Monroe, MD, Provost and Senior Vice President, Academic and Faculty Affairs, Baylor College of Medicine Cullen Trust for Higher Education Provost Chair, Baylor College of Medicine
 - The FSEC & Senate Chairs met with both candidates.
- Faculty have the option to provide feedback about the finalists.

Impact of COVID-19 state legislation on universities receiving federal dollars:

- By the end of this year, we will hear what the resolution is between state and federal governments. There is an exemption for state entities from the comptroller. We will plan to request an exemption so that we can meet the federal requirements that will be effective January 4th. If faculty practice in a clinical environment that requires them to be vaccinated, and they are terminated from the clinic for non-compliance, they may be terminated from UTHSC. In the faculty handbook, there is a provision that if faculty leave clinical practice, they can be terminated even if they are tenured. We do not have definitive policies regarding faculty who may want to get vaccinated in lieu of being terminated.

Committee updates:

- The Budgets & Benefits Committee met and discussed the federal mandate on vaccines. There is a concern for how tenured unvaccinated faculty would be handled. They discussed PhD students or work-study students paid on federal grants or other federal funding as they would be affected by the mandate.
- The Clinical Affairs Committee met on October 25th. The committee members agreed to have a meeting every fourth Monday at 3:30 pm CST. Dr. Shaun Rowe is now the co-chair. The members are creating a survey with questions regarding the needs of clinical faculty.
- The Research Committee met and had guest speakers discuss clinical trials. The committee members would like to have senators join their committee as the committee is small.
 - The office of Vice-Chancellor of Research provides self-plagiarism software. If you need to duplicate parts of a methods section, you can ask the publishers to give permission.
- The Computing and Technology Committee met and discussed RingCentral, which will allow office calls to be forwarded to cell phones. More information is available here:
<https://www.uthsc.edu/finance/business-managers/documents/its-ringcentral-091621.pdf>
- The Faculty Affairs Committee wants faculty to know that the faculty feedback survey will come out later this month, and it is imperative that faculty respond. Senators were asked to encourage faculty in their colleges to respond to it.
- The Handbook Committee has not been able to meet because of the chancellor candidate interviews. The supplement to the bylaws has one issue remaining and will be put before FSEC at the next meeting.
- The Non-Tenure Track Committee met, and they have a new co-chair (Michael Herr). They reviewed the previous goals. One of their goals is to look at multi-year contracts for non-tenured faculty. We have 70% non-tenure-track faculty at UTHSC.

New business:

- For grant submissions, ITS is providing us with standard grant language on IT resources for faculty sections:
<https://uthsc.teamdynamix.com/TDCClient/2280/Portal/KB/ArticleDet?ID=136696>

- The UFC is meeting again next week. The minutes for the last meeting have not been posted. If senators have topics to raise at the meeting, contact Dr. Donaldson.

- Upcoming Faculty Senate Meetings:
 - December 14, 2021, at 4:00 pm CST/5:00 pm EST.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm CST/6:00 pm EST.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charisse Madlock, PhD, MLS

Faculty Senate Secretary