



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Gregory L. Fenves, President
110 Inner Campus Drive, G3400 · Austin, TX 78712-3400
512-471-1232 · president@utexas.edu

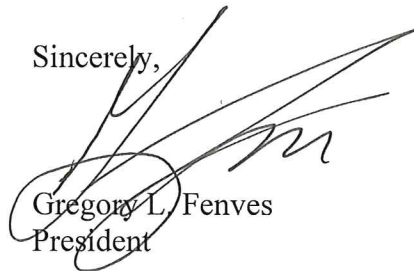
April 27, 2016

Dr. Hillary Hart
Secretary
General Faculty and Faculty Council
Office of the General Faculty
West Mall Office Building 2.102
306 Inner Campus Drive, F9500
CAMPUS MAIL

Dear Hillary:

I write to approve the recommendation requiring all course syllabi to include wording provided in the Senate of College Council's letter attached. The proposal received the endorsement of the Executive Vice President and Provost *ad interim*, Judith H. Langlois. By copy of this message to the Faculty Council, the implementation of this recommendation may proceed.

Sincerely,



Gregory L. Fenves
President

GLF: mkg

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Judith H. Langlois, Executive Vice President and Provost, *ad interim*
Ms. Carol Longoria, Assistant Deputy to the President
Dr. Andrea C. Gore, Chair, Faculty Council
Dr. Randy Bomer, Chair, Educational Policy Committee
Ms. Debbie Roberts, Executive Assistant, Office of the General Faculty
Ms. Victoria Cervantes, Senior Administrative Associate, Office of the General Faculty
Ms. Michelle George, Administrative Manager, Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost



EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND PROVOST

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

110 Inner Campus Drive, Suite 201 • G1000 • Austin, Texas • 78712-0538 • 512-471-4363 • FAX 512-475-7385

April 19, 2016

Gregory L. Fenves
President
The University of Texas at Austin
MAI 400 / G3400

Dear President Fenves:

I have reviewed the enclosed recommendation requiring all course syllabi to include the following statement going forward:

The CMHC Crisis Line is a confidential service of UT Austin's Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC) that offers an opportunity for UT Austin students to talk with trained counselors about mental health concerns on a 24/7 basis. The number is: 512-471-2225.

If you have any concerns about a student, faculty, or staff member in the UT Austin community, contact the 24-hour Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL) at 512-232-5050.

The Faculty Council endorsed this proposal at its meeting on March 21, 2016. I have no objection to this proposal and recommend it for your approval.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Judith H. Langlois".

Judith H. Langlois
Executive Vice President and Provost, *ad interim*

JHL: mkg

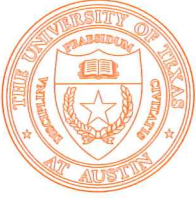
Enclosure

cc: Hillary Hart, Secretary of the General Faculty and Faculty Council

Electronic copies via email:

Debbie Roberts, Executive Assistant, Office of the General Faculty

Victoria Cervantes, Sr. Administrative Associate, Office of the General Faculty



OFFICE OF THE FACULTY COUNCIL

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

P. O. BOX 7816 • Austin, TX 78713-7816

(512) 471-5934 • Fax: (512) 471-5984 • <http://www.utexas.edu/faculty/council>

March 22, 2016

President Gregory L. Fenves
The University of Texas at Austin
MAI 400
Campus Mail Code: G3400

Dear President Fenves:

For your consideration I am submitting a proposal that would require the following statement to be included on all course syllabi. The Faculty Council endorsed the proposal at its meeting yesterday afternoon. For your reference, I am enclosing the Senate of College Council's letter.

The CMHC Crisis Line is a confidential service of UT Austin's Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC) that offers an opportunity for UT-Austin students to talk with trained counselors about mental health concerns on a 24/7 basis. The number is: 512-471-2255.

If you have concerns about a student, faculty, or staff member in the UT-Austin community, contact the 24-hour Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL) at 512-232-5050.

Please let me know if you have questions or concerns about this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hillary Hart".

Hillary Hart, Secretary
General Faculty and Faculty Council

Enclosure

HH:dlr

Enclosure

xc: Judith L. Langlois, interim provost
ec: Carol Longoria, assistant deputy to the president



SENATE OF COLLEGE COUNCILS
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

2201 Speedway A6210 • Austin, Texas 78712-0179 • (512) 471-3166 • Fax: (512) 471-3408 • www.utsenate.org

Dear Faculty Council,

I hope this letter finds you well. This letter is sent on behalf of the Senate of College Councils, the official voice for students in academics at the University of Texas at Austin. We would like to discuss our thoughts on the importance of the inclusion of the Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC) Crisis Line and Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL) on college syllabi. We would strongly urge the committee to consider mandating the inclusion of these two resources on university-wide syllabi.

Mental health on college campuses is an incredible issue not only facing our University but our nation. A spring 2015 survey performed by the American College Health Association - National College Health Assessment of 74,438 undergraduates at 108 schools found that 57.7% of surveyed students had felt "overwhelming anxiety" in the past 12 months, 35.3% felt "so depressed that it was difficult to function" in the past 12 months, and 9.8% of those surveyed had "seriously considered suicide" in the past 12 months. As a student leader, I have known too many students who have left their mental health problems unaddressed. It is an epidemic. I believe our University has a moral responsibility to help these students and advertise the resources our campus offers.

Further, Faculty Council has been outspoken as to how the implementation of Campus Carry will negatively affect campus life. I have heard from multiple concerns from professors about fears regarding the unsavory intersection between guns and mental health. As a member of the Working Group and now the Implementation Task Force, I absolutely believe that the key to campus safety is promoting the resources of the Counseling and Mental Health Center. Members of the UT Austin community all want the same thing – safety of our members and of our home. This is one step that can be taken to help actively assuage the concerns of the faculty and help enhance the quality of life for students on the Forty Acres.

In the spirit of advertising resources, I strongly urge the Policy Committee within the Faculty Council to consider adding this proposed amendment to the requirements for college syllabi:

"The CMHC Crisis Line is a confidential service of UT Austin's Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC) that offers an opportunity for UT-Austin students to talk with trained counselors about mental health concerns on a 24/7 basis. The number is: 512-471-2255. If you have concerns about a student, faculty, or staff member in the UT-Austin community, contact the 24-hour Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL) at 512-232-5050."

Connecting students to resources is one tangible step in battling the stigma of mental health concerns on college campuses. We strongly encourage Faculty Council to implement this measure to provide for a happier and healthier Forty Acres community.

All the best,

Rachel Osterloh
President of the Senate of College Councils

Xavier Rotnofsky
President of Student Government