

WTAMU Faculty Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
January 30, 2026

Attended: Dr. Benton Allen, Dr. Emilie Baker, 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

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

1. Dr. Wendler remarks

- Suggested one agenda item for the next FAC meeting: Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum (PPHM). Would like to know what the faculty thinks about the future of PPHM. FAC members adopted Dr. Wendler's suggestion.

2. Opening remarks (Dr. Bang)

- FAC members approved the minutes from the last meeting.
- Texas A&M system AI review of course syllabus/content: WT has not received the A&M System review yet.
- The Faculty Insight Portal is open. Encourage colleagues to provide any comments, suggestions, or bring up issues for FAC to discuss. Link to the Portal: <https://forms.gle/orjasNpcRov7S5P76>
- Ombuds: FAC will work with Academic Affairs to create a more formal application process. Dr. Bang asked the FAC to think of faculty members who would make a good Ombuds Officer and to reach out to them. The Ombuds person must be tenured. It's a two-year term, with a stipend.
- Web content accessibility guidelines: Canvas course content should be in compliance with the guidelines by April 24. Dr. Bang said he would reach out to the Office of Academic Affairs to see if resources can be made available to help faculty with the transition.

3. Merit subcommittee report and discussion (Dr. Brooks)

- The subcommittee has collected survey responses from administrators, mainly department heads. A few takeaways:
 - There are concerns about clarity and consistency during evaluation processes.
 - Salary compression
 - Cost of living increase
 - Dr. Wendler provided additional information about System policies on this.
- Dr. Coneway suggested raising the "salary floor" to meet industry standards.
- The next step: the subcommittee will further anonymize the feedback received from the Department Heads and distribute the information to the FAC members.

- FAC members will meet with their respective deans within the next few weeks to discuss the feedback received from the Department Heads and to seek the deans' feedback on the process.

4. New business

- Dr. Bang:
 - Faculty parking: According to Jerry Faltinek, there are 175 faculty parking spots on campus. Seventy-five faculty spots were added in 2018. No faculty parking spot has been lost since 2015. Additional general parking and possibly faculty parking may be added in the future when the Old Sub is demolished.
- FAC selected Comprehensive Peer Evaluation (CPE) committees following the procedures on p.66 of the *Faculty Handbook*.
- The College of Nursing and Health Sciences has no faculty undergoing CPE, so no committee was selected.
 - The Committees are as follows:
 - **College of Engineering**
 - 1. Alemayehu, Fisseha (COE)
 - 2. Subburah, Anitha (COE)
 - 3. Partheepan, Joshua (COE)
 - 4. McCauley, Kelly (COB)
 - 5. Bartley, Mark (FAH)
 - **Paul Engler College of Agriculture and Natural Sciences**
 - 1. Matlack, Raymond (ANS)
 - 2. Craig, David (ANS)
 - 3. Tao, Shiquan (ANS)
 - 4. Osei-Hwere, Enyonam (FAH)
 - 5. Melton, Marc (FAH)
 - **Paul and Virginia Engler College of Business**
 - 1. Terry, Anne (COB)
 - 2. Dursan-Kilic, Turkan (COB)
 - 3. Li, Hongcai (Andrew) (COB)
 - 4. Lewis, Jeremy (FAH)
 - 5. Chen, Li (FAH)
 - **Sybil B. Harrington College of Fine Arts and Humanities**
 - 1. Clark, Elizabeth M. (FAH)
 - 2. Clark, Paul H. (FAH)
 - 3. Takacs, Bill (FAH)
 - 4. Bartlett, Michelle (NHS)
 - 5. Flynn, Nick (ANS)

▪ **Terry B. Rogers College of Education and Social Sciences**

- 1. Kunz, Jenifer (COESS; 1998)
- 2. Campbell, Ashley (COESS; 2012)
- 3. DeButte, Maxine (COESS; 2015)
- 4. Humpherys, Sean (COB)
- 5. Teweleit, Russell (FAH)

Adjournment

The meeting ended at around 1:25 pm. FAC took a group photo in OM right after the meeting.

Link to the recording of the meeting:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IU5d3W0A67M>

Respectfully,
Li Chen, Secretary
2/3/2026