

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

UTHSC Faculty Senate Meeting

Zoom Monthly Meeting
May 14, 2024

Attendance: (senators, administrators, and faculty)

Attending: PJ Koltnow, Jillian McCarthy, Tracy McClinton, Imran Quraishi, Ron Espinal, Twisha Oza, Blake Moore, Rebecca Reynolds, Terrance Cooper, Yanhui Zhang, Ted Cory, Ranjit Philip, Laura Reed, Laxmichaya Sawant, Myra M Meekins, Ashton Brooks, Jill M. Maples, Stephen Pishko, Shaunta' Chamberlin, Keith May, Steven M Doettl, Heather Moss, Mary Erickson, Phyllis Richey, Carrie Harvey, Tauheed Ishrat, Hassan Almoazen, Jason Yaun, Thaddeus A Wilson, Jaqueline D Venturin, Sunbal Ashraf, Kimberly Morris, Edward Harris, Stephen Rauls, Jeffrey Bieber, Yi Lu, Rajashekhar Gangaraju, Vickie Baselski, Maria Carrillo, Brett Wilson, David W Petersen, Vrushali Abhyankar, Ayman Aldayeh, Fuming Zhou, Ioannis Dragatsis, Nawajes Mandal, Kevin Freeman, Karine Guerrier, Sarah J Rhoads, Shelley White-Means, Ben Maddox, Chalet Tan, James Lewis, Elisha McCoy, Cheran Elangovan, Rachel Barenie, Elizabeth Hall, Fatima Ahmed, Michelle Lynn Abramovitz, Sharon Little, Cynthia Russell, Dan Young, Valarie Fleming, Jessi Gold.

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm CST/5:00 pm EST

Faculty Senate Meeting

Presiding: Mr. Paul J. Koltnow, President

Approval of the April 9, 2024, minutes.

- The floor was opened for discussion of the April 9th, 2024 meeting minutes. No edits were recommended. Dr. Fuming Zhou motioned

to accept the minutes as written. Motion was seconded by Dr. Tracy McClinton.

- Poll Everywhere Vote:
 - Approve: 100% (48/48)
 - Do not approve: 0% (0/48)
 - Abstain: 0% (0/48)

Presentation by Dr. Jessi Gold, Chief Wellness Officer

- Introduction by Faculty Senate President PJ Koltnow
 - Multiple publications
- Dr. Gold discussed what brought her to this role as Chief Wellness Officer
 - Background is in healthcare worker mental health
- Physically located in Memphis, but role is across all campuses of UT Health Science Center
- Questions:
 - Faculty and Student wellbeing are concerns. All individuals are important, although Dr. Gold's primary concern is student wellbeing.
 - What to do for those in crisis and to prevent mental health issues? Will create procedures to ensure timely care and prevention are addressed. In previous settings, this included education, raising awareness, creating assessment intakes to ensure those who needed immediate attention received it.
 - Why do people have lower critical thinking skills? It isn't clear why these skills appear under-developed at this point. It could be that younger generations are focused on the why and feel empowered to change what doesn't work, rather than work within the rules/boundaries. Dr. Gold suggests that explaining the "why" is helpful for students to understand why we need them to adhere to rules.
 - Email is jgold11@uthsc.edu.
 - Faculty are happy to include what Dr. Gold recommends in the classroom. "Resilience" is an unpopular term, but the concept is important. Same for "professionalism." We need

to think hard about how to get messages across without alienating the audience that could benefit.

- Book link: <https://simonandschuster.com/books/How-Do-You-Feel/Jessi-Gold/9781982199777>

Vote on Faculty Senate Awards

- Administrator of the Year
 - Campus Police Chief Berryhill
 - Senior Vice Chancellor Valerie Fleming
- Faculty Senator of the Year
 - Mr. PJ Koltnow
 - Dr. Rachel Barenie
 - Dr. Terrance Cooper
- Exceptional Meritorious Achievement
 - Dr. Richard Smith
- Certificate of Appreciation
 - Print services department
 - Ms. Kiera Fields, Executive Administrative Aide to the Chancellor
 - Ms. Melissa Norris, Executive Administrative Aide to the Vice Chancellor for Finance and Operations
 - Ms. Anna Norris, Administrative Consultant for the Vice Chancellor for Finance and Operations
 - Mr. David Mills, Director of government relations at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center
 - Dr. James W. Haynes, Dean, COM Chattanooga

Faculty Senate President PJ Koltnow

- Faculty Senate Elections Ongoing
 - FSEC representatives (elected within college)
 - Elections for the colleges are being completed.
 - Senator terms (elected within department)
 - Those who conduct these elections have been notified.

- Senator terms are 3 years – senators can check when their term is up on the website: <https://www.uthsc.edu/faculty-senate/membership.php>
- Senate Officers (elected by the current senators at the June meeting)
 - One nominee for president elect: Dr. Karen Derefinko (COM-Clinical)
 - This nominee cannot be from the same college as current president elect (CON)
 - No nominees for Secretary yet

Committee Updates

- Handbook Committee: Grievance chapter 7 edits reached consensus in committee. Now discussing with Fleming to reach consensus will happen in May.
- Faculty Affairs: Faculty Feedback Action Survey results were distributed to Chancellor and Dean. We await this feedback at Senate level.
- Budget & Benefits: No updates.
- Computing, Technology, and Communications: Hardware Refresh Standard sent to IT.
- Research Committee: Conducting elections for chair and co-chair and working on annual report.
- Non Tenure Track: Conducting elections for chair and co-chair and working on annual report.
- Education: Working on Honor Code – not currently any faculty member voice. This is necessary and useful.
- University Faculty Council: Part time faculty and sick leave is being explored (to allow part time faculty sick leave). Tenure extension (expanded definition) is not being explored.
- Clinical Affairs: Residents had IT issues at Regional One. Committee worked with IT to resolve. Shaunte Chamberline was elected as Chair. No Co-Chair yet.

News and Updates

- Faculty Senate Committee Updates

New Business

- None

Announcements

- June 11, 2024 is the June business meeting.
 - Committee work is important

Dr. Terrance Cooper moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:48 pm CST/5:58 pm EST.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dr. Karen Derefinko
Faculty Senate Secretary

Appendix A. Hardware Refresh Standard.

Draft

Computer Hardware Refresh Standard

Whereas, UT Health Science Center strives to facilitate a secure, productive computing environment, with parity for all users and which optimizes costs and allows for flexibility for users,

Whereas, UT Health Science Center needs to develop a sustainable funding model for computer hardware,

Whereas, lack of consistency in timing of computer hardware purchases does not support efficiency, security and parity of resources,

Whereas, UT Health Science Center Information Technology Services has proposed a program to facilitate fair, cost-effective, and equitable access to computing hardware,

Whereas, the UT Health Science Center Faculty Senate is sensitive to the significant size of this expenditure for the campus,

Whereas, savings can be gained by economies of scale for the purchases,

Whereas, excellence in educational, research, and clinical missions for faculty requires up to date, and secure hardware,

Be it resolved, that the UT Health Science Center Faculty Senate endorses a UT Health Science Center -wide computer hardware refresh program comprising a refresh standard that defines, at the very least, a refresh cycle, standardized computing options and configurations, a flexible exceptions policy, sustainable annual funding, and a governance model.

Appendix B. Distinguished Professor and Professor Emeritus Handbook Language.

Approval History

- 1-17-23 Distributed to Handbook Committee
- 1-20-23 Text discussed at Handbook Committee meeting
- 1-25-23 Informed Kristi of HB Com. Dissatisfaction with text and request for more detailed process
- 1-28-23 Distributed to Handbook Committee for further discussion
- 2-3-23 Discussed by Handbook Committee and with Kristi Forman
- 2-2-23 Approved by FAWG
- 2-9-23 Distributed to Handbook Committee in preparation for distribution to FSEC members
- 2-10-20 HBC revisions
- 2-21-23 FSEC approved for negotiation with Kristi Forman subject to duration question
- 2-24-23 Received from CAO Office & distributed to Handbook Committee
- 3-13-24 Suggested revision (highlighted in yellow) for today's discussion with Dr. Fleming
- 3-13-24 Outcome of meeting with Valarie Fleming
- 3-25-24 Handbook Committee revisions forwarded to Valarie Fleming for discussion
- 3-27-24 Outcome of Mtg with Valarie Fleming
- 4-3-24 Forwarded to FSEC & Dr. Fleming with Handbook Committee approval

FA 100 Distinguished Professors

POLICY

In order to recognize faculty who have provided outstanding service to the campus for a prolonged period, the University of Tennessee Health Science Center has created the title of UTHSC Distinguished Professor.

PROCEDURE

The title of UTHSC Distinguished Professor may be awarded to a full-time UTHSC faculty member who has typically served with excellence for 10 or more years and who plans to continue in service to the university. The specific criteria for these appointments may vary by college; however, such appointments are initiated by the dean. Annually, each dean, receiving requests from department/unit leaders following their consultation with the department's/unit's faculty, can nominate one or more faculty from his/her college to be considered for this honorific title. The dean's recommendation and supporting materials will be considered by the Chancellor; and, if approved by the Chancellor, the Vice Chancellor for Chief Academic, Faculty and Student Affairs Officer will be notified for endorsement and enactment of the appointment.

Normally, UTHSC Distinguished Professors are appointed for three years. The appointment of a UTHSC Distinguished Professor may only be made if the college's/unit's approved bylaws contain a description of the criteria and process by which an appointment is to be made.

Faculty members who receive this honorific title are subject to annual performance reviews in the same manner as other faculty. However, every third year following the initial appointment When deemed necessary by the chair or the dean, the annual review will also include an additional discussion with the dean regarding continuation of this title. The use

Use of the title may be discontinued by the dean Chancellor if the faculty member demonstrably ceases to perform in an exemplary manner (as evidenced by an evaluation of 'needs improvement' or 'unsatisfactory') or is no longer performing at the level expected of an individual holding this title or for other adequate cause. Typically, removal of the title is initiated by the dean, following consultation with the department/unit chair and faculty, who will forward a recommendation to the Chancellor along with his/her reasoning for the recommendation. The faculty member will also be given an opportunity to respond to the dean's recommendation. Following consideration of these documents and any other information the Chancellor deems necessary, he/she will decide whether or not to remove the title. That decision and reasoning upon which it is being made will be forwarded to the CAO, dean, faculty and his/her unit leader. The Chancellor's decision is final.

- 1-24-24 Distributed to Handbook Committee
- 2-6-24 Handbook Committee Revisions
- 2-28-24 Text agreed upon by Handbook Committee and Dr Fleming
- 2-29-24 forwarded to the CAO's Office
- 3-1-24 Additional revisions from CAO's Office and Handbook Committee
- 3-2 to 3-12-24 Additional revisions from Handbook Committee
- 3-27-24 Outcome of meeting with Valarie Fleming
- 4-3-24 Forwarded to FSEC & Dr. Fleming with Handbook Committee approval

6.2.7 Emeritus Appointments

UTHSC may award emeritus status to faculty members at or after the time of their retirement. A faculty member with emeritus status will hold an honorary faculty appointment at a specified rank/title. Emeritus status is granted to those individuals/faculty members who have distinguished themselves in service to UTHSC/the university and who have received recognition for their academic or other contributions. The status is not granted automatically upon retirement of a faculty member but rather upon based upon (a) the length and quality of service to the university, (b) the recommendation of the faculty member's Chair, (c) with the endorsement of the Dean, and (d) subsequent approval of the Chancellor. The

Emeritus status is usually reserved for individuals/faculty members retiring at the rank of full professor and such individuals are designated as Emeritus Professor. Emeritus. Faculty of a lower rank are not excluded from the award of emeritus status when justified. An administrator holding a faculty position retiring with the rank of dean or above usually is designated Dean Emeritus, etc. An individual retiring at a lower rank may be granted and holding the status/title of Chair, Distinguished or Endowed Chair Professor, etc. is designated as emeritus at that rank, this award being based on the length and quality of service to UTHSC/title.

Subject to use of "university" or "UTHSC" consistent with its use elsewhere in the Faculty Handbook.

This may be an issue to administratively revise throughout the Handbook when distinguishing UTHC from the UT system.