



**Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes
Wednesday, April 17, 2024
12:00 p.m.**

Faculty Senate President Susie Gronseth called the April 17, 2024, Faculty Senate meeting to order at 12:21 p.m. She welcomed senators and guests to the meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT: (106)

ARCH: M. Kyropoulou, E. Morshedzadeh, P. Peters
ARTS: R. Bush, D. Robinson, T. Van Kekerix
BUS: B. Carlin, B. Khumawala, H. Lin, A. Lish, M. Murray, Y. Tan, Y. Zhao
EDU: C. Arbona, S. Brower, B. Davis, S. Gronseth, K. Hassett, A. Peters-Hawkins, V. Rangel
ENGR: G. Aksu, D. Burleson, B. Detillier, M. El Nahas, J. Evans, T. Liao, D. Liu, S. Long, H. Love, F. Merchant, M. Moges, H. Rifai, D. Shattuck
GHL: P. Guchait, Y. Koh
HON: D. Gish, D. Price
CLASS: A. Castilla-Earls, A. Christensen, P. Cirino, M. Cuesta, C. Ferrell, H. Glass, E. Goodin-Mayeda, S. Grigorian, K. Haubrick, A. Hernandez, M. Ivey, J. Kleinheider, V. Maheshri, V. Ng, A. Pegoda, A. Thrasher, D. Womble, L. Zhu
LAW: K. Brem
LIB: K. Creelman, T. Davis-Van Atta, V. Douglas, L. Martin, A. Santiago, S. Thompson, M. Warren
COM: D. Curtis, G. Gomez, B. King, K. Pilkinton
NSM: M. Almus, B. Bodmann, J. Brgoch, R. Capuano, A. Czader, B. Dauwalder, L. Farmer, S. Gilbertson, T. Gill, E. Harth, R. Lee, A. Medrano, R. Meisel, G. Morrison, E. Papadakis, D. Pattison, J. Subhlok, B. Xhabli, J. Yang
CON: C. Brohard, L. McWilliams
OPT: T. Ferreira, R. Manny, J. O'Brien, J. Porter, C. Ribelayga
PHA: D. Chow, A. Marwaha, B. McConnell, M. Trivedi, G. Udugamasooriya
HSPA: C. Bronk
RES CTRS: S. Chung

MEMBERS ABSENT: (32)

ARCH: J. Feng
ARTS: J. Derges, R. Koontz
BUS: S. Basu, B. Li, J. Porra
ENGR: C. Chang, S. Joshi, A. Lendasse, D. Litvinov, S. Pei, Y. Yao, X. Yuan
GHL: M. Lee, T. Legendre, J. Madera
LAW: D. Fagundes
CLASS: J. Babcock, F. Bunta, L. Camaj, P. Chakrabarti, M. Cottingham, P. Gutierrez, K. Hopkins
NSM: K. Bassler, T. Bawa-Khalfe, A. Vershynina
COM: O. Adepoju
PHA: J. Hao
RES FAC: O. Bannova
GCSW: S. Ali, S. Narendorf

GUESTS: Raymond Bartlett (SVC/SVP, Administration & Finance), Jim Biediger (NSM), Jim Briggs (Assoc. Provost, Faculty Affairs), Arlen Chase (CLASS), Diane Z. Chase (SVP & Provost, Academic Affairs), Tameka Clemons (COM), Linda Connelly (CON), Mike Emery (Univ. Marketing & Communications), Maria Gonzalez (CLASS), Lauren Gottlieb-Miller (Univ. Libraries), Sabrina Hassumani (Assoc. Provost, Admin. & Finance/Academic Affairs), Margo Hickman (COTA), Suresh Khator (ENGR), Jamie Kovach (ENGR), Marsha Kowal (ENGR), Mimi Lee (EDU), Teri Longacre (Sr. Vice Provost & Dean, Undergrad Student Success), Erica Lopez (LIB), David Mazella (CLASS), Cindy Mejia (Academic Affairs), Claudia Neuhauser (Interim VC/VP for Research), Danielle Quintana, J.R. Rao (ENGR), Marti Trummer-Cabrera (CAPS), Madelyn Washington (LIB)

Approval of Minutes: March 20, 2024 Meeting

The March 20th minutes were approved as distributed.

Year One at UH: Insights and Opportunities presented by the University of Houston System Senior Vice Chancellor and University of Houston Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost: [Diane Z. Chase](#)

FS President Susie Gronseth introduced and gave a summary of Provost Chase's background and work at UH over the past year.

Door prizes were awarded to senators who answered UH trivia questions asked by Provost Chase.

SVP Diane Chase gave her "Year One at UH" presentation which focused on the following:

- Insights:
 - A Community of Coogs!
 - Getting to know Coogs (Faculty, Students, & Staff)
 - Prop5/TUF (\$4B permanent endowment)
 - UH Rise in Rankings
 - Academic Year 2022-2023
 - Graduated 11,156 students (including Master's – 2,268, a UH record)
 - Faculty Recognition
 - UH Scholars Walk
 - Faculty Engagement & Development (FED)
 - \$2.09M in awards, 139 publications submitted, 33 writing groups/240 participants
 - Transitions (Instructional Support)
 - Canvas
 - Artificial Intelligence
 - Supporting Student Success
 - Faculty Initiatives (CHEM 1311, ECON 2301) – overall DWF rate decreased
 - Early Alerts
 - CTAP – Cougar Textbook Access Program - \$10M saved from fall 2023 to spring 2024
 - Provost Profiles
 - Opportunity to highlight students
 - UH Mental Health
 - CoogsCARE
 - SB17 & SB18
 - Provost Chase thanked faculty for their help
- Opportunities
 - Presidential Frontier Faculty Program
 - Recruiting 21 PFF members

- Focus areas for new recruits include: sustainability, health care, energy, & AI
 - Opportunities in Sugar Land and Katy
 - New Doctoral Programs
 - Ph.D. in Computer Engineering
 - Doctor of Business Administration (non-research focused)
 - Other New Degrees
 - Enrollment – goal 3% per year, emphasize retention
 - How demographics, college enrollment rates, and market share help explain past enrollment trends for UH. (Cumulative impact of each force from 2010-2020.
 - Coming Together (need to tell UH stories)
 - On the Horizon:
 - Faculty Excellence Awards, April 24, 2024
 - Spring Commencement May 8-11, 2024
 - Thank You
 - Close with Video (Provost Profiles)

Q and A session followed.

Report from and Discussion with the University of Houston System Senior Vice Chancellor and University of Houston Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance: [Raymond Bartlett](#)

SVP Raymond Bartlett reported on the following items:

- Mr. Raymond Bartlett emphasized how the CFO and Provost working effectively together helps support UH’s mission and the President’s vision. He commented that he is thankful for Dr. Chase’s collaboration with his division.
- Future Funding Model in Texas: The current model is based on enrollment and isn’t sustainable (cyclical decreases and small increases). UH is having conversations on new business models. CFO Bartlett ensured that he will always make sure the budget is balanced.
- Campus Centennial Task Force Meeting takes place this Friday, April 19.
- A vendor has been selected for the new HR applicant tracking system. This will take several months to implement.
- FY2025 budget is a work in progress, and the final draft will be presented to the BOR meeting in May.

Q and A session followed.

Report from and Discussion with the University of Houston System Interim Vice Chancellor and University of Houston Interim Vice President for Research: [Claudia Neuhauser](#)

Dr. Claudia Neuhauser reported on the following items:

- VP Claudia Neuhasuer echoed Raymond Bartlett’s comments on Provost Chase’s collaborative efforts and how she works well with the Division of Research.
- DoR Functions:
 - Developing Research Financial Services and transitioning leadership, filling in gaps with temporary staffing, and working as quickly as they can (invoicing is primarily affected).
- Events:
 - Workshop on Int’l Travel & Export Control (200 registrants) this Friday (will also be recorded).
 - ARPA-H Workshop (Funding Opportunities) – open forum (hybrid event) next Monday (event will be recorded)
- Core Facilities:

- Major advance on imaging core facility (increase in space & included surgical suite in the planning)
- Hired a new manager for the Electron Microscopy facility

Faculty Climate Survey: [David Shattuck, Faculty Governance Committee Chair](#)

FGC Chair David Shattuck encouraged faculty to participate in the 2024 Faculty Climate Survey. The Senate's goal is to have a fifty percent participation rate so that the survey will have meaning.

Presentation of Spring 2024 Faculty Senate Election Results, 2024 UH Grievance Committee Slate & 2024 Senate Officer Candidate Slate by Faculty Governance Committee Chair: [David Shattuck](#)

FGC Chair Dave Shattuck announced the 2024 Senate Election results.

Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture & Design:

- Mili Kyropoulou RSC

Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts:

- Amanda Cachia, Art GPSC
- Kalliope Vlahos, Theatre UC

C. T. Bauer College of Business:

- Alan Lish, Wolff Center for Entrepreneurship At-Large
- Barbara Carlin, Management UC

College of Education:

- Margaret Hale, CUIN At-Large
- April Peters-Hawkins, ELPS At-Large
- Nathan Smith, PHLS At-Large
- Theresa Fedor Amador, PHLS UC

Cullen College of Engineering:

- Peggy Lindner, IST At-Large
- David Shattuck, ECE At-Large
- Dmitri Litvinov, ECE RSC
- Fatima Merchant, ET RSC
- Jack (Yunpeng) Zhang, IST RSC

Conrad N. Hilton College of Global Hospitality Leadership:

- Juan Madera GPSC

The Honors College:

- Rita Sharp At-Large
- Daniel Price RSC

College of Liberal Arts:

- Melissa Markofski, HHP At-Large (2-year term)
- Sofia Gellon, Hispanic Studies UC
- David Womble, ENGL UC

History/CLASS:

- Kelly Hopkins At-Large

Hispanic Studies/CLASS:

- Christina Sisk At-Large

Modern & Classical Languages/CLASS:

- Hildegard Glass At-Large

CLASS – RSC Humanities:

- Alexey Golubev, HIST RSC

CLASS – RSC Social Sciences:

- Alex Badas, POLSCI RSC (1-year term)
- Leigh Leasure, PSYC RSC

Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine:

- Gregorio Gomez At-Large

College of Natural Sciences & Mathematics:

- Chin-Yo Lin, Biology & Biochemistry GPSC
- Bernhard Bodmann RSC
- Rebecca Forrest UC

Andy & Barbara Gessner College of Nursing:

- Danielle Quintana RSC
- Deborah Smith UC

College of Optometry:

- Jason Porter GPSC
- Lisa Ostrin RSC
- Ruth Manny At-Large
- Chi Nguyen At-Large

College of Pharmacy:

- MariVi Tejada-Simon, PPS At-Large
- Vincent Tam, PPTR RSC
- Doug Thornton, PHOP RSC

Research Centers & Institutes:

- Jakoah Brgoch, TX Center for Superconductivity RSC

UH Research Faculty:

- Munenori Ishibashi, Research Asst. Professor, OPT RSC

FGC Chair Shattuck congratulated and welcomed the newly-elected and re-elected senators. He then announced the 2024 Faculty Grievance Committee candidate slate.

2024 UH Grievance Committee Election Slate:

Tenured, Tenure-Track Faculty Candidates:

- Jaye Derrick, CLASS
- Stephen Huang, NSM
- Leigh Leasure, CLASS
- Greg Morrison, NSM
- Luca Pollini, ENGR
- Samina Salim, PHA
- Kristi Santi, EDUC

Non-Tenure Track Faculty Candidates:

- Justin Burris, Education
- Chereece Andrews, CLASS
- Linda Connelly, Nursing
- Julia Kleinheider, CLASS
- Joe Wheat, Optometry

There were no additional nominations from the floor. Dr. Shattuck informed that voting will be conducted online and eligible faculty will be notified by email when the polls are open.

2024 Faculty Senate Officer Slate:

Dr. Shattuck announced that the Faculty Governance Committee isn't ready to present the Senate officer and Faculty Governance Committee slates and asked the Senate for a one-month delay. Doing so would require making an exception to the Constitution mandate.

The related section of the Constitution of the Faculty Senate reads:

“By the April meeting of the Senate, the committee shall present two nominations for the positions of president-elect and secretary, and four nominations for the two at-large positions on the executive committee. The committee shall also present fourteen nominees to fill the twelve elective positions on the Faculty Governance Committee.”

FGC Chair David Shattuck brought forth a motion that there be an exception to the Faculty Senate Constitution to allow the nominations for the president-elect, secretary, and at-large positions on the executive committee and the Faculty Governance Committee to be presented at the May 2024 meeting of the Faculty Senate. He said that this motion required a second. The motion was seconded and the floor was open to discussion. Senator Donna Pattison mentioned that this procedure had been done in the past.

Vote by acclimation: The Faculty Senate voted unanimously to pass the motion.

UH Mental Health Update: [Marti Trummer-Cabrera](#), Assistant Director for Outreach, Counseling and Psychology Services (CAPS)

Dr. Trummer-Cabrera presented an update on UH Mental Health which focused on the following:

- Reminder: CAPS is open for the summer. Services are free (in-person & telehealth).
- CAPS Let's Talk – free resource
- CAPS Liaison
- Faculty Involvement
 - Identify Student at Risk

- Increase Help-seeking Behaviors
- Develop Life Skills
- Community Mental Health Resource Fair, May 1, 2024

Announcement: FGC Chair David Shattuck announced the Senate Election results addendum.

NSM At-Large Seats:

- Brigitte Dauwalder, Biology & Biochemistry
- Donna Pattison, Biology & Biochemistry
- Rob Stewart, Earth & Atmospheric Sciences

Report from and Discussion by Faculty Senate President: [Susie Gronseth](#)

FS President Susie Gronseth acknowledged and thanked VP Lisa Holdeman for gifting the Faculty Senate with UH mugs that were distributed in today's meeting.

New Business

None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.