

Faculty Senate of the University of Texas at El Paso

Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting of December 3, 2019

ITEM 1. Call to order. Faculty Senate (FS) President Sandor Dorgo called the Faculty Senate to order on December 3, 2019 at 3:03 PM in the Blumberg Auditorium of the UTEP Library.

ITEM 2. Determination of Quorum was made by President Dorgo, who called for a motion to seat the alternate members. That motion was made by Gina Núñez-Mchiri (Liberal Arts) and seconded by Fatima Alshbool (Pharmacy). The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 3. Consent Agenda: President Dorgo reminded the Senate that the minutes were uploaded on FS website. President Dorgo called for a motion to approve the November 12, 2019 FS Meeting minutes. The motion to approve the minutes was made by Emily Christenberry (Pharmacy) and seconded by Levi Martin (Liberal Arts). The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 4. Acceptance or Modification of Agenda: President Dorgo requested a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting as distributed electronically to the Senate membership. The motion to approve this agenda was made by John Bretting (Liberal Arts) and seconded by Philip Hill (liberal Arts). The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 5. Announcements: President Dorgo.

- A. President Dorgo informed the FS that the Faculty Forum has been scheduled for January 24, 2020, and will last for two hours (1:00 – 3:00 pm). It will take place in the El Paso Natural Gas Center, and will follow the liberating structure format to facilitate smaller group discussions to bring the meaningful thoughts and ideas and allow everyone to engage. FS members should encourage and promote the event and ask their faculty colleagues to attend. It was also stated that there will be questions to drive the discussion.
- B. UTEP Strategic Communication Matrix for media outreach, social media, advertising and other strategic projects. President Dorgo reminded members of the FS of the “Matrix” that the president's office sent to UTEP community and is now being re-shared with FS. Senators are asked to share with colleagues such that we all use it in communication with outside entities as appropriate.

ITEM 6. Reports of Standing or Special Committees

- A. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee – Carla Ellis, Chair. Dr. Ellis stated that the committee approved 14 different curricular change proposals on November 25, which she presented to the FS (as detailed in their reports on the FS website). A motion was made to approve these proposals and passed unanimously.

ITEM 7. Presentations

- A. UTEP Housing Options for Researchers and Visiting Faculty- Elisa Espinosa-Ortega, Assistant Director for Operations. Ms. Espinosa-Ortega indicated that since UTEP attained R1 designation, the number of requests their office have been receiving for

temporary housing for guest/visiting researchers has increased. The length of the requests varies from few weeks to a whole year. Miner Heights is the one available right now and information regarding Guest Housing is available in the flyer that was distributed. It was stated that Laundry is free and that there are 1- or 2-bedroom apartments. They are convenient because of close proximity to campus. The reservation needs to come from the faculty member who is inviting the visiting scholar. Space is limited and this is different from degree-seeking students, who are not eligible. A question was asked about how in advance requests should be made, and it was stated that two weeks is preferable, but they can accommodate if possible.

- B. Updates on IRB process- Athena Fester, Director of Research Oversight and Compliance. Ms. Christina Ramirez provided a summary of the changes in a PowerPoint presentation (please review for further information), which is available on FS website for review and these changes cover the following areas:

Studies **after** January 21, 2019 are subject to the **revised Common Rule**.
Changes to **Exemption** Categories.
Changes to **Continuing Review**. Some of the approved protocols will now require biennial reviews instead of annual.
Changes to **Informed Consent**.
Changes to **Collaborative Projects**. Any federally funded multi-site study will be subject to single IRB approval (one IRB of record).

Need to ensure confidentiality when utilizing Institutional Data and Social Media. There is a photo release form that is different from informed consent and need to make sure to inform participants if their photo is to be posted online.

There was also a reminder that each district requires UTEP approval, and we need to ensure that their approval is also sought as needed.

ITEM 8. Old or Unfinished Business

None.

ITEM 9. New Business

None.

ITEM 10. Adjournment: There being no further business before the Senate, President entertained a motion to adjourn. So moved by Gina Núñez-Mchiri (Liberal Arts), and seconded by Carla Ellis (Nursing), and unanimously approved by the Senators. The meeting was adjourned at 3:38 PM.

Note: The next meeting will be February 11, 2020.