



Faculty Senate
San Antonio College

Minutes

August 18, 2022

1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m. via Zoom

Meeting called to order by Senate President Dr. Linda Robertson-Schule at 1:32 pm
Note taker: Dr. Patricia Portales, Senate Secretary

Senators absent: Catherine Smithpeter

I. **Call to Order** - President Roberston-Schule

II. **Approval of Minutes**

Senator Ruby Martinez made a motion to approve the May 6, 2022 minutes. The motion was seconded by Senator Amanda Martin. The motion passed unanimously.

III. **Reports of Officers**

President Roberston-Schule

- year-round registration will start in Fall 2023. Administration says it would benefit the students and keep them on track.
- TRS/ORP – The Board has agreed to increase contributions up to 8% for each. Rank compensation will be addressed in the future.
- Threeness – Dr. Cleary compares Alamo Colleges faculty compensation to the top three Texas colleges.

Vice President Eng introduced the new senators and re-elected senators: Ryan Cabalu, Linda Roberston-Schule, Megan Shadfan, Catherine Smithpeter, Jamie Powell. Barbara Knotts asked to have the member roster show her department as Creative Multimedia.

Secretary Patricia Portales reviewed additions to the Faculty Senate Canvas site. Senators can now access the Senate bylaws, the updated Committee rosters, and the Board of Trustee meetings sign-up, which require two attendees. Senators may go in person or watch the recording. Senator Dee Joseph expressed a concern about the privacy of the pages. Secretary Portales assured that only current senators have access to the Canvas page.

President Robertson-Schule reviewed the Robert's Rules of Order.

Senator Bruce Davis made a motion to change the Robert's Rules of Order wording from Mr./Ms./Mrs. to Chairperson. Senator Eng seconded the motion. Senators voted and the motion was approved by the majority.

Senator Amanda Martin reported on Adjunct Faculty Council activity. The Adjuncts Creating Excellence Award recipients were Christopher Verette, Department of Architecture, and Veronica Morrison, Department of English & Humanities. Adjunct Faculty Council has been reviewing the Adjunct Faculty Handbook and plans to meet on August 30. Adjuncts who want to join should email amartin@alamo.edu. Senator Ruby Martinez asked if the award recipients would be announced to the colleges; Senator Martin said yes.

IV. Topical Items

- **SAC Teaching and Learning Committee (Faculty Development) – Senator Linda Robertson-Schule** – Senator Linda Robertson-Schule stated that the Committee is looking for new members to join. If faculty are interested, contact Dr. Joan Jaimes.

V. Committee Updates/Summary

(Senator Powell asked—in the chat—if each committee would give a brief description of their duties)

- Communications – Jennifer Caraway – the committee conducts outreach and organizes invitations to general faculty concerning academic topics.
- Curriculum & Instruction – Amanda Martin stated they take on issues relating to the classroom and faculty.
- Research – Secretary Portales stated that she was formerly chair. The research committee met when a topic required further research. For example, when we worked on the tenure resolution, each member of the committee needed to research other colleges tenure policies.
- Surveys – the committee finds faculty for the Tenure & Termination Appeals Committee, the Minnie Stevens Piper Award, and electing new senators each spring.

Secretary Portales stated that once committee chairs have been chosen, each committee should add the chairperson's name in the Canvas link by Sept 16.

Senator Yusuf asked to have Laurie Coleman recognized. However, she was only a visitor and declined to comment. Senator Bruce Davis reminded the committee that visitors are welcome but may not attend executive sessions or have voting rights.

Secretary Portales asked to poll senators on the topic of continuing to meet over Zoom or in person. Senator Joseph said she does not want to meet in our former room. Senator Isabel Garcia stated that prior to the pandemic, the Faculty Senate had reserved VAC 120. The poll was distributed, and the majority (77%) voted to continue meeting over Zoom. Senator Kim Hochmeister stated that some faculty are working under ADA policies and cannot meet in person. Senator Isabel Garcia made a motion to continue to meet virtually.

Senator Martinez asked if Senate Leadership has spoken to CET to ask if we can continue to meet virtually. President Schule said she has not brought up the topic. Senator Martinez stated that it might not be up to the senate; it may be a policy that we need to come back face-to-face. President Schule said no, we are 50% online. Senator Martinez stated that face-to-face classes must meet in person. We are expected to be back on campus. We do not want CET to state that we are not following return-to-campus policies.

Senator Douglas stated that we are not following the 12th edition of Robert's Rules of Order and that the poll already reflects that the majority wants to continue to meet virtually. Vice President Eng stated that senate by-laws show we need to meet but it does not state in what form. Senator Shadfan stated that it is possible to hold the meeting in-person with a virtual option for those utilizing the 8 flexible hours. Senator Menard proposes that we move forward in good faith with the results of the poll.

Senator Davis stated that we should revisit the meeting in-person vs. over Zoom topic. President Schule stated that we are not violating any rules. Senator Davis stated that we need to have a vote. Senator Garcia stated that the motion had already been made to continue meeting virtually. The senate voted. The majority vote resulted in the meetings continuing over Zoom.

Senator Joseph asked if the sick-building issue was still a college agenda item. President Schule stated that the district has plans to renovate McCreless and Gonzales Halls.

Senator Luis Rodriguez checked the compensation documents in ACES, which reflect a 4% increase for faculty salaries for the next fiscal year.

Senator Powell stated that a full-time temporary faculty member in her department was told during orientation that paychecks are payed over 12 months instead of the 9 month academic year. She asked if this is standard.

Senator Hochmeister asked for clarification concerning the 40-hour work week and the 8 hr flexibility.

VII. New Business/Announcements

VIII. Adjournment

The Faculty Senate Meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.