

## Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

**Date:** February 6, 2026 **Time:** 1:00 PM **Location:** The Oak Room

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### 1. Attendance

#### 1.1. Members Present

- Chris Hudson, President
- Asanga Ranasinghe, Vice-President
- Piper Johansen, Parliamentarian
- Pam Ortega, Secretary
- Derreck Jett
- Tanner Hargrove
- Treiva Daniels
- Delane McUne
- Annette Watts
- Letha Black
- Michael Hart
- Rashmi Pillai

Guests: Tina Babb, Frank Sobey

#### 1.2. Members Absent

- Stephen Malley
  - Letha Black
  - Brent Gandy
  - Sara Welshimer
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### 2. Approval of Minutes

Piper Johansen moved to approve the minutes from the December meeting. The motion was seconded by Michael Hart. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

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### 3. New Business

- Addition of Historian officer position-President will nominate every year for up to 6 years. The officer will receive one hour release time (if approved by board). Delane makes a motion to add the position. Seconded by Derreck Jett. Unanimously approved.
- Tina Babb-Secure knowledge for the college. Compliance and SACS accreditation.
  - Proposal to create a database with all questions and answers from faculty senate.
  - Administrative assistance in maintaining and updating the faculty senate google drive.

- Relationship between administration and faculty senate- protect information and allow/limit access
- Historian position would serve as a liaison for Tina Babb in relation to securing information
- Frank Sobey-Updates
  - Committee assignments/how to fill positions-updated list in preparation for next year
  - HB 37-reduce gen ed core-meeting in Austin next week-he hopes it does not affect us too much. He should have more clarity after meeting and will send his newsletter to update everyone. THECB will meet to create the proposal to send to legislature this summer
  - AI Survey-deadline is today. Use data to create a workshop this spring to figure out what is needed from the college and where to go with it. Strategic plan based off this information.
  - Feedback on evaluation instrument for VPAA-asking for faculty senate feedback before sending out revised instrument later this spring. Build an action plan over summer to present to faculty in the fall.
  - Feedback on syllabus statement-Purpose is to alleviate anxiety and fear (spurred on by incident at A&M where instructor was fired) and assure faculty of administrative support-ATTACH DRAFT-will take it to cabinet and come back to senate with any comments from them
  - Possibility of adding additional science lab space
  - Question submitted to Senate:
    - 5 million dollars taken from the benefit plan and added into budget-will defer to Dr. Connor
    - Faculty hire-health insurance-delay in benefits-needs to be sent to HR-offer date is not start date-not a new policy
    - Waitlist being removed in registration-issues with students who want to be waitlisted for courses that fill rapidly-shut off during Covid and have not returned
      - AA leadership has collaboration with student affairs-Frank will discuss with Bob Austin and Ernesto Almos

Committees-discussion of college committees and descriptions-how to roll out new election in April-May meeting will bring in new officers

Presidential nominees-1 year terms

Community elected members-2 year terms

Elected members cannot be reelected for two years after previous term

Send out communities to ask for volunteers first then hold an election

Remove faculty senate from the overall college faculty committee survey

Elections committee will meet and decide best way to hold elections

TCCTA conference-Chris is attending in February.

Mead award-will send out nominations in April-still trying to figure out how to prevent instructors from offering extra credit to get nominations

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**5. Open Forum:**

**6. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM. The motion to adjourn was made by Delane and seconded by Rashmi .

Next meeting is March 6.

**Respectfully submitted,** Pam Ortega, Secretary Faculty Senate