

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

FACULTY SENATE

Tuesday, December 8th, 2020 at 3 pm
Login at 2:45 pm to make sure we start on time and have quorum

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://utep-edu.zoom.us/j/81619723329?pwd=bIJlb2dZYnhwSEdXTVJMNitmRDRwZz09>

Meeting ID: 816 1972 3329

Passcode: vN4vFWLN

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order** – Gina Núñez-Mchiri, Faculty Senate President, opening statement (3 min)
2. **Determination of a Quorum and the seating of Alternates**- Vladik Kreinovich
3. **Consent Agenda:** Approval of Senate Meeting Minutes (Nov. 2020 minutes)-Andrew Fleck
4. **Acceptance or Modification of the Agenda**
5. **Announcements**
 - A. Provost Wiebe on lessons learned in the fall and preparing for the Spring (10 min)
 - B. Student Grievance Task Force- Daniel Tillman (5 min)
6. **Reports of Standing or Special Committees**
 - A. Faculty Senate Executive Committee request of the COACHE survey and review of Faculty Forum 2020 report (5 min) –Núñez –Mchiri, Sandor Dorgo
 - B. Curriculum Committee report – Art Duval, Committee Chair (10 min)
 - C. Teaching Effectiveness Committee Proposal- Fernando Jimenez-Arevalo (10 min)
 - D. Research Committee will be meeting to review URI proposals – So Jung Kim (10 min)
 - E. Student Welfare Committee- Areli Chacon-Silva (10 min)
 - F. Any other committee reports?
7. **Presentation**
 - A. Recovery Task Force Updates- Dr. Steve Crites – (10 min)
8. **Old or Unfinished Business**
9. **New Business**
10. **Adjournment**

Next Faculty Senate Meeting: February 9, 2021 via Zoom

**UTEP Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
Meeting Agenda
November 23, 2020**

I. Call to order

Meeting was called to order by A. Duval at 3:04 p.m.

II. Members present:

- Tracey Merworth, School of Nursing
- Andrew Fleck, College of Lib Arts
- Vinod Kumar, College of Engineering
- Hettie Houghton, College of Business
- Emre Umucu, College of Health Sciences
- Rey Reyes, College of Education
- Art Duval, College of Science
- Jose Herrera, College of Education, At-Large
- James Salvador, College of Science, At-Large
- Lori Acosta, School of Nursing, At-Large
- Daniel Vasquez, Student Member
- Dominic Kelly, Student Member

III. Visitors present:

- X Charles Leinberger, Department of Music
- X Anthony Blum, Department of Psychology
- X Lawrence Cohn, Department Of Psychology
- X Enid Martin, Office of Admissions and Recruitment
- X Julie Rivera, Office of the Provost
- X Guillermina Gina Núñez-Mchiri, Faculty Senate President
- X Nancy Marcus, College of Science
- X Yvette Huerta, El Paso Community College
- X Toni Blum, Office of the Provost

IV. Old Business:

A. Minutes from November 2, 2020 meeting, approved by online vote on November 3, 2020. Motion passes (9 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)

V. New Business:

A. College of Liberal Arts

1. Department of Music

- a. Proposal: Bachelor of Music Curriculum Changes**
- b. Action Item: Part 1. Add MUSA 1271 (Piano Class I), 1272 (Piano Class II), and 2271 (Piano Class III) and either MUSA 1151 (University Chorus) or 1250 (University Chorale) to the All-Levels Education – Instrumental Track concentration of the BM in Music; add MUSA 1271, 1272, and 2271 to the following concentrations of the BM in Music: All-Levels Education – Vocal Track; Music Theory & Composition; Music Performance: Guitar; Music Performance: Vocal; Music Performance: Wind/String/Percussion. This will entail increasing the semester credit hours for this degree to 131, above the standard 120. Part 2. Create new concentrations in the BM in Music: All-Levels Education – Keyboard Track; and All-Levels Education – Guitar Track. New course MUSA 4292 (Guitar Literature).**
- c. Rationale: Part 1. Additional courses required by accreditation by National Association of Schools and Music. Part 2. To fill local demand for teachers qualified to teach class piano and class guitar in the middle and high schools.**
- d. Motion to approve made by Jose Herrera, seconded by James Salvador. Motion passes (9 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)**

2. Department of Music

- a. Proposal: Bachelor of Music in Commercial Music Curriculum Changes**
- b. Action Item: Part 1. Replace 4 hours of electives by MUSA 1271 (Piano Class I) and 1272 (Piano Class II). Part 2. In existing requirement for 8 semesters of ensemble courses, specify which of these ensemble courses should be taken, depending on student's primary instrument or voice.**
- c. Rationale: Part 1. Additional courses required by accreditation by National Association of Schools and Music, and were previously hidden prerequisite. Part 2. Clarify ensemble requirements based on the student's primary instrument or voice, and reflects new requirements for Commercial Music majors whose primary instrument is guitar or piano (keyboard).**
- d. Motion to approve made by Jose Herrera, seconded by Vinod Kumar. Motion passes (9 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)**

3. Department of Psychology

- a. Proposal: Change to PSYC Minor Degree Plan**

Teaching Effectiveness and Development Committee

Dear Dr. Nunez-Mchiri,

The Teaching Effectiveness and Development Committee seeks the support of the Faculty Senate and the Provost to share the following statement with Deans, Department Chairs, and Faculty at The University of Texas at El Paso.

To keep our community healthy during the COVID19 pandemic, our university transitioned to online instruction in the spring semester and continued during the fall semester. In the beginning of the fall semester, about 75% of the courses were online, 20% hybrid, and only about 5% maintained a face-to-face format. Given the rise in COVID19 infections in our community, by the end of the fall, most hybrid courses have transitioned to fully online.

During this transition, the university provided faculty support and resources through different programs including technology facilitation, Blackboard assistance, instructional design, Grab-N-Go tips, webinars, and employee assistance, among many others.

Despite the abundance of resources and information, the implementation of online instruction has presented significant challenges for faculty. Many faculty and students had to learn and adapt to online instruction through trial and error in an extremely short period. The time commitment required for teaching increased substantially, as faculty revamped their courses and provided individualized plans for students struggling with illness; while also seeking to keep up with research and service duties. Furthermore, some faculty dealt with COVID-19 in their own households and shared workspaces with children and family.

Under these circumstances, student evaluations alone might not accurately reflect the faculty's effort and teaching competence. For this reason, without jeopardizing our commitment towards high quality instruction, we encourage faculty and administrators to embrace a flexible and holistic approach in the teaching evaluation process of part-time and full-time tenure and non-tenure track faculty this year. Teaching evaluations could take into account individual circumstances, patterns of performance over time, and overall trends. Each college and department can determine how to be flexible regarding teaching evaluations and how to document faculty efforts and hardships during this period. For example, merit review committees could offer faculty the option to supplement their students' teaching evaluations with a document detailing their adaptation efforts, teaching innovations, technological and pedagogical training, as well as challenges faced during the pandemic.

Teaching evaluations are an important source of information in faculty's applications for promotion, tenure, contract renewals, merit salary increases, and teaching awards. Embracing a holistic and flexible approach during this period can provide college and department merit review committees with additional data to make informed decisions. Although this statement refers to evaluations of teaching performance, a similar process could be devised for evaluations of research and service.

Respectfully,

Dr. Fernando R. Jiménez, TEDC Chair

Research Committee

Hi President Nunez-Mchiri and Vice President Tillman,

I hope this email finds you safe and healthy. Here is the list of approved URI proposals that I will be presenting on Tuesday. For the sake of fairness, the Research Committee chose to fund all of the approved proposals at the amount of \$5000 each --

- 1. Angel Flores Abad
- 2. Carlos Algara
- 3. Amelia Greig
- 4. Michael Harvey
- 5. Gabriel Ibarra-Mejia
- 6. Yun-Pai Lee
- 7. Jacob Martinez
- 8. Kelly S Ramirez
- 9. Krystia Reed
- 10. Jess Tolbert
- 11. Justice Walker
- 12. Anita Quintana

Please let me know if you have any questions.
Thank you!

Best,
So Jung

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Student Welfare Committee Report

SERVICE: Student Welfare Committee Meeting

Scheduled: Nov 24, 2020 at 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM

Location: Zoom

<https://bit.ly/3kSkojU>

Meeting ID: 842 6703 5658

Passcode: 1234

ATTENDANCE

Present:

Official Committee Members

Chacon Silva, Areli achaconsilva@utep.edu

Oralia Loza oloza@utep.edu

Khan, Arifur R arkhan@utep.edu

Smith, Eric D esmith2@utep.edu

Basu, Pratyusha pbasu@utep.edu

Ex Officio Voting Members

Fraire, Virginia M vmfraire2@utep.edu

Student Representative

Rebekah Plaza: rmplaza@miners.utep.edu

Not Present:

Official Committee Members

Tosh, Deepak K dktosht@utep.edu

Executive Council Rep

Tillman, Daniel A datillman@utep.edu

MINUTES

Committee Dropbox folder: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/fudo8nyzcc8drqm/AADl6jRk3dvaCF3y7AREWxGaa?dl=0>

1. Approval of minutes
 - Motion to approve the minutes: Oralia Loza
 - All in favor
2. Welcome to student representatives and introductions
 - One student has joined us: Rebekah Plaza: rmplaza@miners.utep.edu
3. Presentation: Student Organizations at UTEP
Student Engagement & Leadership Center People (SELC): <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/selc/People/selc-staff.html>

Speakers

- Nicole Aguilar, SELC Director (was not able to attend)
nicole@utep.edu
- Mallory Payan, SELC Assistant Director

Student Organizations, Fraternity & Sorority Life, Terry Scholars Program
magarcia23@utep.edu

- Travares Peterson, SELC Coordinator for Student Organizations
tdpeterson@utep.edu

Topics

- Some organizations are academically based, others are hobby specific or service-oriented.
- Faculty advisors need to be full-time
 - o Perhaps this committee can help fill this gap
- Some advisors and students in student organizations are less engaged in terms of activity and communication
- Online presence during COVID-19 has included Blackboard Collaborate Ultra and Zoom
 - o Including trainings for these tools
- Minetracker: <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/selc/student-organizations/mine-tracker.html>
 - o a university tool (software) to organize events and campus news
 - o you can search the site by keywords and by category
 - o each student org has a website
 - managed by faculty advisors and officers
- Funds are appropriated for student org activities
 - o e.g., events, operations, conference attendance
- encourage faculty to engage in student organizations to increase their university service and student leadership as a mentor/connect with students in a different manner
- leadership in the colleges can be made aware of the of:
 - o time commitment on behalf of the faculty
 - o benefits to program accreditation bodies
- Pending: access to the rules, policies, and procedures for student orgs which are currently being reviewed in addition to the student organization handbook (spring 2021).

4. Next Meeting

Tuesday, Jan 26, 2021 at 10:30 AM to 11:30 A