

**WTAMU Faculty Senate Minutes**  
**September 8, 2023**

**Attended:** Senators Fisseha Alemayehu, Bill Ambrose, Christopher Baird, Priscella Correa, David Craig, Kenneth Denton, Nancy Garcia, Callie Hisek, Roy Issa, Kenneth Leitch, Kelly McCauley, Eric Meljac, Ashley Pinkham, Blake Price, Matt Reardon, Laura Reyher, Jim Rogers, Bob Smith, Brian Spencer, Troy Tarpley, Brigitte Whaley

**Absent:** Brandon Bang, Eric Hoffmann, Sean Humpherys, Guglielmo Manfredi, Leslie Ramos Salazar

**Proxies:** None

**Guests:** None

The regular meeting of the WTAMU Faculty Senate was called to order at 12:22pm by President David Craig in the JBK Eternal Flame Room on the Canyon campus.

Minutes of the regular meeting from April 28, 2023 and August 25, 2023 were previously provided and reviewed. David Craig moved to approve both sets of previous minutes. The motion was seconded and passed by acclamation.

**Officers' Reports and Remarks:**

President David Craig opened with comments and discussion of room scheduling for regular meetings, outside (publishers, accrediting bodies, etc.) responses to the textbook mandate from Dr. Wendler, feedback from administration and faculty on the mandate, and attendance in state faculty senate meetings. The new, 9/8, email from Dr. Wendler on the textbook issue was also acknowledged, which included discussion of future college meetings on the issue.

Recommendations were made to review the faculty handbook, SACS-COC, and other university documentation on curriculum, faculty positions, letters of appointment, TX SB18, etc. David Craig then mentioned inviting Dr. Wendler to visit with the Faculty Senate and mentioned appropriate dates.

Vice-President Kenneth Leitch remarked on his knowledge of current efforts to determine the cost of textbooks, including discussion of previously published material by faculty.

Secretary Kenneth Denton remarked on attendance and proxies.

**Committee Reports:**

*Faculty Handbook Committee*

There was no new report from the committee, and discussion was held on reviewing material regarding textbooks. The Chair will be selected today in a committee meeting.

*Joint Faculty/Student Committee on Academic Affairs*

There was no new report from the committee, and discussion was held on communicating with students. The Chair will be selected today in a committee meeting.

**Unfinished Business:***Textbook Mandate*

Bob Smith moved to recess until 1:15 to discuss further response from the Faculty Senate. The motion was seconded, and the Senate entered recess. Recess ended at 1:15 and the Faculty Senate reconvened in JBK 35 due to conflicting reservations.

**New Business:***Textbooks*

Troy Tarpley moved that Faculty Senate provide a presentation to the Student Government about the textbook mandate, and the motion was seconded. Ashley Pinkham moved to amend to the motion to reach out to the Student Senate and designate a timeline, and the amendment was seconded. The motion passed by acclamation.

Brigette Whaley moved that Faculty Senate ask Dr. Wendler to meet with the Faculty Senate after the majority of college meetings are conducted at the regular meeting on October 20<sup>th</sup>. The motion was seconded. Discussion was held on whether all other faculty should be specifically invited. Kenneth Denton moved to amend to invite all faculty and to plan to ask questions during the meeting, which was seconded. Fisseha Alemayehu moved to amend to broadcast and record the meeting with Dr. Wendler, which was seconded. The motion passed by acclamation.

*Piper Professor Nominations*

David Craig informed the senate that the previous Piper Professor nominations were not able to be submitted by the deadline in 2022. The previous nominees may be reconsidered this year. The application material and process were discussed. Eric Meljac moved for the Faculty Senate to review the material for the three previous nominations and select those to move forward at the next regular meeting. The motion was seconded and passed by acclamation.

*Faculty Development Leave*

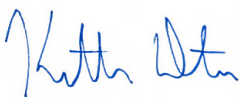
David Craig relayed information on the deadline and submission cycle for faculty development leave. Specific applications were discussed.

*Administrator Evaluations*

Discussion was held on the lack of evaluations from 2022-2023, the deadline, and the cycle. Faculty Senate may be responsible for creating and disseminating the evaluations but does not have access to official email groups. Kelly McCauley moved that Faculty Senate begin the process for the evaluation of administrators in the fall semester, if not otherwise designated in the faculty handbook. Motion was seconded and passed by acclamation.

Matt Reardon moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded at 2:22pm.

Respectfully,



Kenneth Denton