



## FACULTY SENATE

### Minutes

March 24, 2023, 12:30 – 2:00 PM    **Zoom ID:** <https://alamo.zoom.us/j/3027027391>

The meeting was called to order by Senate President Dr. Linda Robertson-Schule at 12:34 pm.

Senators absent: Bruce Davis

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### **I. Approval of Minutes from February Minutes -**

- Motion to approve the minutes was made by Senator Rolando Barrientez and seconded by Senator Catherine Smithpeter. The minutes were approved.

### **II. Election of FY 2023-24 Senate Officers**

- Senator Anahita Lorestani, Chair of the Surveys and Elections Committee held the election. Nominations were taken from the floor. Senators Jennifer Caraway and Bea Perez were nominated for President and both were accepted. Senators Luis Rodriguez, Megan Shadfan, Karen Douglas, Ryan Cabalu and Barbra Knotts were nominated for Vice President. Rodriguez, Shadfan, Douglas, and Cabalu declined the nomination, and Senator Knotts accepted. Senators Mercedes Alba and Kim Hochmeister were nominated for Secretary. Hochmeister declined and Alba accepted. Because there were two names for President, all senators were asked to send their vote by email to Senator Lorestani with the candidate they chose for President. After all, votes were received, Senator Lorestani announced that Senator Caraway would be the 2023-24 Faculty Senate President. The Vice President is Senator Knotts and Senator Alba Secretary for 2023-24. Senate President, Robertson-Schule mentioned that the incoming Senators will be invited and introduced at the April meeting. Also the outgoing officers will send the newly elected officers information regarding their positions.

### **III. Special Guests - Ms. Mona Aldana-Ramirez, DEI Director (1:30 pm)**

- Ms. Aldana-Ramirez used a PowerPoint presentation to share the following information:  
The center received some funds to train practitioners in the racial healing process. The center has been working on Equity, so they will move forward with Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation issues. There will be two luncheons to introduce these topics to the college in April and summer. The program is very community centered. The center has

three Equity goals: Goal 1- gather a committee to create an action plan and communication plan; Goal 2 – collaborate with Teaching and Learning to provide culturally relevant and inclusive teaching sessions; and Goal 3 - collaborate with library services for Libguides. There will have a common read, information will be out shortly. The center is working with our indigenous and native urban community. Also working with San Antonio African American Culture and Archive Museum which has established a riverboat tour that introduces the African American influence into San Antoni as a city. She also mentioned two new grant programs, a Title V-HSI (\$5 million) which addresses learning communities and another grant (\$2.5 million) to develop learning communities to improve our persistence and retention rate of our first-generation students. This grant will also provide professional development stipends for faculty to do this work. Jeremy Motley was also introduced who works with Mona.

- Dr. Naydeen Gonzalez-DeJesus College President and Vice President, F. Solis (1:45 pm) - Greetings were extended by all parties. Senator Rodriguez informed Dr. Naydeen that he had information on the overload initiative and how she would like to receive it. Dr. Naydeen stated that emails need to be sent to [mngonzalez-dejesu@alamo.edu](mailto:mngonzalez-dejesu@alamo.edu) to reach her directly. It was suggested that all senators introduce themselves and we did. A brief discussion was held on LEI and who was selected for the committee. Dr. Naydeen ask about the criteria and timeline of the LEI and Dr. Solis gave an overview as to where they are with the process. Dr. Solis commented on his interim vice president role and that everyone is focused on student success. Dr. Naydeen also mentions she has the November 22nd LEI package on her desk and plans to review it.

#### **IV. BOT reports**

- Senator Douglas provided a written report of the BOT Committee of the Whole meeting. Faculty Senate President requested that Senators review the report after the meeting.

#### **V. Report of Officers**

- President Robertson-Schule asked Senators to review the following information:
- Overview of Academic Success initiatives presented by Dr. Solis regarding MYC and LEI; they will be Faculty-led. Need 5 faculty to create course modules in various time spans (16 weeks, 14 weeks, 8 weeks, 5 weeks, 4 weeks, 3 weeks, & different modalities format including online, zoom, face-to-face, and hybrid); Also, need 5 faculty to establish a logic model for decision-making model to have communication between faculty and staff; Need 5 faculty to re-establish unit review process; Need 5 faculty for CE program initiatives to determine credits for years of experience; We plan to offer 10 programs which will be completed in 18 months instead of 2 years-flipping the dialogue of 2 years to complete. Emails will be sent out.

- Plan to hire 10 more faculty due to retiring faculty; plus 8 more new faculty to meet students' demands; the IPPE website with host meeting notes and news;
  - PACE Survey highlights – institution structure was poor, student focus was high, and supervisor relationship was good; teamwork was high; Comments: too many workplace development courses; a good place to work.
  - Vice President Eng: No Report
  - Secretary Knotts: No Report
- VI. Adjunct Faculty Council** - Senator Amanda Martin – reported a small attendance at the February meeting. They plan to hold another meeting next Friday at 9:30 am to see if more people will attend in order to vote on the outline for the handbook.
- VII. Topical Items** - no new items.
- VIII. Committee Updates**
- Curriculum and Instruction** – Senator Catherine Smithpeter, Chair, No Report
- Communication** – Senators Isabel Garcia and Ruby Martinez, Co-Chairs: No Report
- Policy & Procedures** – Senator Karen Douglas, Chair: No Report
- Research** – Senator Kim Hochmeister, Co-Chair: Announced she will serve on a committee to determine how \$600,000 from the Aspen Prize Award will be spent. She invited all Senators to send her suggestions.
- Surveys and Elections** – Senator Anahita Lorestani, Chair: No Report
- IX. New Business/Announcements**
- Senator Robertson-Schule that the Annual Popular Culture Association will be held in the Marriott River center Hotel. It cycles through San Antonio about once every 10 years. Check the website for more information, please spread the word. <https://pcaaca.org/>
  - Dr. Joan Jaimes joined the meeting and announced that the Teaching and Learning Center is now located in the Moody Building, Room 533 and is hosting Faculty Fridays each Friday. The center's website address was placed in the chat box. [alamo.edu/sac/academics/teaching-and-learning/](http://alamo.edu/sac/academics/teaching-and-learning/) APPQMR deadline is approaching, this course is good for those who teach online or in-person. According to the Faculty Handbook, it is mandatory for every faculty to go through all 3 steps of the online teaching certification, but she doesn't mandate it; she just offers the courses. SAC faculty are required to do all three steps: (1) take the OTC course (2) take the QM course and (3) complete the SAC peer review process.
- X. Adjournment-** The Faculty Senate Meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Next Committee of the Whole 4/11/2023 – Barbara Knotts & Isabel Garcia  
Next Board Meeting 4/18/2023 – Mahmud Yusuf and Barbara Knotts

Submitted by Dr. Barbara Knotts, Faculty Senate Secretary