

**WTAMU Faculty Advisory Council Meeting Minutes**  
**December 19, 2025**

**Attended:** Dr. Benton Allen, Dr. Brandon Bang, Dr. Ray Barbosa, Dr. Ryan Brooks, Mr. Landon Brown, Dr. Li Chen, Dr. Betty Coneway, Dr. Alea Friemel, Dr. Nicholas Gerlich, Dr. Bridget Guerrero, Dr. Audrey Meador, Dr. Brandli Stitzel, Dr. Yong Yang, Dr. Walter Wendler

**Absent:** Dr. Emilie Baker

The WTAMU Faculty Advisory Council (FAC) meeting started at 12:15 p.m. in OM 317.

**1. Dr. Wendler remarks**

**2. Opening remarks (Dr. Bang)**

- Suggested that FAC members send college faculty email summaries of FAC meetings to solicit feedback.
- Created a FAC membership roster.
- Meeting minutes will be posted online, once approved by FAC during the following FAC meetings.
- Dr. Bang is in the Texas A&M Chancellor Advisory Council and the Texas Council of Faculty Senates.
- Comprehensive peer evaluations (CPE) of tenured faculty. FAC will talk about this at the next meeting.

**3. College reports**

- ANS: Study abroad trips; Regents Professor; Student research
- COB: Buff Business Summits; Mind Spark; an online magazine featuring professors' blog posts; study abroad next May
- ESS: 20 Ed.D. graduates; Buff Teacher Residency; enhanced teacher residency certificate
  - Dr. Wendler added: received a \$2 million grant from the Dept. of Education to support the teaching of civics. Will collaborate with other universities across Texas.
- COE: enrollment increased by 5%; a Ph.D. program in computational science and engineering is under review; additional state funding on engineering research; a new faculty member next semester
- FAH: Subscription Series (Can You COMM, two more events next semester); art events by FAH faculty and students; Communication graduate students will host a panel at an academic conference next semester; Emily Dickinson's sculpture in the library

- NHS: Faculty achievements (Dr. Price as SES department head, Dr. Brown joined a national committee on adapted PE, Dr. Fredman had a new publication); collaborative research within the college; Nursing is developing a DNP program and an Emergency NP program

#### **4. New business**

- Dr. Bang:
  - FAC will keep the Magister Optimus award. FAC will recommend candidates.
  - FAC will continue coordinating the university committees concerned with shared governance. FAC will recommend committee members. The list of committees is shared with FAC members.
  - Ombuds officer: The current Ombuds officer's term ends this year. The FAC will need to recommend an Ombuds officer for a two-year term next semester. Interested faculty members might need to go through an application process—more details to be discussed later.
  - FAC will create an anonymous Google Doc named “Faculty Insight Portal” to solicit feedback.
  - Dr. Bang will ask the Registrar's Office about final grades due time: is it possible to extend it from 9 am to a later time on Monday?
  - FAC group photo; name plates

#### **5. Merit subcommittee report**

- Dr. Brooks: The subcommittee has sent out a questionnaire to department heads and direct supervisors to gather their opinions. The survey deadline is January.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting ended at around 1:18 pm.

Link to the recording of the meeting:

[https://www.youtube.com/live/7WmbIOuctAI?si=l9dB\\_iH1zOgpQODR](https://www.youtube.com/live/7WmbIOuctAI?si=l9dB_iH1zOgpQODR)

Respectfully,

Li Chen, Secretary

12/22/2025

Minutes officially approved by the Faculty Advisory Council on January 30, 2026.