

**TCU Faculty Senate Meeting  
01 September 2016  
3:30 – 5:00 PM  
Faculty Senate Chambers**

**Minutes**

**Senators Present**

Allender, Marinda; Atkinson, Sean; Baker, Kathy; Bashore, Lisa; Bedford, David; Bradley, Layne; Busbey, Art; Canclini, Sharon; Carrión, José; Castro-Balbi, Jesús; Coffey, Jeff; Farmer, Billy; Frable, Pamela; Friedman, Greg; Fry, Julie; Gil, Dan; Havens, Jill; Hokayem, Hayat; Jenschke, Monica; Jimerson, Jo Beth; Johnson, Kevin; Jones, Clark; Kerstetter, Todd; Kim, San-ky; Ledbetter, Andrew; Ledis, Dennis; Legatski, Ted; Lim, Steve; Lovett, John; Maas, Penny; Mayne, Rhiannon; Meier, William; Michaelides, Efstathios; Moeller, Thomas; Moore, Jeff; Murray, Joddy; Powell, Samantha; Preston, David; Quesada, Janis; Ryu, Jay; Sandell, David; Sawyer, Chris; Scherger, Michael; Schiffer, Adam; Sherrod, Melissa; Sherrod, Michael; Shorter, Alan; Skinner, Michael; Stephens, Greg; Walters, Patricia; Watkins, Timothy; Whitworth, Keith; Williams, Daniel; Wright, Robin; Yorkston, Eric

**Senators Excused**

Scott, Krista; Walker, Charles; Spice, Loren;

**Senators Absent**

Argenbright, Kristi; Chimbelle, Aaron; Gollaher, Timothy; Hammad, Hanan; Krochmal, Max; Moore, Carrie; Packard, Sally; Palko, Steffen;

**Guests Present**

Chancellor Victor Boschini, Provost Nowell Donovan, Nia Brookins (TCU 360), Rodney Baker (Chair, Staff Assembly), Yohna Chambers (Vice Chancellor, Human Resources), Catherine Wehlburg (Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness), Abbey Widick (SGA Academic Affairs Committee Chair, Marie Schein (Faculty).

**Call to Order**

1. Faculty Senate Chair Jesús Castro-Balbi called the meeting to order at 3:30, and opened the meeting with a brief cello prelude.
2. The minutes of the April 28, 2016 meeting of the Faculty Senate were approved as submitted.

**Old Business**

3. N/A

## **New Business**

1. Officers of the 49th Faculty Senate Executive Committee were introduced. The role, function, and aspirations of the Faculty Senate were reviewed. The composition and purposes of the standing and special committees and commissions were also outlined, and their chairs introduced.
2. Name the standing and special committee in subheadings...
3. Chancellor Boschini offered welcoming remarks to the Senate.
4. Provost Donovan also made remarks to the assembled Senators, challenging everyone to leave their "silos" occasionally and interact with those from other disciplines and areas, and to participate more fully in the shared governance of the institution. He quoted the following, established by a "gang of four" many years ago:
  5. "In this University, the relationship of the administration and the Faculty is one of "shared governance." Such a structure is founded upon the recognition of the singular role that faculty members have in the Academy by virtue of their scholarship, creative activity and the quality of their instructional arts. The role of the administration reflects other essential competencies -- of stewardship, management and consensus building. The time-honored balance between these two complementary functions is critical to the success of this University.
  6. TCU herein affirms its strong commitment to the principle of shared governance."
  7. Mr. Rodney Baker, Chair of the Staff Assembly, extended greetings on behalf of the staff at TCU.
  8. Yohna Chambers, new Vice-Chancellor for Human Resources, then spoke, answering several questions around employee benefits (there are no plans, currently, to reduce benefits in any way), the possibility of a faculty Ombudsperson position (she established a staff Ombuds position at James Madison University, and is happy to talk more about doing so here), the use of mediation to resolve disputes among employees on campus, issues around lawsuits at the University (we are not an ARISA university, and so are at lower risk of a lawsuit in that regard), and other matters. She then responded to a few questions from the Senators.
  9. Dr. Art Busbey, Faculty Senate Information Officer, was formally recognized for his extensive and diligent work to make historical information and documentation from the Faculty Senate from 1970 to present available on the FS website.
10. Jesús Castro-Balbi then reviewed changes made over the summer to the Faculty Senate Handbook, electronic copies of which were recently sent to all faculty.
11. A motion was made by Mike Skinner, chair of the Governance Committee, to approve the actions of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee in creating three new special committees. The motion reads: from agenda. Approved unanimously.

The Senate adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Stephens  
Faculty Senate Secretary