



## FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES

Friday, October 27, 2023

12:00 P.M. – 1:00 P.M.

MEB 3200A & WebEx

### FACULTY SENATORS IN ATTENDANCE

Luisa A. Bowcutt, M.S.N., APRN, CNM, GGHSON  
Robert A. Danforth, D.D.S., WLHSDM, Nominating Committee Chair  
Abhizith Deoker, M.D. PLFSOM, Faculty Senate President-Elect  
Alok Dwivedi, Ph.D., PLFSOM  
Huanyu Dou, M.D., FGSBS  
Geoffrey D. Guttman, Ph.D., WLHSDM, Faculty Senate President  
Richard Lange, M.D.; President, TTUHSC El Paso, Ex-Officio, Non-Voting Member

Gloria Loera, D.N.P., R.N., NEA-BC, GGHSON  
Stormy Monks, Ph.D., MPH, CHES, PLFSOM  
Marcos E. Ortega, Ph.D., WLHSDM  
Todd Parco, D.D.S., M.S.D., WLHSDM  
Jaclyn Reyes, M.S.N., R.N., CNE, CMSRN, GGHSON  
Laura Rodriguez, M.S.N., R.N., GGHSON  
Ramadevi Subramani Reddy, Ph.D., FGSBS  
Mingtao Zeng, Ph.D., FGSBS

### ABSENT FACULTY SENATORS

KoKo Aung, M.D., M.P.H.; Vice President for Faculty Success,  
TTUHSC El Paso, Ex-Officio, Non-Voting Member

Subodh Kumar, Ph.D., FGSBS  
Richard W. McCallum, M.D., Faculty Senate Past-President, PLFSOM

### OTHER ATTENDEES

Jose Humberto Enriquez, M.S.N, GGHSON  
Arlene Martinez, D.N.P, GGHSON  
Cindy Camarillo, Managing Director, Office of Faculty Affairs

Tony Castaneda, Director, Faculty Recruitment, Office of Faculty Affairs  
Ashley Rocha, Coordinator, Office of Faculty Affairs

### I. CALL TO ORDER

#### **Geoffrey Guttman, Ph.D., WLHSDM, Faculty Senate President**

Dr. Geoffrey Guttman, Faculty Senate President, called the meeting to order at 12:00 P.M., and welcomed all participants attending in person and via WebEx. Ms. Jaclyn Reyes welcomed two new GGHSON faculty members in attendance, Dr. Arlene Martinez, and Mr. Jose Enriquez.

### II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### **Geoffrey Guttman, Ph.D., WLHSDM, Faculty Senate President**

The minutes from the September 22, 2023 Faculty Senate meeting were sent to all Faculty Senators for review prior to this meeting. Minutes were unanimously approved by the Faculty Senate as presented.

### III. NEW BUSINESS

#### **Geoffrey Guttman, Ph.D., WLHSDM, Faculty Senate President**



**a. Welcome New Senators**

- Dr. Subodh Kumar, FGSBS
- Dr. Ramadevi Subramani Reddy, FGSBS

Dr. Guttman welcomed Dr. Kumar and Dr. Reddy who were elected through a special mid-term election held by FGSBS to complete the terms of seats left vacant by Dr. Jennifer Salinas and Dr. Wendy Walker.

**“GIFT” Grounds, Infrastructure, Facilities and Traffic Discussion-** Dr. Guttman informed the Faculty Senate he would like to focus on improvements around campus and asked senators to relay any areas that may require improvements. Dr. Richard Lange, President, TTUHSC El Paso, reminded everyone of his position as an “ex-officio” member of the Senate. He asked senators to refrain from directing issues to him today, as that would be a different meeting, but the tenor of this meeting is an opportunity for faculty to discuss issues and solutions and he is happy to listen and participate. He will respond at a later time if they are formally referred to him for action as the president.

**b. Faculty Senators discussed a list of the following items to be sent to the Facilities Department for further comment:**

- Addition of a crosswalk or walkway connecting the GSBS between MSB I and MSB II so that faculty in that building can have easier access; it would be ideal to have a ramp for ADA access between the two buildings
- Bird droppings surrounding the MEB are problematic
- Consideration to have a parking garage or provide covered parking at an added charge, or to consider solar panels on parking covers
- Development of sidewalks across campus
- Excessive amount of cats on campus; A faculty member commented on the cat lady who feeds the stray cats on campus from the trunk of her car and leaves food at different spots on campus and questioned if this activity is sponsored by the University. “The cats seem well-fed and sit on the top of his vehicle.” “In our nursing class, we had a class on allergies and asthma, and these stray animals may be a health risk.”
- Anticipated completion date of the new parking lot under construction in front of MSB II.

On a positive note, the Faculty Senate was pleased with the expanded service by the food service vendor on campus.

**c. Faculty Senate Retreat Summary-** Dr. Guttman summarized key items senators voiced during the annual Faculty Senate Retreat that may potentially be converted into strategic goals:

- Gym facilities for faculty
- Better signage visualization for buildings
- Amount of study space for students following closure of AEC
- Trains parked more often, impeding vehicular traffic at the train crossing
- Renaming of Diversity and Inclusion Committee and redesigning the committee’s scope



- Mentorship
- Faculty Retention
- Promotion Transparency

The Faculty Senate Retreat summary will be sent out to all senators once available. Once senators review the summary, Dr. Guttman will task them to populate achievable objectives/goals for the Faculty Senate's standing committees.

#### **d. Committee on Diversity and Inclusion – SB 17 Compliance**

Senators voted unanimously to form an ad hoc committee specifically to handle Senate Bill 17 compliance requirements to rename and redesign the scope of the committee on Diversity and Inclusion. This would require a complete bylaws revision, prior to the statewide deadline for compliance which is January 1, 2024. President Lange recommended completing the bylaws revision to ensure compliance with the law first, then revisiting a redesigned scope at a later date. Dr. Gloria Loera, Committee chair, Diversity and Inclusion Committee agreed to chair the Ad Hoc Bylaws Review Committee. The Faculty Senate Executive committee will gather other members for this new Ad Hoc committee. The Faculty Senate agreed with the approach to dissolve the committee to be compliant with the law.

**e. Appointments of Standing Committee Chairs-** Having consulted with the Nominating Committee, Dr. Guttman, Faculty Senate President, named the following committee chairs who will serve through August 2024:

- Faculty Senate Committee on Diversity and Inclusion – Gloria Loera, D.N.P., R.N., NEA-BC, GGHSON
- Faculty Senate Committee on Faculty Resources – Marcos Ortega, Ph.D. , WLHSDM
- Faculty Senate Committee on Research Resources – *TBD*
- Faculty Senate Committee on University Affairs- Todd Parco, D.D.S., WLHSDM

#### **IV. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Robert Danforth, D.D.S., WLHSDM, *Nominating Committee Chair***

##### **a. Nominating Committee Update**

- Piper Professor Award Committee Members – Dr. Danforth announced the following faculty members have been nominated as members of the Piper Professor Award Ad Hoc Committee:
  - Dr. Scott Crawford, M.D., PLFSOM
  - Thwe Htay, M.D., PLFSOM
  - Subodh Kumar, Ph.D., FGSBS
  - Jaclyn Reyes, M.S.N., R.N., CNE, CMSRN, GGHSON
  - Cheryl Samaniego, Ph.D., WLHSDM

All faculty nominated to serve on the Piper Professor Award Committee were unanimously approved by the Faculty Senate.



- Standing Committee Vacancies- Dr. Danforth updated senators on the following outstanding vacancies:
  - Faculty Resources Committee – PLFSOM Transmountain Representative: No Nominees
  - Research Resources Committee- PLFSOM Representative: No Nominees
  - Diversity & Inclusion Committee- FGSBS Representative: No Nominees

Dr. Danforth reached out to Dr. Dan Schuller, Chair, Internal Medicine – Transmountain, for one Transmountain representative to serve on the Faculty Resources Committee, but received no response. Dr. Danforth will follow up this with Dr. Schuller in attempt to fill the current vacancy.

## V. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

**Geoffrey Guttman, Ph.D., WLHSDM, Faculty Senate President**

**a. Next Faculty Senate Meeting:** December 1, 2023, 12-1 PM

**b. Reminder of Resources for Wellness** – Dr. Guttman reminded senators of the Employee Assistance Program being readily available to assist faculty, as well as a gym membership agreement with Planet Fitness.

To access both resources please visit: <https://elpaso.ttuhsu.edu/som/facultyaffairs/wellness-program/resources.aspx>

## FACULTY WELLNESS RESOURCES

### Employee Assistance Program

Wellness Resources		
The following resources are available to TTUHSC El Paso faculty through HealthSelect benefits and university programs to support well being.		
<b>Fitness</b>	<b>Tobacco-Free</b>	<b>Lactation</b>
Planet Fitness Membership	• HSCEP OP 10.18, Smoke-free Tobacco Free	• HSCEP OP 10.42, Break Time for Nursing Mothers
<b>HealthSelect Programs</b>	• HealthSelect Tobacco Cessation	
• Fitness Program	• Tossin' 'N' Out Line	
• Health Assessment		
• Tests/Trackers		
• Coaching		
<b>Weight Management</b>	<b>Self-Management Programs</b>	<b>Mental Well-Being</b>
<b>HealthSelect Programs</b>	<b>Health Select Well-Being</b>	
• Weight Program	• Digital Programs  self-paced	• Employee Assistance Program
• Real Appeal Program	• HSCEP OP 10.38, Employee Assistance Program	• 888 SuicideCrisis Line
• Comparing Weight vs Real	• programs to achieve your wellness goals	• Health Select Virtual Visits
<b>Safety</b>	<b>Business</b>	
• Safety Escort on main campus call 915-215-7111	• 915 Business Resources	
• Emergency Blue Phones are located around main campus	• TTU Health + Wellness Facebook Group	

<https://elpaso.ttuhsu.edu/som/facultyaffairs/wellness-program/resources.aspx>

## Faculty Wellness Resources: Gym Membership



- Offer Available to TTUHSC El Paso Faculty, Staff and Students
- Planet Fitness Corporate Black Card Wellness Membership
  - 24.99+ tax per month
  - Sign-up Fee and Annual Fee waived, no 12-month contract, thereby waiving \$58 early cancellation fee
  - Unlimited access to amenities
  - Fitness training sessions available
  - Corporate pricing extended to up to 4 family members (Ages 13+)
- If already a member, you can convert your membership.
  - Please contact Dorothy Stewart, Assistant Director of Wellness, Student Services and Student Engagement, at 915-215-4967 or [Dorothy.stewart@ttuhsu.edu](mailto:Dorothy.stewart@ttuhsu.edu)

## VI. ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION



**Geoffrey Guttman, Ph.D., WLHSDM, Faculty Senate President**

- a. Dr. Danforth would like to include an update on the completion date of the parking lot that is under construction across from MSB II. The Faculty Senate agreed to add this to the list of items to refer to Facilities and Maintenance.
- b. Dr. Guttman, as Faculty Senate President, has asked the Faculty Senators to ask their constituents to ensure that the mental well-being and safety of Jewish and Muslim faculty, staff, and students are maintained given the current events involving the Israel-Hamas war.

#### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**Geoffrey Guttman, Ph.D., WLHSDM, Faculty Senate President**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 P.M.

Geoffrey D. Guttman  
Geoffrey D. Guttman (Dec 4, 2023 15:44 MST)

**Geoffrey Guttman, Ph.D.**  
*Faculty Senate President 2023-2024*

12/04/2023

**Date**