



OFFICE OF THE FACULTY COUNCIL

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

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April 12, 2016

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

Dear President Fenves:

Enclosed for your consideration and action is the slate of nominees for three-year terms of appointment to the University of Texas Police Oversight Committee (D 14481), which was approved by the Faculty Council at its meeting yesterday, April 11, 2016.

Please let me know if you have questions or concerns regarding these recommendations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Hillary Hart".

Hillary Hart, Secretary
General Faculty and Faculty Council

Enclosures
HH:dlr

xc: Judith L. Langlois, interim provost
ec: Carol Longoria, assistant deputy to the president
Andrea Gore, chair, 2015-16 Faculty Council

Statements for UTPD Oversight Committee (D 14481):

Noel Busch-Armendariz, associate professor, social work

I would be honored to serve as a member of the University of Texas Police Oversight Committee. As a Faculty Council representative I will provide faculty involvement on this committee as an important aspect of our institutional processes. Central to our university mission is to ensure a safe living and learning environment for all Longhorns. Our law enforcement are the heart of these efforts. My empirical research and scholarship has been to support and explore areas related to the criminal justice system, specifically engaging with law enforcement and campus law enforcement about the tools that they need to improve their effectiveness. As a core mission we know that a strong educational institution engages in and collaborates among and between all stakeholders on critical issues. I would be privileged to actively collaborate through the work of this committee as law enforcement achieves its goals of security on the 40 Acres.

Jane Champion, professor, nursing

I am willing to serve on the UTPD oversight committee. This appointment would provide the circumstance to support the university community and develop an appreciation of a critical component of UT operations.

Mechele Dickerson, professor, law

The relationship between law enforcement officers and the people they protect seemingly becomes more complex each year. In particular, college campuses nationwide have received negative press because of the ways in which campus police (1) have interacted with members of the University community and (2) have generally responded to volatile issues that have developed on their campus. Police departments that have policies and procedures in place to deal with politically charged issues (like protests involving Israel/Palestinians, Black Lives Matter protests, etc.) typically have fewer negative encounters with community members, and also usually avoid appearing on the front page of the New York Times.

I have no experience in law enforcement, but I have spent most of last fall thinking about UT's core values and how to protect them in the context of the Campus Carry law that will go into effect later this year. In addition, while I do not teach criminal or constitutional law, my research on the American middle-class considers the ways in which class-based biases and implicit racial biases influence how people interact with each other. This research also has helped me see that there are fairly basic ways to help reduce negative interactions between groups by taking those biases into consideration when crafting policies and procedures.

I believe that my recent campus carry committee experience combined with my legal research would help ensure that UTPD's policies are "best practices" and that they both respect and protect the members of the UT Austin community.

DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO NOMINATE FACULTY MEMBERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN POLICE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

Professor Andrea Gore (pharmacy), on behalf of the Faculty Council Executive Committee, submits the following panel of names for consideration by the president for appointment to the University of Texas Police Oversight Committee.

Notice is hereby given that this report will be presented to the Faculty Council for action at its meeting on March 21, 2016. At that meeting additional nominations may be made from the floor.



Hillary Hart, Secretary
General Faculty and Faculty Council

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO NOMINATE FACULTY MEMBERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN POLICE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

The University of Texas Police Oversight Committee serves as the principal institutional channel of communication between members of the University community and the University of Texas Police Department (UTPD). Their task is to ensure that the policies, practices, and operations of the UTPD promote the security and safety of the University community effectively and in ways respectful of our constitutional rights and consistent with the core values of the University.

Three faculty members serve on the committee who are chosen by the president to serve three-year staggered terms. Each spring, the Faculty Council Executive Committee solicits nominations from the General Faculty for appointment to the Police Oversight Committee. At least two nominations must be submitted for each vacant seat.

The present faculty composition of the committee is as follows:

Penelope J. Davies, associate professor, art and art history (term expires August 31, 2016)
Richard Hazeltine, professor, physics (term expires August 31, 2018)
Jill A. Marshall, associate professor, curriculum and instruction (term expires August 31, 2017)

The panel of faculty being nominated for appointment in 2016 for a three-year term is as follows:

Noel Busch-Armendariz, associate professor, social work
Jane Champion, professor, nursing
Mechele Dickerson professor, law