



Minutes

February 17, 2023,

12:30 p.m.

Zoom ID: <https://alamo.zoom.us/j/3027027391> and Hybrid in NAHC Room 112

Senate President Dr. Linda Robertson-Schule called the meeting to order at 12:36 pm.

Note taker: Dr. Barbara Knotts, Senate Secretary

Senators absent: Roland Barrientez, Ryan Cabalu, Saumil Christian, Bruce Davis, Bea Perez,

- I. **Approval of Minutes** – Motion made by Senator Ruby Martinez; motion seconded by Senator Jamie Powell with a spelling correction of Raivyn Rochas, not Raven Rochas.
- II. **Report of Officers**
 - Senate President Robertson-Schüle: Although all departments may share similar issues, Faculty Senate can't be used for personnel issues. Faculty must follow the grievance process. Regarding LEI, there will be more town hall meetings, including academic matters. Faculty TCCTA registration will be funded through the Senate budget; if you want to work on the MYC, please contact Dr. Steven Rodriguez. Academic Integrity, Sabbaticals, Academic Standards-Attendance, Academic Success Division Org Chart and Holidays, Leave and Absences, and Remote Work -Flex documents are on the Senate's canvas page. Faculty (180) Evaluation, we are in phase 2, which means they are looking at various software to replace it. It may take two years to find the appropriate software. The Faculty Fellow position is open until August 2023. In the meantime, three faculty from 3 colleges are working together to cover this position.
 - Senate Vice-President Eng: No report.
 - Senate Secretary Knotts: Protocol for pre-planning report out and regular monthly meeting report was explained. If the committee chair is unavailable for the pre-planning meeting, then any committee member can present or email the President. The committee's chair or rep can present the information at the regular meeting.
- III. **Adjunct Council Report:** Senator Amanda Martin – setting up their first meeting, and they will work on finishing their handbook.
- IV. **Topical Items:**
 - Senator Yusuf reported on the DEI committee. Mona Aldana-Ramirez, DEI Director, announced that the college received a Microsoft grant for \$32,000. Plans are to use \$12,000 for furnishing and equipment, \$10,000 for marketing, and \$5,000 for professional development. Three equity goals were also discussed: (1) Establish and promote a truth, racial, healing, and transformational center, (2) Identify and rectify college processes that result in inequitable outcomes, and (3) Establish and promote liberator. She needs mentors to work with students. Senator Yusuf volunteered to be a mentor on behalf of the Faculty Senate. He provided Ms. Aldana-Ramirez with the link to Governor Abbott's speech on Equity and hiring practices. Faculty Senate President noted that Daniel Kirkpatrick from the District offices would work with the

Chancellor to ensure our HR practices are not changing anything that aligns with Abbott's approach.

- Senator Kim Hochmeister proposed a resolution addressing shared governance on the LEI committee. Senator Patricia Portales seconded the moment. After some discussion, it was decided that a resolution would be drafted to include chair representatives underscoring shared governance for the upcoming LEI Committee and any other academic initiatives. During the discussion, Senator Portales also reminded the Senate that our Faculty Senate bylaws give us the right to recommend changes or create a new resolution. Senator Hochmeister invited the policy and procedures committee to help write the resolution. Vote results were taken by raise of hands; 18 were in favor, no nay votes. Motion passes.
- LEI: President Robertson-Schule presented three LEI committee volunteers: Senators Mercedes Alba, Megan Shadfan, and Ryan Cabalu volunteered. In addition, she will email all faculty to see if others might want to serve on this committee. It was recommended that the President send an email defining the LEI committee. President Robertson-Schule agreed to include this information in her email for LEI committee volunteers once information was given. It was also mentioned that an Academic Success Initiatives meeting invitation was sent to all faculty to discuss personnel issues, LEI, etc. It was recommended that the Senate President provide a deadline for submitting your name for the LEI committee.

V. **Committee Reports**

- **Curriculum and Instruction** – Senator Catherine Smithpeter, Chair
No report
- **Communication** – Senators Isabel Garcia and Ruby Martinez, Chair
No report
- **Policy & Procedures** – Senator Karen Douglas, Chair
No report

Research – Senator Kim Hochmeister, Co-Chair- No Report

- **Surveys and Elections** – Anahita Lorestani, Chair, and Senator MaiLai Eng led a discussion on who might run for President, Vice President, and Secretary for 2023-24. We will need to vote at the March meeting for these officers. Senator Eng stated that the release time for the Senate President is 12 hours, Vice President is 9 hours, and the president gives 3 hours to the secretary. Please inform your department chair if you are considering running for one of these positions. Senate Lorestani stated that she hopes someone currently serving as a Senator may be interested in being an officer. Any newly elected senator cannot be an officer for the upcoming fiscal year. Senator Rudy Martinez is rolling off but is willing to help anyone who might take the president position. In the chat box, Senator Dee Joseph indicated her interest in one of the positions. In addition, Senator Lorestani reminded us about the Faculty Senate's regular election this month. There are about 240 people eligible to vote. Voting is open until February 20; an email will be sent out with the results. Also, Senator Lorestani noted that a few Senators had problems accessing the ballot. She emailed an explanation of how to activate the form and a phone number for additional support.

VI. **Adjournment**

The Faculty Senate Meeting was adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Next BOT Meetings:

Tues, Mar 21-Committee of the Whole	Jamie Powell	Bea Perez
Tues, March 28 – Regular Board Meeting	Jamie Powell	Jamie Powell