

DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

Following are the minutes of the regular Faculty Council meeting of May 1, 2017.



Alan W. Friedman, Secretary of the General Faculty and Faculty Council
The University of Texas at Austin

Arthur J. Thaman and Wilhelmina Doré Thaman Professor of English and Comparative Literature

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING OF
MAY 1, 2017**

The ninth regular meeting of the Faculty Council for the academic year 2016-17 was held in the Main Building, Room 212 on Monday, May 1, 2017, at 2:15 PM.

ATTENDANCE.

Present: Lucinda Jane Atkinson, Simon D. Atkinson, Christina Bain, Chad J. Bennett, Mark L. Bradshaw, Carolyn M. Brown, Christopher P. Brown, Cindy I. Carlson, Allan H. Cole, Juan J. Colomina-Alminana, Austin Cooney, Elizabeth Cullingford, Glenn P. Downing, Brian L. Evans, Alan W. Friedman, Linda L. Golden, Laura I. Gonzalez, Andrea C. Gore, Lauren E. Gulbas, Marvin L. Hackert, Tracie C. Harrison, Jay C. Hartzell, D. Eric Hirst, Steven D. Hoelscher, Coleman Hutchison, Brent L. Iverson, Vishwanath R. Iyer, Jody L. Jensen, Christine L. Julien, Jonathan Kaplan, Harrison Keller, Prabhudev C. Konana, Alexandra Loukas, Blinda E. McClelland, Jennifer Moon, Martha G. Newman, Dennis S. Passovoy, Edward R. Pearsall, Jonathan L. Sessler, D. Max Snodderly, Vincent S. (Shelby) Stanfield, Pauline T. Strong, Jessica R. Toste, Jennifer M. Wilks.

Absent: Ronald J. Angel, Blake R. Atwood (excused), Darrell L. Bazzell, Jay M. Bernhardt, William "Wills" Kerby Brown (excused), Barry Brummett (excused), Jorge Canizares (excused), Benjamin H. Carrington (excused), Sergio M. Cavazos, Francesca L. Cicero (excused), M. Lynn Crismon, Charles Michael Cunningham, Ann Cvetkovich, Elizabeth A. Danze, Janet M. Davis (excused), Douglas J. Dempster, Randy L. Diehl, Andrew P. Dillon, Jonathan B. Dingwell (excused), David J. Eaton (excused), Angela M. Evans, Ward Farnsworth, Gregory L. Fenves (excused), Benny D. Freeman (excused), Philip M. Gavenda, Christian S. Glakas, Terrance L. Green, Lorraine J. Haricombe, Kevin S. Helgren, Maya L. Henry (excused), Linda A. Hicke, Martha F. Hilley (excused), Daniel T. Jaffe, S. Claiborne Johnston, Peniel E. Joseph, Manuel Justiz, Susan L. Kearns, Binna Kim, John C. Lassiter (excused), Sanford V. Levinson, Maurie D. McInnis (excused), Lauren A. Meyers (excused), Julie A. Minich (excused), Richard A. Morrisett, Sharon Mosher, David A. Nielsen, Patricia C. Ohlendorf (excused), Robert A. Olwell (excused), Na'ama Pat-El, Scott A. Rabenold, Soncia Reagins-Lilly (excused), Pengyu Ren (excused), Austin B. Reynolds (excused), David W. Robertson, Lorie Roy (excused), Christen Smith (excused), Alexa M. Stuijbergen, Rabun Taylor (excused), James W. Tunnell (excused), Jason P. Urban (excused), Gregory J. Vincent, Steven Warach (excused), Lauren J. Webb (excused), Sharon L. Wood, Cara Young, Luis H. Zayas.

Voting Members:	39 present,	38 absent,	77 total
Non-Voting Members:	5 present,	28 absent,	33 total
Total Members:	44 present,	66 absent,	110 total.

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Chair Jody L. Jensen (Professor, Kinesiology and Health Education) welcomed all and said that, usually, the special meeting of the 2017-18 Faculty Council would be held to elect next year's officers and would then be followed by the regular meeting of the 2016-17 Faculty Council. However, because of an emergency situation at Gregory Gym involving multiple stabbings, some people were having difficulty moving across campus to get to the meeting, and, therefore, a quorum was not present for the 2017-18 Faculty Council. Because of the situation, Chair Jensen said the Council would begin with Unfinished Business of the 2016-17 Faculty Council. She noted that the President and Provost would not be in attendance since they were monitoring the situation. Chair Jensen said the Provost would text her if she had an opportunity to come to the meeting to give an update. The Chair said it was unfortunate that there were injuries and she hoped the situation would be resolved quickly since everyone was concerned about the safety of colleagues and students. Chair Elect Steven D. Hoelscher (Professor, American Studies) handed the Chair Jensen his cell phone, which displayed a UT Austin Alert, which she read: "Criminal activity with injury occur on campus, suspect in custody, no additional threat to campus, please avoid the area of 21st and Speedway until further notice, info to follow." Chair Jensen remarked, "We can at least feel good that the suspect is in custody," and thanked the Chair Elect.

II. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

Since no substantive changes had been received for the following three proposals, Chair Jensen said she would have the Faculty Council members vote on each of the items.

- A. Faculty Rules and Governance Committee Proposal to Modify the Language and Title of the *Handbook of Operating Procedures 2-2230* "Threatened Faculty Retrenchment Policy" (D 15084-15095).

Chair Jensen said the first item to be considered was the proposal to modify the language and title of the *Handbook of Operating Procedures 2-2230*, formally titled, "Threatened Faculty Retrenchment Policy." She reminded members that the proposal did not change the spirit of the policy but clarified the policy. She called for and received a motion to approve the legislation; it was approved by voice vote.

- B. Proposal to Change the Policy for Transcript-Recognized Certificate Programs in the *Undergraduate Catalog* to include the Texas Extended Campus as approved by the Educational Policy Committee (D 15068-15072).

Chair Jensen asked if there were any questions regarding the proposal to change the policy for transcript-recognized certificate programs in the *Undergraduate Catalog* to include the Texas Extended Campus? Brian L. Evans (Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering) asked what oversight would be in place in terms of input from faculty members regarding instructors, course content, and compatibility of courses offered by the departments, colleges, and schools? Chair Jensen said courses would be offered only after they had been approved by the departments and by its faculty members. Hearing no further questions, the chair called for a vote. The proposal was approved by voice vote.

- C. Proposed Revisions to Descriptions of Transcript-Recognized Minors and Certificates in the *Undergraduate Catalog* as approved by the Educational Policy Committee (D 15073-15075).

Chair Jensen reminded members that, currently, students must declare a major before they can declare a minor; the proposed legislation recommends that students be allowed to declare a minor or certificate before having declared a major. She explained that, once a student declared a major, courses taken to fulfill the minor could be converted to the major. She asked if there were questions from the floor. Hearing none, she called for a vote. The legislation was approved by voice vote.

III. ADJOURNMENT

Having concluded the unfinished business, Chair Jensen adjourned the meeting at 2:23 PM.

