



## FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES

Friday, July 28, 2023

12:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

MEB 3200A & WebEx

### FACULTY SENATORS IN ATTENDANCE

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

Abhizith Deoker, M.D. PLFSOM

Huanyu Dou, M.D., FGSBS

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

Geoffrey D. Guttman, Ph.D., WLHSDM

Richard W. McCallum, M.D., Faculty Senate President, 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

Jennifer Salinas, Ph.D., M.S.W., FGSBS

Clarissa Silva, Ph.D., R.N.EBPC, Faculty Senate Past-President, GGHSON

Wendy Walker, Ph.D., FGSBS

Mingtao Zeng, Ph.D., FGSBS

### ABSENT FACULTY SENATORS

Gloria Loera, D.N.P., R.N., NEA-BC, GGHSON

Stormy Monks, Ph.D., MPH, CHES, PLFSOM

Anantha R. Vellipuram, M.D., PLFSOM

### OTHER ATTENDEES

Cindy Camarillo, Sr. Director, Office of Faculty Affairs

Tony Castaneda, Director, Faculty Recruitment, Office of Faculty Affairs

Thwe Htay, M.D., Associate Professor of Medical Education, and  
Assistant Dean for Student Affairs

Samantha Owen, Senior Analyst, Office of Faculty Affairs

Bob Shehan, Senior Director, Information Technology, Office of Research

### I. CALL TO ORDER

**Richard W. McCallum, M.D., PLFSOM, Faculty Senate President**

Dr. Richard McCallum, Faculty Senate President, called the meeting to order at 12:00 P.M., and welcomed all participants attending in person and via WebEx.

### II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Richard W. McCallum, M.D., PLFSOM, Faculty Senate President**

The minutes from the June 23, 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. WELCOME NEW HUNT SCHOOL OF NURSING SENATOR

**Richard W. McCallum, M.D., PLFSOM, Faculty Senate President**

Dr. McCallum welcomed Laura Rodriguez, M.S.N., R.N., GGHSON who was elected through a special mid-term election held by her school's Faculty



Council. She will fill the GGHSON Senator seat left vacant by Lizette Villanueva until August 31, 2025.

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

##### **Wendy Walker, Ph.D., Research Resources Committee Chair**

a. **Research Resources Committee-** Wendy Walker, Ph.D., Research Resources Committee Chair, presented the remainder of her committee report. Due to time constraints at the June Faculty Senate meeting, she was unable to finish presenting her report last month. Dr. Walker presented the following three action items the Research Resources Committee formulated for the Faculty Senate's approval:

**1. Disseminate information across the institution regarding the newly formed Research Portal**

Dr. Walker stated that multiple methods should be used to disseminate information, including e-mails, Techview, and displaying information on the television monitors across campus. A Senator asked what office would be responsible for disseminating the information. Dr. Walker suggested the Office of Research should be tasked with disseminating the information to faculty.

**2. Disseminate information regarding the Clinical Research Coordinators website and their services**

**3. New Employee orientation should include information on the TTUHSC El Paso Research Portal**

These proposals are aligned with the committee's strategic plan goals # 1 and 2:

- 1. Develop a research manual to enable faculty to conduct research, to include guidance in navigating the pre-award and post-award administrative processes*
- 2. Promote the continuous dissemination of information on available research resources across TTUHSC El Paso to the faculty*

Dr. McCallum asked for a motion to approve these recommendations by the Research Resources Committee. A motion was made by Dr. Walker, seconded by Dr. Salinas, and unanimously approved by the Faculty Senate.

Dr. Walker presented an additional recommendation:

**4. Ask the Office of Research to conduct a review to ensure proper procedures have been established and are being followed to ensure the Principal Investigators (PI) are involved in all decision making for their funded studies**

Research Resources Committee members were concerned that, from their personal experience, Principal investigators (PI) were not informed of decisions being made on the funded studies they lead.

Dr. McCallum asked for motion to approve this fourth recommendation by the Research Resources Committee. The motion was made by Dr. Walker, seconded by Dr. Danforth, and unanimously approved by the Faculty Senate.



Dr. Walker presented a final recommendation:

5. **Recruit faculty research mentors via an e-mail call for nominations and request Dr. Deborah Clegg, Ph.D., Vice President for Research, TTUHSC El Paso to recommend a list of potential research mentors. Potential mentor list is to be submitted to the Faculty Senate and to the Office of Research which can then be reviewed and implemented by the current Faculty Development Mentorship program or via a different mechanism. A support system needs to be developed for the faculty mentors to establish protected time and ensure recognition by the institution.**

This recommendation aligns with the Committee's strategic plan goal #1: Identify research mentors for TTUHSC El Paso faculty members. Dr. Aung asked what office would be responsible to initiate the recruitment of faculty research mentors. Dr. Walker suggested the Office of Research should initiate these efforts. Dr. Aung reminded the Faculty Senate that during the June Faculty Senate meeting, the approval of this faculty research mentors proposition was deferred until Dr. Clegg and Zuber D. Mulla, Ph.D., Interim Associate Dean for Faculty Development, met to discuss the current institutional mentorship program. This meeting has been rescheduled to August.

Action on this item is tabled. Dr. Walker also presented the Research Resources Committee accomplishments this year. Her PowerPoint slide can be found the bottom of this document.

#### **V. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **Richard W. McCallum, M.D., PLFSOM, Faculty Senate President**

- a. **FY23 Faculty Senate President-Elect Midterm Election-** Dr. McCallum thanked Jennifer Salinas, Ph.D., M.S.W., for her service on the Faculty Senate. She has now resigned from her office as the Faculty Senate President-Elect and will be leaving the institution on August 31, 2023. Abhizith Deoker, M.D., PLFSOM and Geoffrey D. Guttman, Ph.D., WLHSDM are the two nominees for the current office of Faculty Senate President-Elect. The individual elected will immediately assume the office of the Faculty Senate President-Elect, then will be inducted as the new Faculty Senate President in September 2023.
- b. In alphabetical order, Dr. McCallum allowed each President-Elect nominee four (4) minutes to address the Faculty Senate. Dr. Deoker and Dr. Guttman addressed the Faculty Senate. The nominees written statements are attached.

Dr. McCallum announced the election vote will initiate after today's July 28, 2023 Faculty Senate meeting. The Office of Faculty Affairs will send out a secret ballot via e-mail to all Faculty Senators to vote for our current FY23 Faculty Senate President-Elect. Deadline to cast your vote will be Tuesday, August 1, 2023.

#### **Discussion:**

- Dr. Aung provided clarity regarding how the accessible crosswalk constructed on Rick Francis Road between the MEB and MSB2 buildings



came to be. Although the Faculty Senate discussed and approved a motion to propose this accessible crosswalk, initially brought up by Dr. Guttmann for discussion at the Faculty Senate, the Physical Plant and Services Department had already initiated plans and city approvals to construct this crosswalk. Dr. Aung wanted to ensure the Physical Plant and Services employees are the ones being attributed for the planning and construction of this crosswalk.

- c. **Election Results- WLHSDM Senator Representative on the Nominating Committee: Robert A. Danforth, D.D.S.** - Dr. McCallum congratulated Dr. Danforth for being elected to the Faculty Senate Nominating Committee representing the Hunt School of Dental Medicine. Dr. Danforth will serve a three (3) year term on this committee. Dr. Danforth was also elected as the Nominating Committee Chair by the committee members. The Committee Chair term will be for a one (1) year period through July 2024.
- d. **Faculty Senate Nominating Committee Update-** Dr. Danforth presented two (2) standing committee membership nominees from the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing. Standing Committee terms are two (2)-year commitments. Luisa A. Bowcutt, M.S.N., APRN, CNM, is a nominee for the University Affairs Committee. She will fill the seat left vacant by Dr. Lizette Villanueva from the Hunt School of Nursing. Deanna M. Vilardell, M.S.N., R.N. is a nominee for the Faculty Resources Committee. She will fill the seat left vacant by Ms. Azucena Ortega-Madani, from the Hunt School of Nursing.

Dr. McCallum asked for motion to approve the GGHSON standing committee nominees presented by the Dr. Danforth by asking all committee members to say aye. The Motion carried, unanimously approved by the Faculty Senate. Ms. Bowcutt will serve on the University Affairs Committee, and Ms. Vilardell will serve on the Faculty Resources Committee.

Dr. Danforth provided a brief update on open Faculty Senate and its Standing Committee vacancies:

- 1. **Faculty Senate FY24 President-Elect:** Only one Nomination has been received
- 2. **University Affairs Committee – One (1) Vacancy**  
PLFSOM Faculty Representative
- 3. **Faculty Resources Committee- One (1) Vacancy**  
PLFSOM Transmountain Faculty Representative
- 4. **Research Resources Committee- Two (1) Vacancies**  
PLFSOM Faculty Representative
- 5. **Diversity and Inclusion Committee – One (1) Vacancy**  
FGSBS Representative

- e. **Standing Committee Annual Reports Deadline-** Dr. McCallum requested that each Faculty Senate Standing Committee Chair provide the Faculty Senate with an annual report containing their committee's activities and recommendations. These standing committee reports will be used to



formulate the Faculty Senate annual report that will be presented by Dr. McCallum during this year's All Faculty Meeting on August 16, 2023. Standing Committee reports are due by e-mail to the Faculty Senate El Paso e-mail account: [facultysenateelp@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:facultysenateelp@ttuhsc.edu) by Thursday, August 10, 2023. Committee Chairs may contact the Office of Faculty Affairs for assistance.

- When Dr. McCallum inquired why the All Faculty Meeting is scheduled so soon and not in September, Cindy Camarillo, Senior Director, Faculty Affairs commented that initially the All Faculty meeting was scheduled for August 30, 2023, but it had to be rescheduled due to President Lange's availability.
- A Faculty Senator requested a sample report from the previous year as a guide for this year's reports. The Office of Faculty Affairs will reach out to the committee chairs and provide a standing committee annual report sample.

- f. **Texas Senate Bill 17 (DEI) Update-** KoKo Aung, M.D., M.P.H., Vice President for Faculty Success presented an update on the recently signed Texas Senate Bill 17. Dr. Aung stated he believes the Faculty Senate Standing Committee on Diversity and Inclusion can continue to conduct its business, and will not be in violation of this new law, which will come to effect on January 1, 2023. However, the Texas Tech University (TTU) Office of General Counsel is reviewing gray areas and they will make a recommendation on whether such committees and groups can continue to function as they currently are or with modifications. The Faculty Senate Committee on Diversity and Inclusion should be able collaborate with the institution's Council for Diversity and Inclusion to come up with some frequently asked questions for the upcoming year and beyond.
- g. **Values Based Culture Project for Faculty-** Marcos E. Ortega, Ph.D., Faculty Resources Committee Chair, WLHSDM reported on his committee's Values Based Culture Project for Faculty. Dr. Ortega met with Zuber D. Mulla, Ph.D., Interim Associate Dean for Faculty Development and discussed how some institutional programs are not utilized by faculty, such as the institution's Faculty Mentorship Program. He believes a values based culture needs to be reinforced in order to assist in the recruitment and retention of faculty. Content may need to be generated, such as videos or modules, to deliver this information to the new and existing faculty to build up the Values Based Culture.

## Discussion

- Dr. McCallum asked Dr. Ortega for an update on his Faculty Resources Committee. Dr. Ortega will contact his committee members and encourage them to participate.
- Dr. Aung mentioned he has spoken with Dr. Mulla and looks forward to the outcome of Dr. Ortega's Faculty Resources Committee and Dr. Mulla's Office of Faculty Development collaboration.
- Dr. Aung announced that as of this morning, July 28, 2023, TTUHSC El Paso was awarded a \$6 million CPRIT grant, adding that some Senators present, who conduct cancer research, were involved in acquiring this grant. Dr. Wendy Walker confirmed that Huanyu Dou, M.D., FGSBS and she are participating on this grant to support a research facility core relating to histology and flow cytometry. The purpose of the grant is to train cancer researchers and promote cancer research. Dr. Dou added this funding has the potential to assist other types of research, and not only cancer research. This grant also has the potential to promote TTUHSC El Paso's reputation at the



state and national level, which can lead to better funding prospects in the future.

- A faculty member asked if the plan is to centralize the flow cytometry Core Lab in the Medical Science Building (MSB) 2. Dr. Walker stated there are currently no plans to move machinery, but just support for users who wish to utilize those machines. Dr. Dou added that there is a possibility that additional technicians will be hired to assist faculty in developing better research proposals and analyzing and processing data.

#### VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

**Richard W. McCallum, M.D., PLFSOM, Faculty Senate President**

- Last Faculty Senate Meeting of Fiscal Year 2023-** August 25, 2023, 12:00 P.M. at the MEB 3200 A Conference Room
  - The Faculty Senate will vote to elect the FY24 Faculty Senate President-Elect during this meeting. The President-Elect is a service commitment of 3 years, with one year of service as president-elect, one year as president, and one year as the immediate past president. The nominating committee is still accepting nominations for the FY24 President-Elect.
- TTUHSC El Paso All Faculty Meeting-** August 16, 2023 12:00 P.M.
  - Dr. McCallum stated he will generate a presentation for the All Faculty Meeting from the standing committee reports that each committee will submit by August 10, 2023.
- Faculty Senate Retreat Postponed**
  - A new date is to be determined.

#### VII. ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION


**Richard W. McCallum, M.D., PLFSOM, Faculty Senate President**

Dr. McCallum asked for a few minutes to reflect on his Faculty Senate Presidency. This year, the Faculty Senate was unfortunately impaired by faculty turnover, many which affected the standing committee's membership. The Faculty Senate President is only as good as the working committees. The President needs to be more actively engaged with the standing committee chairs and have more input. The standing committee chairs should attend the monthly Faculty Senate Executive Committee meetings in addition to the monthly Faculty Senate meetings. This will help them to better understand and grasp the strategic plan goals of the Faculty Senate as the year moves quickly.

#### VIII. ADJOURNMENT

**Richard W. McCallum, M.D., PLFSOM, Faculty Senate President**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:05 P.M.

  
Richard McCallum (Aug 31, 2023 13:56 MDT)

**Richard W. McCallum, M.D.**  
Faculty Senate President 2022-2023

**08/31/2023**

**Date**