



# Faculty Senate Bulletin

**April 2021**

*The power to question is the basis of all human progress. - Indira Gandhi*



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## Spring 2021 Faculty Senate Survey Results



The Faculty Senate is pleased to provide you with access to results from a recent survey we sent faculty at Texas State to collect input about course delivery and student attendance. We used these data to advocate with the Provost and President for faculty choice in determining course modality and have shared the data with the administration as well.

We appreciate the trust you place in the Senate when you share your opinion with us and we will continue to advocate on your behalf based on data when we can do so.

Find the survey report on the [senate's website](#) (login required).

## Faculty Senate Elections

Elections for the 63rd Faculty Senate (2021-2022) have been completed, and faculty have been elected to senate seats in the following colleges:

- College of Applied Arts: **Michael Supancic**, Criminal Justice and Criminology

- College of Fine Arts and Communication: **Lynn Ledbetter**, Music
- College of Liberal Arts: **Peter Dedek**, History and **Jennifer Jensen**, Geography
- College of Science and Engineering: **Rachel Davenport**, Biology

We would like to thank **Vince Luizzi**, who has completed his term of service for the College of Liberal Arts. He has served in this seat since May 2016. We also appreciate all candidates who agreed to appear on the ballot for their willingness to serve.

## Academic Freedom Corner



The Academic Freedom Committee unanimously adopted a draft of a PPS on Academic Freedom for the Faculty Senate's consideration. Especially noteworthy is how it connects with the PPS on Faculty Grievances, which now specifies that violations of academic freedom are grievable. The draft begins,

"This document addresses what academic freedom is, how Texas State affirms it in its policies and procedures, and how violations are grievable matters subject to the procedures of the Faculty Grievance Policy. It provides further guidance for a deeper understanding of academic freedom and its significance."

Faculty Senate will discuss the proposed PPS at its meeting on April 7.

The Academic Freedom Committee invites faculty to submit any concerns to : [Contact the Academic Freedom Committee.](#)

## Faculty Senate Fellow

The position of Faculty Senate Fellow offers a professional development opportunity for faculty members by providing shared governance and leadership experience at Texas State. Working on a special project with the Faculty Senate and attending meetings with the President and others, the Faculty Senate Fellow will become familiar with the routine and special concerns of the Senate and gain insight into the shared governance process at Texas State University.

In FY 2021-2022, the Fellow's research project should broadly support the Faculty Senate's efforts to advocate for justice and transformation. The Senate is interested in ways to promote formal and informal interdepartmental faculty, staff, and student interaction and collaboration (e.g., creating resources related to teaching online/hybrid to engage students and enhance faculty satisfaction and effectiveness, a feasibility study for the creation of a campus wellness center for faculty, staff, and students, etc.).

Applications are due Friday, April 16. For application procedures, visit the [Faculty Senate Fellow](#) page.

## Vaccination Events



The Vaccination Work Group continues its charge of scheduling vaccination events on campus. Senator Blasingame serves on this group. According to Dr. Emilio Carranco of the Student Health Center, vaccination clinics will run twice a week, on Tuesdays and Fridays, through May 7th. The SHC will send registration emails to all faculty, staff and students before each vaccination clinic. After May 7th, there will be weekly clinics on Fridays.

The SHC will schedule a second dose COVID-19 vaccination when appointments are made for the first dose. Dr. Carranco wants faculty to know the SHC can only use vaccine allocated for first doses for persons getting their first vaccination and second dose vaccine for persons due a second dose. The SHC is entirely dependent on the state or county to provide the vaccine. When that is not done timely, they may have to reschedule second dose appointments. The CDC permits the second dose to be administered up to six weeks after the first dose, if necessary. Dr. Carranco said he has no concerns that this will diminish the effectiveness of the vaccine.

For more information on the vaccination clinics, visit the [Student Health Center website](#).

## University Lecturers Series



**Wednesday, April 7, 5 - 7pm**

The School of Family and Consumer Sciences and the College of Applied Arts present *The Covid Pandemic and Opportunities for Health Equity* with [Dr. Eduardo Sanchez](#). Dr. Sanchez currently serves as Chief Medical Officer (CMO) for Prevention at the American Heart Association (AHA), where he leads COVID-19-related activities. Previously, Dr. Sanchez served as VP and CMO for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas, Director of the Institute for Health Policy at UT School of Public Health, and Commissioner of the Texas Department of State Health Services.

[Registration](#) is required. For more information, contact Chelsey Laviolette, [cph33@txstate.edu](mailto:cph33@txstate.edu)



Lecture: **ADVANCING THE PERFORMING ARTS IN MEXICO**  
THROUGH INCLUSIVE INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATION

by Rocío Luna, Nataliza Reza, Adriana Rovira, and Claudia Fragoso under the umbrella of Academic Body of Performing Arts (CAAE) from the Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolás de Hidalgo, Mexico.



Friday, April 16th  
at 11 a.m. via Zoom

<https://txstate.zoom.us/j/95473861443>

Funded in part by the University Lecturer Series at TXST.



Texas State University is a tobacco-free campus. If you need accommodations, due to a disability, please contact 210.245.6513 or email [tstaterepresent@txstate.edu](mailto:tstaterepresent@txstate.edu) at least 72 hours in advance.

THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE PRESENTS:



**WELLNESS WEEK: April 16-23**

Featuring Aaron Fisher and *INSIDE THE RAIN*

**Outdoor Lawn Screening of *INSIDE THE RAIN***

**Friday, April 23rd at 8:30pm**

With an introduction and talkback with the filmmaker,

**Aaron Fisher!**



**Schedule of Events**

**7:30 - 8:00pm**

Hip Hop Dance on the lawn with Rich Aladin  
\*All ages and levels welcome!

**8:15pm**

Wellness Week Student Short Film Celebration

**8:30pm**

Introduction to the film by writer-director-actor Aaron Fisher

Texas State University Counseling Center:  
971.244.2276 [counseling@txstate.edu](mailto:counseling@txstate.edu)

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:  
1-800-273-TALK (8272)

For Veterans's Crisis Line - Press 1

Red Cross: Red Cross of the Americas:  
Cruz Roja Internacional al número 1-800-825-8233, en español en inglés el Centro de ayuda de nuestra Red disponible más cercano.

Texas Project Lifeline: LEBRON+ Support:  
1-800-485-7300

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Call of Texas: 1-800-369-5111

Make Matters:  
[www.makematters.com/txstate](http://www.makematters.com/txstate)

AARON FISHER'S VISIT MADE POSSIBLE BY A GENEROUS GRANT FROM THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY LECTURERS COMMITTEE

REFRESHMENT SPONSORED BY RAMBLER WATER

## Green Cat Challenge Awards



The Faculty Senate's Environment and Sustainability Committee announces the Green Cat Challenge Awards to recognize university community members, departments, and organizations for exceptional commitment to sustainable practices and environmental stewardship at Texas State University. We hope to encourage communication and adoption of sustainable practices across the university.

Awards will go to an individual student or student organization, and an individual staff/faculty member or office. On April 20, 2021 recipients will be presented with an earth-friendly certificate and a gift to honor their commitment to environmental and sustainable practices at the university.

To apply, complete the [Green Cat Challenge Application Form](#) online. Applications are due Friday, April 9.

For more information about the application process, please email [faculty senate@txstate.edu](mailto:faculty senate@txstate.edu) or Rebecca Bell-Metereau, [rb12@txstate.edu](mailto:rb12@txstate.edu), or by text at 512.665.2157.

## Institutional Inclusive Excellence – Student Initiatives Presents

**Wednesday, April 14, 9:00 – 10:30 am**

Institutional Inclusive Excellence – Student Initiatives will host the TXST Social Justice Speaker featuring Michelle Alexander. Michelle Alexander is a civil rights advocate and lawyer, legal scholar, and author of

[\*The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness\*](#). Faculty Senate is one of the sponsors of this event.

[TXST Social Justice Speaker](#) features national speakers (leaders, scholars, advocates, and educators) as leading voices in diversity, equity, inclusion, and social justice. Speakers help raise awareness about the experiences of historically marginalized and underrepresented communities due to structural, system, and institutional forms of discrimination and inequities. Speakers will share their recommendations for promising practices to achieve diversity, equity, inclusion, and healing.

Virtual via Zoom

[Register Here](#)

**For more information:**

Contact Institutional Inclusive Excellence at 512-245-2278 or [excellence@txstate.edu](mailto:excellence@txstate.edu).

**Accommodations:**

For student accommodations, contact the Office of Disability Services at 512-245-3451 or [ods@txstate.edu](mailto:ods@txstate.edu) 72 hours prior to the event.

For faculty and staff accommodations, contact the ADA Coordinator at 512-408-1201 or [ADACoordinator@txstate.edu](mailto:ADACoordinator@txstate.edu) 72 hours prior to the event.



## TRIO-McNair Program





The [TRIO-McNair Program](#) is a mentoring program for promising disadvantaged undergraduate students to prepare them for acceptance and success in doctoral programs. TRIO program personnel are soliciting faculty input with the grant writing process to brainstorm what McNair scholar support would look like at Texas State. Faculty interested in the McNair program are encouraged to attend brainstorming meetings to provide input about resources and support that would help and/or encourage their participation as McNair mentors.

This month, meetings will be on April 7 and 21. For more information and a link to the Zoom meetings, contact Dana Fitzpatrick, [daf88@txstate.edu](mailto:daf88@txstate.edu).

## 62nd Faculty Senate, 2020 - 2021



Applied Arts: [Michael Supancic](#), Criminal Justice

Business Administration: [Andrew Ojede](#), Finance and Economics

Education: College of Education: [Taylor Acee](#), Curriculum and Instruction; [Stacey Bender](#), Health and Human Performance

Fine Arts & Communication: [Dale Blasingame](#), Journalism and Mass Communication; [Lynn Ledbetter](#) (*Vice Chair*), Music; [Nicole Wesley](#), Theatre and Dance

Health Professions: [Janet Bezner](#) (*Chair*), Physical Therapy

Liberal Arts: [Rebecca Bell-Metereau](#), English; [Jennifer Jensen](#) (*Secretary*), Geography; [Vince Luizzi](#), Philosophy; [Roque Mendez](#), Psychology

Science and Engineering: [Rachel Davenport](#), Biology; [Ben Martin](#), Chemistry and Biochemistry; [Stan McClellan](#), Engineering

## Contact Us!

Do you have a question, concern or issue you want the Faculty Senate to address? Want to make a suggestion? [Contact the senate via our website.](#)

More information about these and other topics can be found in the Faculty Senate minutes posted on the [Faculty Senate website](#), or by contacting your Faculty Senator (email links above) or [Senate Liaison](#).

The Faculty Senate encourages you to voice your concerns and comments on any faculty and shared governance topics to these representatives or directly to the senate.