

DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

Following are the minutes of the regular Faculty Council meeting of May 7, 2018.



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 7, 2018**

The ninth regular meeting of the Faculty Council for the academic year 2017-18 was held in the Main Building, Room 212 on Monday, May 7, 2018, at 3:11 PM.

ATTENDANCE.

Present: Minou Arjomand, Lucinda Jane Atkinson, Simon D. Atkinson, Casey A. Boyle, Christopher P. Brown, Charlotte Canning, Allan H. Cole, Ann Cvetkovich, David J. Eaton, Brian L. Evans, Sophia Gilmson, Linda L. Golden, Laura I. Gonzalez, Andrea C. Gore, Courtney Handman, Michael P. Harney, Tracie C. Harrison, Martha F. Hilley, Steven D. Hoelscher, Heather Houser, Brent L. Iverson, Vishwanath R. Iyer, Huriya Jabbar, Jody L. Jensen, Christine L. Julien, Kerry A. Kinney, Robert C. Koons, Mark A. Lawrence, Naomi E. Lindstrom, Alexandra Loukas, Blinda E. McClelland, Jennifer Moon, Sharon Mosher, Gordon S. Novak, Patricia C. Ohlendorf, Robert A. Olwell, Deborah Parra-Medina, Dennis S. Passovoy, Anthony J. Petrosino, Soncia Reagins-Lilly, Pengyu Ren, Lorlene Roy, Mark J. T. Smith, D. Max Snodderly, Vincent S. (Shelby) Stanfield, Alexa M. Stuijbergen, Kimberly Sullivan, Rabun M. Taylor, Stefano Tiziani, Jeffrey Treem, Miguel V. Wasielewski, Karen M. Wickett, Sharon L. Wood.

Absent: Michelle Addington, Hal S. Alper, C.J. Alvarez (excused), Ronald J. Angel (excused), Luciano C. Barraza, Darrell L. Bazzell, Jay M. Bernhardt, Randolph G. Bias, Mark L. Bradshaw (excused), Juan J. Colomina-Alminana (excused), Austin Cooney, M. Lynn Crismon (excused), Charles Michael Cunningham, Janet M. Davis (excused), Douglas J. Dempster, Randy L. Diehl, Glenn P. Downing (excused), Joshua D. Eisenman, Angela M. Evans, Ward Farnsworth, Gregory L. Fenves, Sherry L. Field, Benny D. Freeman (excused), Alan W. Friedman (excused), Donald S. Fussell, Elizabeth Cobbe Goeller, Lalitha Gopalan, Alejandrina Guzman, Lorraine J. Haricombe, Jay C. Hartzell, Linda A. Hicke, D. Eric Hirst (excused), Coleman Hutchison (excused), Daniel T. Jaffe, S. Claiborne "Clay" Johnston, Jonathan Kaplan (excused), Harrison Keller, John C. Lassiter (excused), Bradford R. Love (excused), Maurie D. McInnis, Leonard N. Moore, Scott A. Rabenold, Austin B. Reynolds, David W. Robertson (excused), Jonathan L. Sessler (excused), Jasleen K. Shokar, Pauline T. Strong (excused), James W. Tunnell (excused), Jason P. Urban, Steven Warach (excused), Lauren J. Webb, Jennifer M. Wilks, Matthew A. (Micky) Wolf, Patrick P. Wong (excused), Luis H. Zayas.

Voting Members:	43 present,	32 absent,	75 total
Non-Voting Members:	10 present,	23 absent,	33 total
Total Members:	53 present,	55 absent,	108 total.

I. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY (D 16234-16240).

Chair Steven D. Hoelscher (Professor, American Studies) stood in for Secretary Alan Friedman, who was out of the country. Chair Hoelscher announced Memorial Resolutions were submitted for Robert Dale Brooks (Professor, Radio, Television and Film); Miguel Gonzalez-Gerth (Professor Emeritus, Spanish and Portuguese); Barbara J. Harlow (Professor, English); and Ernst Lothar Koschmieder (Professor Emeritus, Civil, Architectural, and Environmental Engineering).

He noted that Provost Maurie McInnis has approved changes to:

- the Business Administration degree
- Business graduation
- the Creative Writing and Digital Humanity certificates in Liberal Arts
- five majors in Liberal Arts
- the BS in Psychology and in Environmental Science
- graduation in the BA in both Plan I and Plan II
- seven degree programs in the College of Communication
- the Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- seven major degree programs and one minor in the College of Education
- two administrative procedures regarding students in the School of Law
- the BS in Geosystems Engineering and Hydrogeology degree program in the Cockrell School of Engineering and the Jackson School of Geoscience
- the Electrical and Computer Engineering degree programs
- the Pharmacy Doctoral degree
- the policy on academic probation in the College of Pharmacy
- create two new BS program degrees and a Material Science Engineering minor
- create a design strategy certificate in the School of Undergraduate Studies.

The Provost also approved a proposal to change the name of the “Ethics and Leadership flag” to “Ethics flag.” He reported that, along with Dean Douglas Dempster of the College of Fine Arts and Vice Provost Lorraine Haricombe, the Provost responded positively to the resolution of Faculty Council to support the Library Committee statement concerning the Fine Arts Library and the report of the Fine Arts Library Task Force.

Chair Hoelscher said that the Faculty Council elected Brian Korgel (Professor of Chemical Engineering) and Yolanda Padilla (Professor of Social Work) to serve three-year terms beginning September 2018 on the Undergraduate Studies Advisory Committee. He reported that President Fenves had appointed Dr. Ciaran Trace (Associate Professor of Information) to serve a four-year term beginning September 1, 2018, on the University Co-op Board of Directors and had approved the Council Resolution urging the University to join the Scholars At Risk Network (SAR). Chair Hoelscher noted that President Fenves asked Dr. Leonard Moore (Vice President for Diversity and Community Engagement) to implement it.

Chair Hoelscher then listed the items under review by the President, which included the report of the committee to nominate faculty members to the Intercollegiate Athletic Councils for Men and for Women. President Fenves sent to the Provost for review a recommendation to close the Master of Science in Applied Physics degree program and the Council’s resolution on Academic Analytics from the Committee of Council and Academic Freedom and Responsibility. The Provost, in consultation with Steven Hoelscher, formed a faculty working group to advise on the use of Academic Analytics, including how the service can assist UT Austin with strategic planning and about guidelines for its use. The first meeting of this working group took place on February 9, 2018, followed by another on March 21st. The Faculty Council awaits the report of the investigating committee, on which Chair Elect Charlotte Canning (Professor, Theatre and Dance) serves.

Under review by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board are updates to the core curriculum course list for 2018-19; proposals in Liberal Arts to create certificates in Business-Spanish and in Spanish for medical professions; proposed changes to the Chemical Engineering degree, the Music Studies degree program; the names of three BA degrees in the College of Fine Arts, the Bachelor of Science in Textiles and Apparel in a paired degree program, and the evidence and inquiry certificate in the College of Natural Sciences.

Chair Hoelscher then reminded the Faculty Council that the 2018 summer meetings were cancelled.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (D 16241-16260).

Chair Hoelscher said the minutes for the Faculty Council meeting for April had been posted online. When no corrections or additions were proposed, he announced them approved as submitted.

III. COMMUNICATION WITH THE PRESIDENT.

Provost Maurie McInnis stood in for President Gregory Fenves to answer questions. Provost McInnis' remarks concerned planned construction of a visitors' center at The Perry-Castañeda Library (PCL). She explained the need for a visitors' center to improve the experiences of potential students, alumni, and donors who are touring the campus. She said that, currently, the visitor experience is "very inferior and inadequate," and that a visitors' center will "improve" that experience and "celebrate what is really great about the student experience at the University of Texas at Austin."

Provost McInnis then explained why they decided to construct the center in the PCL. Its proximity to Speedway and its large size made it a desirable location. She said that the visitors' center will ultimately be located in the basement of the PCL, a space that currently houses staff offices. The library is "a very eager partner" in the planning, since having visitors come through the PCL will emphasize that the library "is at the core of everything we do."

She then described the logistics and the impact of adding the center. She said that the PCL has about 400,000 usable square feet with 188,00 (50%) devoted to collections and 132,000 (34%) devoted to study space. The space required for the visitors' center, 8,500 square feet, is 2% of the library's usable space. She said that the staff currently occupying the needed space will be relocated to the fifth floor, a student study floor. In addition to building the visitors' center, the fifth floor study space is being upgraded. Vice Provost Lorraine Haricombe spoke with her Student Advisory Committee, the members of which were "enthusiastic about both of the changes."

Provost McInnis closed by stating that they did not wait for the report of a task force to begin work because of the pressing need for the center. She also said that they were actively involving Faculty Council leadership and C-7 University of Texas Libraries Committee leadership and that the center will not constitute a major change to the PCL.

IV. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Hoelscher thanked the members of the Faculty Council for giving him the opportunity to serve as Faculty Council Chair. He reflected on his time as Chair, noting that the service allowed him to "give something back" to the University and commenting on how the position gives one a clear view of the rules and governance of the institution. He said that the highlight of his time as Chair was the awards dinner for Ted Gordon, Department Chair of African and African Diaspora Studies, and Mary Steinhart, University Faculty Ombudsperson, for the Civitatis Award.

He closed by looking back at the agenda of the Faculty Council's first meeting in 2017-18 before introducing new business.

V. REPORT OF THE CHAIR ELECT

Chair Elect Canning announced that the incoming Chair Elect for 2018-19 will be Brian L. Evans (Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering). The incoming members of the Executive Committee are Martha F. Hilley (Professor, Music), Cynthia A. Labrake (Senior Lecturer, Chemistry), and Christen Smith (Associate Professor, Anthropology).

Chair Elect Canning reported that on April 19th and 20th, she represented UT Austin at the UT System Faculty Advisory Council meetings. At the meetings were presentations from Dr. Stephanie Huey (Vice Chancellor for Strategic Initiatives), and Dr. David Troutman (Associate Vice Chancellor for Strategic Initiatives). A key point of discussion was the complicated issue of dual credit.

A co-authored report from the System and the Texas Association of Community Colleges will be available later this calendar year. She also had conversations with Dan Sharporn, Vice Chancellor and General Counsel for UT System, and Dr. Rebecca Karoff, associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, on the Student Success Summit. At the meeting they also held elections for Chair Elect of the UT System Faculty. The incoming Chair Elect is Dr. Gurur Bilicer-Denktaş of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. The incoming Chair is Dan Cavanaugh of UT Arlington.

Chair Elect Canning was elected Co-chair of the Governance Committee and will serve in that role with Lynne Hughes of the UT Medical Branch at Galveston.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS—None.

VII. REPORTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY, COLLEGES, SCHOOLS, AND COMMITTEES—None.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS.

A. UT Gallup Alumni Survey.

Joe E. Williams (Director of Communications, Office of the Provost) was joined by Gina Magharious (Survey Coordinator and Data Analyst, Institutional Reporting, Research and Information Systems (IRRIS)) to provide an overview of the UT Gallup Alumni Survey. The full report is on the IRRIS website at reports@utexas.edu.

Since 2014, Gallup has been surveying over 70,000 US college graduates. Last year they surveyed almost 30,000 UT Austin alumni and had a 13% response rate. Since this is a national survey, there is a national comparison group as well as customized cohort groups. According to Mr. Williams, the survey will let us see why UT education is unique and evaluate the impact that a UT education has on the lives of its students.

Ms. Magharious explained that the Gallup survey is designed to assess well-being, which is defined by five elements: purpose, social well-being, financial well-being, community, and physical well-being. Gallup asked alumni a series of questions related to these five elements. All of the items were rated on a 5-point scale, and then they re-coded the items to fall into one of three categories: thriving, struggling, or suffering.

For “purpose,” UT Austin alumni are at 56% thriving. For “social well-being,” they are at 55% thriving. For “financial well-being,” they are at 50% thriving. For “community,” they are at 49% thriving. For “physical well-being,” they are at 38%. Ms. Magharious noted that UT Austin alumni are more likely to thrive than alumni in the comparison groups.

Ms. Magharious shared survey results that would be of particular interest to faculty. For the statement, “My professors at UT Austin cared about me as a person,” 17% of UT Austin alumni selected “strongly agree.” That is significantly higher than the AAU and SERU comparison groups, but not as high as the GPI National Comparison Group. Mr. Williams explained that this discrepancy is consistent with large public universities because they are being compared to smaller universities that have smaller faculty-student ratios.

For the statement “I had at least one professor at UT Austin who made me excited about learning,” 68% strongly agree. This percentage is significantly higher than that of all three comparison groups.

For the statement, “While attending UT Austin I had a mentor who encouraged me to pursue my goals and dreams,” UT Austin scores significantly higher than the AAU and SERU comparison groups, but significantly lower than the GPI National. And when asked who the mentor is that helped them pursue their goals and dreams, alumni were given a series of items to select. The most common selection was “Professor.”

Mr. Williams added that internships, long-term projects, and extracurricular activities seem to significantly impact student well-being post-graduation. Furthermore, students who selected “strongly agree” with the statement that they were challenged academically are far more likely to “strongly agree” that their education was worth the cost.

Following the presentation, Lorenzo Sadun (Professor, Mathematics) asked whether the Gallup poll considered how the cost of education has changed dramatically over time. Such a shift might impact an alumni’s sense of whether their education was “worth the cost.” Ms. Magharious responded that, indeed, earlier cohorts of alumni are more likely to say that their education was worth the cost. This could be due to lower cost or due to having more time to reflect on their education.

Samantha Fuchs (Graduate Student, Civil, Architectural, and Environmental Engineering) asked whether comparison schools could be broken down and viewed individually, as raw data. Ms. Magharious responded that this was not possible. The Gallup survey presented comparison school data in the aggregate.

Christen Smith (Associate Professor, Anthropology) asked whether there was a breakdown based on minority status in the Gallup results. Ms. Magharious confirmed that there is. Anthony Petrosino (Associate Professor, Curriculum and Instruction) asked how faculty would go about requesting that information and analyses from IRRIS. Ms. Magharious responded that, depending on the nature of the request, she could share the information in a short report. If the request related to a bigger initiative for the campus, she could make a more extensive, comprehensive report.

B. Report of the UT Press Advisory Committee.

David S. Hamrick (Director) gave a brief history of the Press, talked about the Press's engagement with the University, and presented some highlights of the Press's functions and accomplishments.

The Press was founded in 1950 and published its first books in 1951, *The Florida of The Inca* and a collection of letters between Robert Browning and Isabella Blagden. The second year, the Press published nine titles. Dave Hamrick presented a copy of the Press's first catalogue and a copy of the Press's current catalogue to illustrate the Press's massive growth. The current catalogue is 124 pages, includes fourteen manuscripts, several distributed titles, and thirteen journals. The Press has published a total of 3,900 titles, has 2,700 titles in print, and publishes in thirteen core subject areas. Mr. Hamrick described their acquisitions philosophy by saying, "We're innovative, experimental, flexible. We're calculated risk-takers, but we also recognize and admit mistakes, abort when we screw up, and move forward when something doesn't work." The Press publishes about eighty books annually, which is down from a peak of about 100 titles per year. The Press has a staff of forty-three, and the senior management of nine people has over 150 years of combined book and publishing experience.

Mr. Hamrick characterized the Press's engagement with UT Austin as "under the surface," and "[operating] quietly." In the last five years, they have published forty-one UT Austin faculty with another sixteen under contract. Two faculty members serve as series editors. They have longstanding and recent book series with multiple departments on campus. The oldest are with LLILAS; the Center for Middle Eastern Studies; the Center for Mexican American Studies; Classics; Film and Media; the Briscoe Center, and more recently, the Schusterman Center. They created an institutional imprint, books would probably fall outside of peer review, that they call "tower books."

Press staff attend about twenty to twenty-five academic conferences each year and they promote the University Press books by running ads in about seventy-five scholarly journals and the *New York Review of Books*. They also attend the Frankfurt Book Fair, London, and Guadalajara, and their international rights manager has sold, in the last five years, translations to fifteen countries around the world.

The Press annually publishes, on average, about twenty promotion and tenure books and somewhere between twenty and twenty-five revised dissertations or first books. In 2017, around eighty titles received about 600 reviews, both print and online, in diverse scholarly journals and also general interest media publications.

Mr. Hamrick closed with a quotation from *History of the Book* (1932) that he described as the Press's "mantra": "We are a publishing house, crossroads of civilization, refuge of the Arts and Humanities against the ravages of time. Friend, you stand with us on sacred ground."

C. Motion to Alter the Wording Sent to Instructors During Course Drop

Professor Evans presented a motion to alter the wording sent to instructors by their college/school when a student initiates a course drop. Currently, the language includes directions for the instructor about what to do if they suspect academic dishonesty. Professor Evans proposed the wording suggested by Dr. Althea L. Woodruff (Well-being in Learning Environments Project Coordinator, Counselling and Mental Health Center): "if you have any concerns about or for this or any other member of our campus community, please call the Behavioral Concerns Advice Line BCAL; (512) 232-5050. If a student is experiencing a mental health crisis, the Counselling and Mental Health Center CMHC crisis line is available 24/7; (512) 471-2255. Feel free to distribute this number to the students."

The motion passed by voice vote.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS

A. Faculty Council meetings are cancelled for summer 2018.

X. QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIR

Holly Williams (Associate Dean and Professor, Theatre and Dance), asked the Chair whether it is within the authority and general function of the Faculty Council Executive Committee to facilitate balloting and tallying of an internal college matter. According to Associate Dean Williams, this question pertained to “a very serious resolution, unsigned, which contains allegations against the College of Fine Arts Dean [which] was sent to me by the Chair Elect of the Faculty Council. It was sent to other members of the College of Fine Arts, only to some faculty, not all, not even all eligible voting faculty. It was sent to three of the four departments. Excluded was the new School of Design and Creative Technology.” Associate Dean Williams also asked, “who on the Faculty Council Executive Committee agreed to do this on behalf of the College of Fine Arts?” and, “would you not call this involvement, and why did the Faculty Council Executive Committee continue to arrange for ballot collection and tallying of votes with another entity, even after concerns of impropriety and overstepping of authority were raised? Why not just step away?”

Chair Hoelscher responded that the Faculty Council is not participating in the poll underway in the College of Fine Arts. He contextualized his explanation by providing a brief summary of the situation from the point of view of the Faculty Council. According to Chair Hoelscher, in spring 2018, a group of tenured faculty in the College of Fine Arts determined that, in their view, conditions in the college had degenerated sufficiently that faculty needed to consider a formal expression of their concerns. However, the University’s *Handbook of Operating Procedures* has no policy regarding no-confidence votes. As a result, the initiators of the petition had to create a procedure that was fair and transparent. The only function of this petition was to provide a statement of opinions shared by those who endorsed it. The organizers of the vote approached campus faculty leaders, including Chair Hoelscher, whom they felt had wide trust and respect and asked them to count the votes. The Faculty Ombuds was asked to deliver the results. Since concerns were raised, neither Chair Hoelscher nor any other Faculty Council past chairs will collect those ballots, count them, and share the results with the administration of the College.

Associate Dean Williams concluded that Chair Hoelscher was saying that it is within the purview of the Faculty Council Executive Committee to facilitate balloting and tallying of the internal matter of a college. Professor Evans disagreed, saying that the situation was never a Faculty Council Executive Committee matter. Michael P. Harney (Professor, Spanish and Portuguese) requested privileges of the floor for sophomore design major Adriant Bereal. Adriant Bereal asked “why were students not involved in this process and these discussions.” Jody L. Jensen, (Past Chair and Professor, Kinesiology and Health Education) raised a point of order that the topic was not within the purview of Faculty Council and was therefore out of order. Her point was sustained.

Bruce Pennycook (Professor, Music) read an email he received which asked him to “pass along to all tenured faculty in the division, notice that the Office of the General Faculty, the University Council, will be conducting a vote on a resolution of no confidence in the Dean of the College of Fine Arts.” Chair Hoelscher responded that, after that particular email was forwarded to him by Professor Pennycook, he immediately noted that it was mistaken.

There was no further discussion.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hoelscher adjourned the meeting at 4:08 PM.