

## Faculty Senate Minutes (10/12/2023) in person and via zoom

*Senators present:* Danyelle Ackall, Sarah Angle, Taryn Allen, Antonio Banos, Ashok Bhusal, Kat Barger, Layne Bradley, Stephen Boakye, Richard Bond, Ellen Broom, Leslie Browning-Samoni, Michael Buckman, Brian Clinnin, Mollie Crenshaw, Tristan Decker, Phil Esposito, Michael Fagella-Luby, Pamela Frable, Greg Friedman, Julie Fry, Guy Golan, Richard Galvin, Sue Gong, Eric Gonzales, Omar Harvey, Jill Havens, Emily Herzig, Tracy Hicks, Hayat Hokayem, Hadi Hosainy, Jessica Humphrey, Debi Iba, Oteka Jackson-Cenales, Stephanie Jevas, Clark Jones, Patricia Jordan, San-ky Kim, Adam King, Alex Lemon, Ian Loveall, Laurel Lynch, Elisa Marroquin, Kelly McCormick, Vassil Mihov, Thomas Moeller, Marc Neri, Peter Obitade, Kimberly Owczarski, Santiago Pinon, Kim Posey, Jan Quesada, Shuv Raj, Janie Robinson, Rana Bhat, James Rodriguez, David Sandell, Chris Sawyer, Krista Scott, Meena Shah, Rebecca Sharpless, Michael Skinner, Loren Spice, Matt Switzer, Jeff Todd, Derek Tomlin, Corey Trahan, Kelly Trager, Danielle Walker, Robyn Ward, Wei Bingyang, Mat Wenzel, Laurie Wood, Daniel Williams, Barbara Wood, , Brae Young, Xiaolu Zhou, Ying-Wen Yu .

*Senators absent (Excused):* Lynn Jackson, Qinghua Yang.

*Senators absent (Unexcused):* Sriram Thirumalai,

The Chair of the Faculty Senate (FS), Dr. Omar Harvey, called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm, and the minutes from the previous meeting were approved. He started with the land acknowledgement. **Then there was a motion made, seconded, and approved by a majority to amend the agenda to add a discussion on a proposal drafted by the Academic Excellence Committee (AEC) during the closed session time.**

Then Omar invited Provost Dahlberg to the floor who reminded everyone who would like to talk to her of the next coffee chat on Oct 17th in the Intercultural Center. She then informed every one of the media orientation to deal with media harassment. She said that many administrators took a professional development workshop? on handling the media and that there will be opportunities for the Senators and Chairs s and Directors to take this professional development soon. She encouraged everyone to attend.

Then Omar gave the floor to the Chief Inclusion Officer, Dr. Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado who said that he's engaged in Professional Development around Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. He informed the Senate that he's working with different individuals on and off campus to create relationships and make transformative change. He mentioned that he's working closely with athletics especially after the Texas Bill to remove DEI language? from public universities. At the moment, they can no longer use race for student admittance, so they are thinking of ways to keep the campus inclusive of all students. He reminded every one of Dr. Scott Langston who worked hard to host the Wichita tribes on campus. There was a question about opening Diversity centers as a private university to accommodate public university students and faculty similar to what RICE University did, and he said they are discussing it at the moment. The Provost added that she opened the shared cost program where a college can get back \$20K to \$50K in funds if they hire faculty of color and underrepresented groups. This is an incentive to increase diversity.

Then Omar gave the floor to President Daniel Pullin who said that he's been at TCU for 5 years before becoming President, so he understands the culture, but that he still learned a lot from the listening sessions and from visiting various units around the university. He envisions innovation as a strategy to make TCU even more competitive and so he has a vision that constitutes the following pillars:

- 1- Sustainability in order to continue to grow and compete. That means there needs to be financial sustainability. He mentioned that there will be a focus on promoting research and he's working with everyone to make it easier for faculty to conduct research and bring in more research money to TCU.
- 2- Attracting talent: He thinks that TCU can attract the best merit-based scholarships and that they will also work on study abroad scholarships.
- 3- Invest directly in the quality of the academic environment, and placing the TCU brand on the map
- 4- Leading student success, meaning attending to the needs of students that are changing and preparing a diverse set of students and leaders.
- 5- Advancing the TCU brand to tell our story locally nationally and globally

One senator asked about the size of the faculty in light of the growing student body. The President answered that if the student body grows, he's expecting to grow the faculty body as well and keeping student/faculty ratio at 14:1. Another senator said that he heard rumors of less funding for graduate students to which he answered no. The Provost said that it's not going to be more for less and that if there's growth it is expected that that there will be funding of what is required.

At 4:42 pm Dr. Harvey moved to a closed session