

DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY


FIFTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE FACULTY COUNCIL FOR 2015-2016

The University of Texas at Austin
 Main Building, Room 212
 Video-streaming link: <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/utaustin>

Monday, January 25, 2016
 immediately following the 2:15 PM
 annual meeting of the General Faculty

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- I. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY** (D 13976-13990)—Hillary Hart (distinguished senior lecturer, civil, architectural, and environmental engineering).
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**
 - A. Minutes of the Regular Faculty Council Meeting of November 16, 2015 (D 13991-14014).
 - B. Minutes of the Regular Faculty Council Meeting of December 7, 2015 (D 14015-114030).
- III. COMMUNICATION WITH THE PRESIDENT**—Gregory L. Fenves
 - A. Comments by the President.
 - B. Questions to the President (see Appendix A).
- IV. REPORT OF THE CHAIR**—Andrea C. Gore (professor, pharmacy).
- V. REPORT OF THE CHAIR ELECT**—Jody Jensen (professor, kinesiology and health education).
- VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**—None.
- VII. REPORTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY, COLLEGES, SCHOOLS, AND COMMITTEES**—None.
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS.**
 - A. An Update on and Understanding of the Campus Sexual Assault Initiative—Noel Busch-Armendariz (professor, social work).
 - B. Update on Campus Carry—Steven Goode (chair, Campus Carry Policy Working Group and professor, law) and Colman Hutchison (Campus Carry Policy Working Group member, Faculty Council Executive Committee member, and associate professor English).
- IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS.**
 - A. Nominations for the General Faculty Standing Committees open January 19 through February 5.
 - B. The next Faculty Council meeting will be held on February 15 at 2:15 PM in MAI 212.
 - C. Nominations for college representatives on the Faculty Council open February 15 through March 4.
 - D. Joint Meeting of the Faculty Council with Texas A&M's Faculty Senate, March 7, at College Station.
- X. QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIR.**
- XI. ADJOURNMENT.**


 Hillary Hart, Secretary
 General Faculty and Faculty Council

Appendix A

Questions to the President

A. Submitted by Sarah Lopez (assistant professor, architecture)

I would like to know if professors will be allowed to ask students who are carrying concealed weapons to please sit in the back of the class. Students who are using computers are sometimes asked to sit in the back of the class since the computer screen is distracting. I think other students would like to know if they are sitting next to a gun or not, I would also personally not want to have a gun near the front of class where I might accidentally see it and get distracted during lecture.

Thank you.

B. Submitted by Joan Neuberger (professor, history) and Max Snodderly (professor, neuroscience)

1. As the working group recognized, it will be very difficult to enforce partial bans on guns in campus buildings. Would you support a policy that if any part of a building is gun free, such as animal facilities and laboratories, or offices, the whole building should be gun free?
2. The WG recommendations contain numerous contradictions and ambiguities about justifications for banning or not banning CHL holders from carrying handguns into UT facilities. For example, the justification for prohibiting the concealed carry of handguns into labs include (#13) "The training required for handgun license holders does not include special training regarding the safe use of weapons in such facilities." and (#14) "Compliance with these protocols [for removing clothing] by someone carrying a concealed handgun may have the effect of increasing the risk of its discharge, contamination, or unanticipated separation from the license holder." Yet CHL holders have no training regarding the safe use of firearms in classrooms of any kind, around other students, or in the face of a criminal with a gun and students who carry handguns in holsters routinely remove that clothing to use the bathroom in a way that might also risk discharge, contamination, or unanticipated separation from the license holder. Given the similarities, shouldn't concealed carry of handguns be prohibited in any situation that risks accidental discharge or separation for the CHL holder? That is to say in classrooms, offices, and dorms?

Given such contradictions, would you consider requesting a postponement or injunction to allow the university to attempt to resolve such contradictions?