

## Faculty Senate Minutes (02/01/2024) .

*Senators present:* Danyelle Ackall, Sarah Angle, Kat Barger, Rana Bhat, Ashok Bhusal, Stephen Boakye, Antonio Banos, Richard Bond, Ellen Broom, Layne Bradely, Leslie Browning-Samoni, Brian Clinnin, Molli Crenshaw, Tristan Decker, Phil Esposito, Michael Fagella-Luby, Pamela Frable, Greg Friedman, Julie Fry, Richard Galvin, Guy Golan, Eric Gonzales, Alfred Gwendolyn, Omar Harvey, Jill Havens, Emily Herzig, Hayat Hokayem, Hadi Hosainy, Jessica Humphrey, Debi Iba, Lynn Jackson, Oteka Jackson-Cenales, Stephanie Jervas, Clark Jones, Patricia Jordan, Adam King, Ian Loveall, Laurel Lynch, Elisa Marroquin, Kelly McCormick, Vassil Mihov, Thomas Moeller, Marc Neri, Peter Obitade, Kimberly Owczarski, Esther Paik, Santiago Pinon, Kim Posey, Jan Quesada, Shuv Raj, Janie Robinson, James Rodriguez, David Sandell, Chris Sawyer, Krista Scott, Rebecca Sharpless, Michael Skinner, Chip Stewart, Jeff Todd, Derek Tomlin, Corey Trahan, Kelly Trager, Danielle Walker, Robyn Ward, Laurie Wood, Daniel Williams, Brae Young.

*Senators absent (Excused):* Sue Gong, Loren Spice, Matt Switzer.

*Senators absent (Unexcused):* San-ky Kim, Alex Lemon, Wei Bingyang, Xiaolu Zhou, Ying-Wen Yu, 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 announcing that the resolution from the Academic Excellence Committee was voted for by the majority and it passed the Senate and that he sent it to the administration on December 19, 2023. He announced that he sent the names of the Honorary Degree nominees whom the Senate voted for to the administration on Dec 19, 2023 as well. After that, he gave the floor to Dr. James Rodriguez who reminded everyone of the DEI workshop coming up and that he will send out an email once he locks down a date. Then Omar gave the floor to the chair of the Committee on University Committees, Dr. Clark Jones, who discussed having a chair and chair elect for many senate committees so that continuity and institutional knowledge are preserved. Then Omar gave the floor to the chair of Governance Committee, Dr. Marc Neri, who said that there is a special election for the information officer and that there is a sole candidate, Dr. Loren Spice. He said that he will conduct the electronic elections and he reminded everyone of the upcoming April elections for the FSEC members and encouraged senators to send in nominations. Then Omar gave the floor to Interim Provost Wormley who introduced himself and said that he will work in this position until May 2025 until the search for a new Provost is concluded.

Then Omar gave the floor to the Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administration, Bill Nunez who explained that TCU's budget is built incrementally based on the past budgets. The annual budget planning starts in September and there are a series of steps until it reaches April when it is presented to the Board of Trustees. The budget is still heavily dependent on tuition and the distribution of the budget is still fairly similar between 2020 and 2024. He said that there is growth of 3.2% in terms of admission. He explained that every 1% in tuition results in 3 million in revenue. He said that there will be a 6% tuition increase which will make it possible to give salary raises, infrastructure improvement and development. All the planning for new lines or new salaries happen in collaboration with the Provost, and they are working closely to open new lines and move the university forward.

Then Omar gave the floor to Associate Provost of Undergraduate Affairs, Dr. Reggie Wilburn and the Dean of Admissions, Heath Einstein who talked about test optional admissions and they explained that during the pandemic most universities eliminated standardized testing from the requirements and kept it that way and TCU is no different. Then the director of Quality Enhancement , Dr. Angie Taylor presented the results of looking at the difference between 2018 (standardized tests were required) and 2023 (test optional) students in terms of admission and retention. The results show that retention and the academic performance were the same in both groups. However, in a faculty survey, the results showed the faculty preferred admitting students who present test results.

Then Omar moved to a closed session and at 5 pm adjourned the meeting.