



**Faculty Senate Meeting  
Minutes  
Wednesday, September 14, 2022  
12:00 p.m.**

Faculty Senate President Vallabh Das called the September 14, 2022 Faculty Senate meeting to order at 12:07 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT: (120)**

ARCH: J. Feng, D. Froehlich, P. Peters  
ARTS: R. Bush, J. Derges, J. Evans, R. Koontz, C. Meals, D. Robinson, T. Van Kekerix  
BUS: S. Basu, C. Becker, B. Carlin, N. Celly, A. Lish, M. Murray, J. Porra  
EDU: C. Arbona, S. Brower, B. Davis, S. Gronseth, K. Hassett, M. Lee, A. Peters  
ENGR: D. Burleson, C. Chang, J. Conrad, K. Grigoriadis, D. Litvinov, D. Liu, H. Love, Y. Mo, J. Rao, H. Rifai, M. Robertson, D. Shattuck  
HON: D. Gish  
HRM: Y. Koh, J. Madera, S. Sujata, C. Taylor  
HSPA: D. Engster  
LAW: K. Brem, J. Nelson, E. Trujillo  
CLASS: K. Anderson, J. Babcock, W. Breslin, F. Bunta, A. Christensen, M. Goldberg, E. Goodin-Mayeda, S. Grigorian, P. Gutierrez, K. Haubrick, A. Hernandez, J. Kleinheider, M. Knoblauch, S. Scarrow, E. Simas, A. Viana, Z. Xiao, L. Camaj, P. Cirino, M. Cottingham, M. Cuesta, M. Ivey, C. Sisk, C. Tamber-Rosenau  
LIB: K. Creelman, T. Davis-Van Atta, V. Douglass, S. Thompson, M. Warren, A. Wu  
COM: G. Gomez, K. Pilkinton  
NSM: K. Bassler, T. Bawa-Khalfe, B. Bodmann, J. Brgoch, R. Capuano, A. Czader, T. Gill, R. Lee, J. May, A. Medrano, R. Meisel, E. Papadakis, J. Subhlok, M. Almus, J. Briggs, B. Dauwalder, S. Gilbertson, D. Pattison, A. Vershynina, B. Xhabli, J. Yang  
CON: L. McWilliams  
OPT: D. Coates, V. Das, S. Modi, J. O'Brien, J. Porter  
PHA: D. Chow, G. Cuny, A. Marawaha, D. Thornton, M. Trivedi, G. Udugamasooriya  
RES CTRS: S. Chung  
RES FAC: O. Bannova  
TECH: M. Burns, A. Conklin, B. Detillier, M. El Nahas, J. Evans, A. Lendasse, F. Merchant

**MEMBERS ABSENT: (19)**

ARCH: M. Kyropoulou  
ARTS: S. Matijcio  
BUS: P. Kumar  
EDU: V. Rangel  
HON: D. Price  
HRM: T. Legendre  
LAW: D. Fagundes

CLASS: E. Alemán, S. Deyle, H. Glass, D. Papell, L. Zhu  
NSM: A. Caglar  
CON: C. Brohard, P. Schrader  
OPT: R. Manny  
GCSW: S. Ali, S. Narendorf  
TECH: X. Yuan

**VACANT SEATS: (6)** BUS – 3 seats (2 At-Large, 1 UC); CLASS – 1 UC seat, GCSW – 1 At-large seat & 1 GPSC seat;

**VISITORS:** Raymond Bartlett (SVC/SVP, Administration & Finance), Katherine Carter (Univ. Libraries), Wynne Chin (DISC/BUS), Mark Clarke (Associate Provost, Faculty Development and Faculty Affairs), Mike Emery (Univ. Communications), Sabrina Hassumani (Associate Provost, Administration & Finance), Lisa Holdeman (VP, Marketing & Communication), Cathy Horn (Interim Dean, College of Education), David Johnson (Asst. VP, UIT-TSS), (Michael Johnson, (Chief of Staff, UH President's Office), Renu Khator (President, UH), Sarah Larsen (Vice Provost & Dean, Graduate School), Stuart Long (Interim Dean, HON), Teri Longacre (Sr. Vice Provost, Undergrad Student Success), Robert McPherson (Interim Sr. VP, Academic Affairs & Provost),

**Approval of Minutes: May 11, 2022 Meeting**

Minutes of the May 11, 2022 meeting were approved as distributed.

**Farewell Address by the 2021-2022 Faculty Senate President: [Vallabh Das](#)**

Outgoing FS Pres. Vallabh Das gave his farewell speech which highlighted his heart felt gratitude in working with the senators and administration to help address and solve faculty concerns at the University of Houston.

**Passing of the University Commencement Mace by outgoing Faculty Senate President: [Vallabh Das](#)**

Incoming FS Pres. David Shattuck gladly accepted the passing of the mace from Dr. Vallabh Das.

**Presentation of Gavel Plaque by incoming Faculty Senate President: [David Shattuck](#)**

FS Pres. David Shattuck presented the traditional gavel plaque recognizing Dr. Vallabh Das' service as the 2021-2022 Faculty Senate president.

Inscription:

“One of the most sincere forms of respect is actually listening to what another has to say.”  
Dr. Das leads in a way that exemplifies this truth.

**Inaugural Address by the 2022-2023 Faculty Senate President: [David Shattuck](#)**

As I was considering what to say today, my thoughts turned immediately to what I said when I was running for this office. What I said then, was that if elected, I would attempt to support and facilitate shared governance, in our communications with the administration. I said that I would attempt to strike a balance between allowing everyone to express their opinions, and running efficient meetings. Those remain my goals. To make this particular meeting efficient, I am going to be brief here.

I also spoke of my respect for Jeronimo Cortina, and the way he acted as President. Since then, I have had the opportunity to watch Vallabh Das as President as well. As I said then, I am daunted by their excellent achievements as President. As I reflect on what they did, the thing that stands out in my mind was their

continuous respect for others; listening effectively and taking into account how others view issues. So, I have added these approaches to my goals, for how I want to serve as President of the Faculty Senate.

I should add that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee has decided that these meetings will be hybrid, all year, or at least until we change our minds. However, we want to strongly encourage in-person attendance for those who can do so. For the future, swag, grub, or other incentives will be considered. For today, I will say that if you stay to the end of the meeting, I have a limited number of tickets to an upcoming athletic event to distribute.

I would be happy to take questions, but I am going to defer that opportunity to the end of the meeting.

I also quoted Sara Bareilles in my campaign speech, so I will end with another quote here.

“I just wanna see you; I wanna see you be brave.”

Be brave and do well. Thank you.

### **Report from and Discussion with the University of Houston System Chancellor and University of Houston President: [Renu Khator](#)**

Pres. Khator acknowledged and commended Dr. Das for his assistance in opening the campus during the Covid transition, being helpful, steadfast and for developing strategic plans regarding the Provost Search Committee, and transition of open enrollment management. She presented Vallabh Das with a gift to express her appreciation for his outstanding leadership.

Pres. Khator reported on the following items:

- Dr. Khator visited classes the first few weeks and reported that students were excited to return to campus.
- She visited Austin to testify twice in front of the house of appropriations committee on the issue of affordability on funding research.
- Dr. Khator attended the Texas Tech & University of Houston football game in Lubbock Texas, and complimented their hospitality.
- Facilities:
  - The grand opening of the UH Medical School Building took place, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. On October 26 the official opening for the UH Medical School Building.
  - The Hilton Tower will be opening in January 2023. Eric's fine dining opened September 26th.
  - UH colleges are in the programming stage and are in discussion with the innovation HUB, Hobby School Building and the TMC Building. Funding for these projects will be funded by legislator for operations and academic construction.
- The fall address is scheduled on October 12 Wednesday at Moores Opera house beginning at 10:00 am.

### **Report from the University of Houston System Interim Senior Vice Chancellor and University of Houston Interim Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost: [Robert McPherson](#)**

Provost McPherson reported on the following items:

- Continuous discussions of the merger for technology and engineering with deans, assistant deans and chairs. There will be in town hall meetings for faculty and staff for the College of Technology on UH campus and Sugarland within the next two weeks they will also visit with the faculty and staff. As of now, no decisions on the title anticipating by the beginning of the spring semester but will still continue to operate as if a merger has occurred. There are partial plans to move programs, which

will occur over time but not yet finalize will continue to operate as usual.

- In July 2022 Enrollment Services was moved from Student Affairs to Academic Affairs. This gives an opportunity to take ownership or recruiting, emissions processing, and managing students and student retention.
- Continuing to work on the post tenure review process. Having a formalized process will show the State legislature (in light of anti-tenure) that UH faculty is taking ownership of our evaluation of our faculty colleagues.
- Dean search for the honors college is in progress and the dean search for college of education will be initiated soon. Dean Jim Granato was asked to remain Dean for the Hobby School of Public Affairs for an additional year, while other dean searches are in progress for stability reasons.

**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:

- Staff equity salary phase 2 has been completed. The salary changes for phase 2 will be reflected in the November 2022 payroll checks (November 1 for monthly and November 4 for biweekly). The budget was approved in August 2022 to increase minimum wage from \$11.00 to \$13.00 and the goal for the upcoming budget FY 23 is to increase to \$15 an hour.
- Facility Management System project is in progress. The goal is to create a transparent system the faculty and staff can see progress and track the progress of work orders and projects.
- The Curative Kiosk has extended its contract until December 2022
- The right-hand turn lane project at the Welcome Center Garage has been programed. The change will begin over the winter break.
- Simplifying UH travel processes are in progress. The goal is to streamline the processes while maintaining compliance and making it efficient. The Faculty Senate Committee Faculty Affairs and Budget Facilities Committee are working together to make the process of UH travel run smoothly and efficiently.

**The Future of Telephony & Plans of Migration to Teams: Presentation by [David Johnson](#), Assistant Vice President for UIT Technology Services & Support**

AVP David Johnson presented Telephony @ UH (transitioning telephones to Teams) Integrated telephone Services to teams.

- UHIT will migrate computers to Teams remotely overnight. No date has been determined, although some smaller departments have transitioned already.
- Q & A: How will students be notified? UHIT will contact undergraduate, graduate students and SGA via email regarding townhalls meetings.
- Q & A: Will phone numbers changed? Phone numbers will remain the same.
- Q & A: Will there be a cost? The UHIT cost has been flat for the past several years. The cost will not fluctuate unless the department need certain devices.
- Q & A: How can you tell a business call from a personal call? The ringers are different. There will be a different ring.
- Q & A: Will there be training? Training will be made available and provided by UHIT before transitioning.

**Special Election Results by 2022-2023 FGC Chair: [Vallabh Das](#)**

The Faculty Senate August Special Elections concluded on August 23, 2022 and the FGC certified the results on August 31, 2022.

**Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture & Design**

- Jeff Feng, UC Seat

**Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts**

- Joseph Evans, MUS, At-Large Seat
- Todd Van Kekerix, MUS, At-Large Seat
  
- Julie Derges, MUS, RSC Seat
  
- Daryl Robinson, MUS, UC Seat

**Cullen College of Engineering**

- Dong Liu, MECH ENGR, GPSC Seat
  
- Hanadi Rifai, CIVE, RSC Seat

**College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences**

- Julia Babcock, PSYC, UC Seat
  
- Michelle Ivey, COMD, At-Large Seat
- Paul Cirino, PSYC, At-Large Seat
- Michael Cottingham, HHP, At-Large Seat (1-year term)

\*\*A CLASS run-off election for a UC seat (2-year term) will be held this month. The candidates are:

- David Womble, ENGL
- Zhiwen Xiao, COMM
- Natalia Zhivan, ECON

**CLASS – Department of English**

- Ann Christensen, At-Large Seat

**CLASS – Department of Hispanic Studies**

- Pedro Gutierrez, At-Large Seat (2-year term)

**College of Natural Sciences & Mathematics**

- Arkadiusz Czader, CHEM, UC Seat

**University Libraries**

- Mea Warren, GPSC Seat
  
- Santi Thompson, RSC Seat

FGC Chair Vallabh Das congratulated the newly-elected & re-elected senators and commented that the Senate looks forward to their hard work this year.

**Provost Search Committee Update by Co-Chair: [Cathy Horn](#)**

Chair Cathy Horn gave a brief recap of the committee's summer work. She said the search committee continues their efforts this fall to find the next Senior Vice Chancellor/Senior Vice President & Provost. The Committee is making sure that the applicant pool reflects the depth of experience that is essential to the success of the system. Dr. Horn encouraged senators to submit nominations and thanked everyone for their patience.

**New Business**

No new business was brought forward.

**Announcement**

FS Pres. David Shattuck announced that he was offering free tickets to the UH women's soccer game scheduled for tomorrow evening.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:28 p.m.