



Faculty Assembly/Senate
Dr. Rasoul Saneifard, Chair
Dr. Vera Hawkins, Vice Chair

Dr. J. Kenyatta Cavil, Secretary
Dr. Lalita Sen, Treasurer

Dr. Emiel Owens, Parliamentarian
Dr. N. Saha-Gupta, Editor

FACULTY ASSEMBLY/SENATE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, November 7, 2013, 3:00 pm
Hanna Hall, Room 111

Senator Members Chair & Vice Chair

Dr. Rasoul Saneifard (Chair) College of Science and Technology
Dr. Vera Hawkins (Vice Chair) School of Communication

Senate Members Present

Akpaffiong, Macaulay	Senator, College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences
Desselle, Bettye	Senator, Jesse H. Jones School of Business
Georges-Abeyie, Daniel	Senator, Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs
Gilbert, Sharlette A. Kellum	Senator, The Graduate School
Holmes, Roderick	Senator, College of Science & Technology
Kamau, Obidike	Senator, RJT Library Faculty
Ojode, Lucy	Senator, Jesse H. Jones School of Business
Owens, Emiel	Senator Parliamentarian, College of Education
Sen, Lalita	Senator Treasurer, Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs
Sleem, Aladdin	Senator, College of Science & Technology
Smith, Jacqueline	Senator, College of Education
Solitare, Laura	Senator, Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs
Tymczak, Christopher J.	Senator, College of Science & Technology
Woldie, Mammo	Senator, Jesse H. Jones School of Business
Yousefipour, Zivar	Senator, College of Pharmacy & Health Science

Senate Members/Colleges Absent

Anadu Ndefo, Uche	Senator, College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences
Bloom, Collette M.	Senator, College of Education
Cavil, J. Kenyatta	Senator Secretary, College of Education (NASSS Conference)
Hill, Cassandra	Senator, Thurgood Marshall School of Law
Khosrovani, Masoomah	Senator, School of Communication
Mosley, Erma Dianne	Senator, College of Liberal Arts & Behavioral Sciences
Saha-Gupta, Nina	Senator Editor Faculty Speaks, College of Education
Zeitler, Michael	Senator, College of Liberal Arts & Behavioral Sciences
Zidaru, Lucian	Senator, College of Liberal Arts & Behavioral Sciences

Senate Members/Not Present (Alternate Representative)

Broussard, Shanna Senator, College of Education

Guest from Faculty Assembly

Carrington, McKen	TM School of Law - (Faculty Senate General Counsel)
LaBrie, Lorie	Special Director / Assistant to the Provost / Academic Retention
Ohia, Sunny	Provost / Vice President for Academic Affair and Research
Shelton, Andrea	Faculty Ombudsman



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Call to Order

C = Comments, Q = Question, A = Answer

Senator Chair Rasoul Saneifard called the November 2013 meeting of the TSU Faculty Senate to order at 3:15pm Thursday, November 7, 2013.

Announcement

Mrs. Gunter is leaving for another opportunity at company elsewhere.

The Faculty Senate provided congratulatory applause for Mrs. Gunter's service and support for her future opportunities.

Provost Dr. Ohia Q / A / C

Q: Senator Chair Rasoul Saneifard: It is a concern of many faculty members across the campus, that when deans are assigning teaching load, some deans are ignoring seniority in the process.

C: Provost Ohia: The grievance process is in place to deal with such issue. It would be appropriate if the senior faculty is unable to resolve the issue with their chair, that they talk to their dean and if necessary take it to the provost level.

Q: Several Senators: Provided additional concerns associated with Senator Chair Rasoul Saneifard's initiated question, especially as it pertains to women in the academy holding faculty positions.

A: Provost Ohia: There is still a process. It is important to use the grievance process to bring these concerns to the forefront so that they can be adjudicated.

Q: Ombudsman: What is the definition of seniority? Is it rank or is years of service?

A: Provost Ohia: Seniority is based on rank.

Q: Senator Mammo Woldie: Many faculty members have expressed their issues with the administration process of assigning teaching load.

A: Provost Ohia: If the concerns are such an issue, why hasn't faculty used the grievance process?

Q: Senator Lucy Ojode: Continued to provide additional examples of the concerns expressed by Senator Mammo Woldie.

A: Provost Ohia: If faculty members have issues, faculty senators have the ability to bring such issues to the faculty senate and provide a resolution that would be addressed by the administration and the provost.

Q: Senator: Ask the question regarding cyber bullying issues and what is the appropriate protocol for this issue.



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A: Provost Ohia: I am aware of the issue and have addressed legal counsel on what university policies would address this concern regarding mass-email cyber bullying.

Approval of the 6th of September and 3rd of October 2013 Senate Meeting Minutes

The minutes from September 5th, October 3rd, and October 11th Emergency meetings in 2013 were read and approved subject to any modification sent by emails to Senator Secretary Kenyatta Cavil. Senator Lalita Sen moved the minutes be accepted as read and Senator Daniel Georges-Abeyie seconded the motion.

Old Business

C: Senator Chair Rasoul Saneifard: The budget of the faculty senate, including the faculty senate officer's salary, was provided for the faculty to review. The administration is seeking to cut all budgets, including the faculty senate's operating budget. This is an issue.

C: Senator Vice Chair Vera Hawkins: Provided information on the Faculty Senate Holiday Luncheon. The luncheon is scheduled for December 3, 11:30am ~ 1:30pm in the Sterling Student Center on the fourth floor in the President's Suite.

C: Senator Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Consider a retreat to allow the faculty senate to formulize a strategic plan on dealing with various issues. Senator Laura Solitare was selected as the chair for an AD HOC committee for formalizing a faculty senate retreat.

C: Senator Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Query the faculty on potential dates for a faculty retreat.

C: Senator Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Senator Laura Solitare took the responsibility as the chair for an AD HOC committee to formalize a faculty senate retreat.

C: Senator Macaulay Akpaffiong: If we move forward with a retreat, we must make sure that the information developed at the retreat is brought back to Faculty Assembly. The retreat is an important opportunity to deal with important issues that have not been resolved.

C: Senator Mammo Woldie, Senator Vice Chair Vera Hawkins, Senator Daniel Georges-Abeyie, and Senator Aladdin Sleem: Provided additional discussion on best practices for formulizing the discourse for faculty senate retreat. In addition, what would be the best protocol to share issues with respective academic unit? These are issues that should be addressed as agenda items at the senate faculty retreat.

Q: Senator Aladdin Sleem: Shared the newest version of Academic Standing Policy document (for fall 2014) that was researched, reviewed, and recommended by the University Curriculum Council and approved by the Provost and President.

C: Senator Daniel Georges-Abeyie: Issue with the current administration not following policies. For example, a group of students issued a grievance against a professor's rubric for grading students. This is not a legitimate issue to have a grievance. Senator Daniel Georges-Abeyie suggested that he or Faculty Senate General Counsel McKen Carrington provide a report that is sent to the Welfare Committee. The Welfare Committee can review the



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document and send their findings to the Faculty Senate Chair. The Faculty Senate Chair can send the recommendation to the Faculty Senate. Senator Laura Solitare issued a second to the recommendation.

C: Senator Chair Rasoul Saneifard: The motion carried by the majority of the Faculty Assembly present.

C: Senator Macaulay Akpaffiong: Provided a statement of un-readiness with the motion. No action taken on the motion.

C: Senator Christopher Tymczak: The issue is, what is the policy for students who have a grievance regarding their grade during the semester? We have policy for students' grievances regarding a grade after the semester.

New Business

C: Senator Vice Chair Vera Hawkins: Received several emails following the Women's Luncheon. The emails suggested the administration take a salary reduction of five percent.

C: Senator Lalita Sen: We need to review the whole issue regarding budget associated with the university's shortfall.

C: Senator Chair Rasoul Saneifard: Next Wednesday we will meet with President Rudley. He asked that I bring two senators with me for that meeting. I am asking that Senator Mammo Woldie and Senator Daniel Georges-Abeyie attend the 9:30am meeting with me. They both agreed.

C: Senator Vice Chair Vera Hawkins: Expressed that there are currently several meetings that both Senator Chair Rasoul Saneifard and Senator Vice Chair Vera Hawkins are required to attend that deal with several key issues that they will continue to update the Faculty Senate as well as the Faculty Assembly: Especially the workload issues regarding equitable reduction.

Committee Reports (The following reports were rescheduled for the next senate meetings)

-OIT: Dr. Robert Ford (Position Vacated), Dr. Lila Ghemri, Dr. Karma Sherif* (Position Vacated), Dr. Holim Song (Position Vacated), and Dr. C. Tymczak**

No, report at this time

-Budget: Dr. Bettye Desselle**, Dr. Mammo Woldie*, Dr. Lalita Sen, and Dr. Sharlette Kellum Gilbert

No, report at this time

-Election: Dr. Lila Ghemri**, Dr. Karma Sherif*, Dr. Lalita Sen, and Dr. James Opolot (Position Vacated)

No, report at this time

-Administrators Surveys: Dr. Doris Jackson (Position Vacated), Dr. Brooks de Vita (Position Vacated), Dr. Dianne Mosley*, Dr. Janet Perkins** (Position Vacated), Dr. Chris Beineman (Position Vacated), and Kirsteryn Gunter

No, report at this time

-Benefits: Dr. Lalita Sen*, Dr. Angie Eaton, Dr. James Opolot, and Dr. Zivar Yousefipour

No, report at this time



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-Comprehensive Assessment: Dr. Robert Ford (Position Vacated)*, Dr. Brooks de Vita (Position Vacated), Dr. Vera Hawkins**, Dr. Cheng Lin, Dr. Emiel Owens, and Dr. Macaulay Akpaffiong

No, report at this time

-Faculty Welfare: Dr. Vera Hawkins*, Dr. James Opolot (Position Vacated), Dr. Daniel Georges-Abeyie, and Dr. Brooks de Vita (Position Vacated)

No, report at this time

-\$10,000 Degree: Dr. J. Kenyatta Cavil***, Dr. Brooks de Vita (Position Vacated)****, and Dr. Vera Hawkins

No, report at this time

** Chair of the Committee; ** Vice Chair of the Committee*

**** Primary Committee; **** Secondary Committee*

Adjourn Meeting

Senator Chair Rasoul Saneifard moved the meeting be adjourned. It was seconded by Senator Emiel Owens.

Meeting Adjourned