



Texas Southern University Faculty Assembly/Senate

Dr. Rasoul Saneifard, Chair
Dr. Edieth Wu, Vice Chair

Dr. J. Kenyatta Cavil, Secretary
Dr. Olurominiyi Ibitayo, Treasurer

Dr. Luis Perez-Feliciano, Faculty Speaks Editor
Dr. Vera Hawkins, Parliamentarian

FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, March 02, 2017
Hannah Hall, Room 111, 3:00 PM

Senator Members Chair & Vice Chair

Dr. Rasoul Saneifard College of Science, Engineering and Technology (Chair)
Dr. Edieth Wu Thurgood Marshall School of Law (Vice Chair)

Senate Members Present

Abobo, Cyril	Senator, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Asare, Nana	Senator, College of Education
Bell, Edward	Senator, College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences
Brailey, Carla	Senator, College of Liberal Arts and Behavioral Sciences
Cavil, J. Kenyatta	Senator Secretary, College of Education
Griesinger, Nancy	Senator, College of Science, Engineering and Technology
Hollomon, Mario	Senator, College of Science, Engineering and Technology
Ibitayo, Olurominiyi	Senator Treasurer, Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs
Jemison Pollard, Dianne	Senator, College of Liberal Arts and Behavioral Sciences
Lancaster, Iris	Senator, College of Liberal Arts and Behavioral Sciences
Lowe, Jeffrey	Senator, Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs
Ojode, Lucy	Senator, Jesse H. Jones School of Business
Perez-Feliciano, Luis	Senator Editor, Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs
Perkins, Carlton	Senator, Jesse H. Jones School of Business
Reynolds, Lacey	Senator, College of Education
Saneifard, Rasoul	Senator Chair, College of Science, Engineering and Technology
Thoreson, Claire	Senator, The Graduate School
Woldie, Mammo	Senator, Jesse H. Jones School of Business
Wu, Edieth	Senator Vice Chair, Thurgood Marshall School of Law
Yousefipour, Zivar	Senator, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Senate Members / Colleges Not in Attendance

Anga, Ahunanya	Senator, Thurgood Marshall School of Law
Regis, Humphrey	Senator, School of Communication
Tymczak, Christopher J.	Senator, College of Science, Engineering and Technology
Walker-Hawkins, Vera	Senator Parliamentarian, School of Communication

Senate Counsel in Attendance

Walker, April Faculty Senate General Counsel, Thurgood Marshall School of Law

Guest(s) from Faculty Assembly or University

None.



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Call to Order

C = Comments, R = Response, and Q = Question

Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard called the March 2017 meeting of the TSU Faculty Senate to order at 3:10 p.m. on Thursday, March 2, 2017.

Approval of the February 2017 Senate Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the February 2, 2017 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Senator Mammo Woldie to approve the minutes and seconded by Senator Carlton Perkins. The motion carried unanimously unless further modifications are necessary.

Announcements

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Provided an update on the status of the resolution on seniority clause. Senate Chair Saneifard asked each senator to send the resolution to all faculty members in their colleges and schools. He plans to present this resolution at the next President's council meeting on March 8, 2017.

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Explained the revision process for the faculty annual performance evaluation instruments and why the forms are being revised. In addition, he provided a copy of an old faculty evaluation survey instrument to demonstrate how the older version differs from the newer version.

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Announced that several faculty members have discovered that their identity has been stolen after filing income tax return with IRS. Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard asked everyone to check their financial accounts. He shared that the CIO stated that he would check our security and firewall to ensure that information is not hacked in the future.

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Provided an update on certifying students for graduation and if graduating seniors can be administered their exams 1 or 2 weeks prior to final examination week. He stated that he did present this topic to the dean's council and Mrs. Square was assigned to look into this issue and bring a report to the council.



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C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Announced that the URTP&S committee does not have a chair. Consequently, a meeting has been scheduled for Monday to elect a new chair for the committee.

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Announced that a four (4) day work week schedule is being proposed by the administration for everyone during the summer sessions in order to generate a cost-savings to the university. He stated that this topic is on the table for discussion for implementation in summer 2017.

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Reminded the Senate that in the Board of Regents Retreat in January the president agreed that the Senate should have representation on his cabinet meeting. Consequently, he announced that starting Monday he will be attending the President's Cabinet meetings. He stated that this will be on the agenda at the April Board meeting for full approval.

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Faculty Senate/Assembly and Deans' Council approved the new modified workload policy to be adopted and it is waiting to go to the regular Board meeting, preferably by June 2017.

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Shared the updated Faculty Senate Election Nomination form. He stated that it has been updated, however, the content has not changed. Furthermore, he explained the rules regarding the nomination process.

New Business

Discussion on floor by Senators regarding serious issues concerning department chairs

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Discussed complaints he has received regarding Chairs of Departments who are inactive, have administrative offices that are frequently closed, have absentee administrative staff and other concerns mentioned were associated with their evaluations or lack thereof. Other matters of serious concerns are the number of credit hours department chairs are assigned, lack of term limitations, and multiple administrative roles.



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Discussion on floor by Senators regarding issues concerning faculty administrators with dual roles

C: Several Senators: Discussed faculty administrators with dual appointments, such as associate deans or department chairs, who hold two or more roles in one department or school, which the Senators expressed is a serious concern. For example, a department chair who is also serving as interim assistant dean; both of these appointments are a full-time position. Oftentimes, the appointments are also held for years, which does not allow other talented or interested faculty an opportunity to gain valuable experience in these roles.

C: Senate Secretary J. Kenyatta Cavil: Made a motion that a faculty member who holds an administrative position should not serve in a dual administrative capacity simultaneously within his/her department or school. Senator Dianne Jemison Pollard seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with no opposing vote.

Discussion on floor by Senators regarding the process for appointment of Emeritus status

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Discussed the current draft of emeritus status policy proposed by the Deans' Council. The Senate objected to the following wording: "tenured faculty members in the department shall vote", to nominate a faculty member for emeritus status. Instead, Senators suggested that an unbiased committee (established outside of the department and college) is charged with nominating a faculty member for emeritus to the provost.

C: Senator Jeffrey Lowe: Made a motion to revise the proposed draft using an example of a peer institution. In this regard, Senate Vice Chair Edieth Wu presented the Howard University [a peer institution] Emeritus Status policy to the Senators. Consequently, the Senators agreed to adopt the Emeritus Status policy from Howard University to replace a portion of the proposed draft suggested by the Deans' Council. The motion carried unanimously with no opposing vote.

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Asked for Senators who are not returning to the Senate. Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard suggested that these Senators be recognized for their hard work and dedication before the end of the academic year.

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Stated that our bylaws states that our agenda should be ready and published three days prior to the Senate meeting and posted to our website. The Senators agreed that this is a good idea, without any objection.



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C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Suggested that the Senate shall finalize approval of minutes within thirty (30) days to allow for any proposed modifications that may occur during period.

Old Business

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Announced that the university grievance committee reviewed a difficult case on behalf of the university and completed its report. He wanted to acknowledge the committee members for their efforts. This committee, chaired by Senator Mammo Woldie included Senator Luis Perez-Feliciano and Dr. Ronald Samples. Additionally, he commended another grievance committee chaired by Senator Zivar Yousefipour, which included Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard and Senator Luis Perez-Feliciano. Furthermore, he commended the Faculty Senate Election Committee, chaired by Senator Mario Hollomon, with Senators Iris Lancaster and Luis Perez-Feliciano.

Discussion on floor by Senators regarding an honorarium for Ms. Georgia Provost

C: Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Announced that Ms. Georgia Provost, a community representative, is assisting the Senate with this year's election process. Senate Chair Rasoul Saneifard specified that since she does not charge for this service, he is suggesting that Senators volunteer to contribute some funds for her efforts.

C: Senator Carlton Perkins: Made a motion to approve an honorarium for Ms. Provost. Senate Secretary/Parliamentarian J. Kenyatta Cavil seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with no opposing vote.

Adjourn Meeting

Q: Ask for the question. Senator Mammo Woldie moved that the meeting be adjourned. Senate Secretary/Parliamentarian J. Kenyatta Cavil seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.