



**Fall Faculty Assembly & Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes
Wednesday, March 23, 2022
Elizabeth D. Rockwell Pavilion, M. D. Anderson Library & via Microsoft Teams
12:00 p.m.**

Faculty Senate President Vallabh Das called the March 23, 2022 the Faculty Senate meeting to order at 12:04 p.m. He welcomed everyone to the meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT: (97)

ARCH: G. Chow, M. Kyropoulou, P. Peters
ARTS: N. Harren, R. Koontz, S. Matijcio, C. Meals, T. Morgulis, T. Van Kekerix on behalf of T. Koozin
BUS: B. Carlin, N. Celly, P. Kumar, A. Lish, M. Murray, J. Porra, F. Sahin
EDU: C. Arbona, J. Freiberg, S. Gronseth, K. Hassett, M. Lee
ENGR: D. Burleson, C. Chang, J. Conrad, K. Grigoriadis, H. Love, S. Pei, D. Shattuck, G. Song, Y. Yao
HON: D. Gish, D. Price
HRM: Y. Koh, S. Sirsat
LAW: K. Brem, E. Trujillo
CLASS: F. Bunta, P. Butler, L. Camaj, J. Cortina, H. Glass, M. Goldberg, S. Grigorian, M. Ivey, J. Kleinheider, M. Knoblauch, D. Papell, S. Scarrow, C. Sisk, C. Spitzmueller, B. Tamber-Rosenau, C. Tamber-Rosenau, J. Tolliver, Z. Xiao, L. Zhu
LIB: K. Creelman, T. Davis-Van Atta, V. Douglas, S. Thompson
COM: G. Gomez, K. Jones, K. Rowland
NSM: M. Almus, B. Bodmann, J. Briggs, R. Capuano, A. Czader, R. Forrest, S. Gilbertson, R. Lee, J. May, A. Medrano, R. Meisel, M. Nicol, M. Papadakis, D. Pattison, C. Wayne, B. Xhabli
CON: L. McWilliams, Pattie Schrader
OPT: D. Coates, V. Das, R. Manny, S. Modi, J. Porter
PHA: D. Chow, D. Thornton, M. Trivedi, G. Udugamasooriya
RES CTRS: S. Chung
GCSW: S. Ali, S. Narendorf
TECH: M. Burns, A. Conklin, B. Detillier, M. El Nahas, M. Kidd, F. Merchant

MEMBERS ABSENT: (48)

ARCH: D. Froehlich, Z. Qureshi
ARTS: R. Bush, T. Koozin, D. Politzer, K. Rigdon
BUS: S. Basu, C. Becker, S. Werner
EDU: S. Brower, W. Fan, A. Peters
ENGR: K. Larin, D. Litvinov, Y. Mo, M. Robertson
HRM: T. Legendre, J. Madera, C. Taylor
LAW: D. Fagundes, J. Nelson
CLASS: E. Alemán, K. Anderson, A. Bencomo, R. Boul, S. Deyle, E. Goodin-Mayeda, L. Maher, E. Simas, C. Spitzmueller, A. Vujanovic

LIB: A. Wu
NSM: J. Brgoch, A. Caglar, B. Dauwalder, S. Huang, Z. Ren, A. Vershynina,
CON: C. Brohard
OPT: L. Frishman, J. O'Brien
PHA: G. Cuny, R. Ghose
RES FAC: O. Bannova
HSPA: D. Engster
TECH: A. Lendasse, X. Yuan

VACANT SEATS: (4) BUS – 1 seat (At-Large); CLASS – 1 seat (At-Large), GCSW – 2 seats (At-large) & 1 GPSC seat

VISITORS: Raymond Bartlett (SVC/SVP, Administration & Finance), Adrienne Baskin (ASL Interpreter), Mark Clarke (Associate Provost, Faculty Development and Faculty Affairs), Mike Emery (Sr. Director, Univ. Communications), Sabrina Hassumani (Assoc. Provost, Finance & Administration), Lisa Holdeman (VC/VP, Univ. Marketing & Communication), Cathy Horn (Chair, ELPS/COE), Michael Johnson (Chief of Staff, Presidents' Office), R. Krishnamoorti (Chief Energy Officer), Sarah Larsen (Vice Provost & Dean, Graduate School), Teri Longacre (Vice Provost/Dean, Undergraduate Affairs), David Oliver (AVP, Facilities, Planning, & Construction), Kristen Wistrand (ASL Interpreter)

Approval of Minutes: February 16, 2022 Meeting

The Senate approved the February 16, 2022 minutes as distributed. FS Pres. Vallabh Das mentioned the highlights of the agenda: Provost Search Listening Tour and presentation by David Oliver (FP&C).

Report from and Discussion with the Faculty Senate President: [Vallabh Das](#)

FS President Vallabh Das reported on the following items:

- FS Conference will be held next week (March 31 - April1). One hundred seventy eight individuals registered. FS Pres. Vallabh Das thanked the door prize sponsors.
- Faculty Senate Resolution on Academic Freedom
- Texas Council of Faculty Senates (TCFS) Meeting, April 8-9, 2022, Austin, TX. Drs. Vallabh Das and David Shattuck will attend the meeting in person.
- Student Accommodations Task Force: Faculty are having issues with regards to student accommodations and how the handling of the issues affects educational goals of the class. The Executive Committee discussed the concerns and recommended to form a group to gather information from faculty. Dr. Kristen Hassett will chair this group. Members from the UC and GPSC will be part of the group.
- FS Senate Excellence in Service Award: Lifetime Service Award
 - Deadline to submit applications is April 5th.

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

Pres. Renu Khator reported on the following items:

- Accreditation Campus Visits: Campus teams have complimented UH on the many programs that have passed accreditation with flying colors. Pres. Khator highlighted a few of the programs that had successful accreditation visits:
 - SACS accreditation visit of the UH – Dalian Maritime University program in China
 - College of Technology – Digital Media Program
 - LCME visit (Every two years)
 - THECB visit – BBA program
 - Secretary of Veterans Affairs visit

- Pres. Khator thanked the faculty for their work in helping make these programs be successful.
- Provost Search: Thanked Co Chairs Cathy Horn and Ramanan Krishnamoorti and all the committee members.
- Alternative Workplace Policy: Received very positive feedback.
- Data Reporting: Pres. Khator charged a high level data committee to ensure those responsible for reporting data to agencies are held accountable and present UH in a positive light. Dr. Joseph Curtin (Institutional Research) is heading this committee.
- Energy Transition Institute (\$10M from Shell): Lead the effort of the future of energy (\$52M initiative).
- Enrollment was flat. However, enrollment from last year wasn't reported to the state. Spring, summer, and fall 2022 enrollment numbers will be reported to the state this year. Master's applications enrollment is up by fifty percent compared to last year.
- College of Medicine is in its third year of operation and have admitted sixty students.
- Capital Projects:
 - New College of Medicine building and UH Law Center building are on track to be completed this summer
 - Construction Portfolio: looking at what projects makes sense for UH's future
- Athletics:
 - Men's Basketball made it to Sweet 16. Game will be held tonight in San Antonio.
 - Men's Indoor Track Team won the seventh consecutive American Athletics conference championship
 - Women's Swim and Dive Team won the sixth consecutive title

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](#)

VP Raymond Bartlett reported on the following items:

- Alternative Work Arrangements Policy:
 - Interim policy goes into effect April 1, 2022. The policy has been vetted to the campus community for feedback and a website developed for this new initiative (i.e., FAQs, training, workflow process, etc.).
 - Training has been opened to staff and managers.
 - 775 staff enrolled and 170 completed the training
 - 312 managers enrolled and 71 completed the training
 - March 30th – individuals can begin
 - Implementation: Two Phase Process
- Staff Compensation:
 - Phase one has been completed.
 - Phase two: RFP to hire an external compensation consultant (expect to onboard in May 2022).
- UH Domestic Travel has returned to pre-pandemic travel procedures (March 7, 2022).

Q&A Session:

FS Pres. Vallabh Das asked about the staff compensation phase one. SVP Raymond Bartlett replied that 1275 positions were reviewed. A little over 700 of the positions required a raise in pay. Three hundred and thirty five out of the seven hundred required an increase in pay. Dr. Das asked about the next steps. SVP Bartlett responded that HR will contact the division managers to review which staff member's position was reviewed and make the adjustment.

Sen. Samira Ali asked what is the turnaround time for the approval process for the alternative workplace arrangement. Is the process internal within the department? SVP Bartlett replied that the turnaround occurs fairly quickly, depending on the availability of the required approval manager. The process can occur outside the college depending on the workplace arrangement.

Presentation by the University of Houston System Senior Associate Vice Chancellor and University of Houston Associate Vice President for Facilities/Construction Management: [David Oliver](#)

Presentation: UH Capital Projects: CMP, CCAP, Core & Life Sciences Renovations & Facilities Customer Revolution

- Centennial Master Plan Project:
 - University Drive
 - Cullen Boulevard
 - Gateway Entrance Monuments
 - Park/Greenspace Landscape Improvements
 - Centennial Plaza
 - Campus Lighting and Security Upgrades
- Capital Construction Assistance Project
 - UHS Medical Research Facility
 - Sugar Land Academic Building 2
 - Innovation Hub
 - Hobby School of Public Affairs Building
 - Estimated Project Schedule
- Core and Life Sciences Renovations
 - Core Projects Purpose and Plan
 - Scope of Work for All Core Buildings
 - Core Project Buildings
 - Task Force Approach
 - Core Master Construction Schedule
 - Core Projects Current Progress
 - Life Sciences Buildings
 - Life Sciences Current Progress
- Revolutionizing Customer Service
 - FIXIT Frontline: @ the door in 24
 - 4 Ways to FIXIT: via UH Access, text to fixit@uh.edu, email fixit@uh.edu, call 713-743-4948
 - FIXIT Frontline
 - Service Request/Work Order Customer Cycle
 - Call Center Operations

Q&A Session:

Sen. Scott Gilbertson asked about the SERC elevator repair status. AVP David Oliver replied that there isn't an exact timeline. The parts for the SERC elevators are difficult to obtain due to supply chain issues (20 week wait).

Sen. Jaana Porra asked if indoor air quality is taken into consideration in the construction projects. Mr. Oliver responded that the goal is to elevate HVAC systems in the new buildings to MERV 13 level.

Sen. Diana Chow asked AVP Oliver to elaborate on the TMC Morsund building and what its associated plan with TMC3. Mr. Oliver replied that there should be very little crossover with the old pharmacy building and the TMC3 building. Old Pharmacy building is for academic use and TMC3 is for research.

Sen. Benjamin Tamber-Rosenau asked how/when the list of Priority I/II/III renovations will be revisited. He further stated that the Heyne building in which he works in needs many repairs and he didn't see the Heyne building on that list. David Oliver responded that the list of Priority I-III renovations pertain to the core renovations. However, every three years his department reviews the campus buildings to evaluate their structure, etc. and generate a deferred maintenance listing (published and ranked in order of highest need of maintenance).

Sen. Bret Detillier asked about the status of the repairs to the existing Technology building at the Sugar Land campus (roof leaks). Mr. Oliver replied that he wasn't aware of any roof leaks in that building, will have his team look into this.

New Business

Sen. Bernhard Bodmann brought forth for Senate consideration whether UH should join Scholars at Risk in the effort to help displaced students and faculty from Ukraine and Russia.

<https://www.scholarsatrisk.org>

Member organizations include Stanford, Yale, MIT, Harvard, Princeton, Brown, and in Texas Baylor and UT Austin.

FS Pres. Vallabh Das suggested that this information would be forwarded to the Executive Committee for discussion.

Adjournment

The Senate meeting adjourned at 1:17 p.m. and the Provost Search Listening Tour led by Co Chairs [Cathy Horn](#) and [Ramanan Krishnamoorti](#) followed.