



Faculty Senate Bulletin

Summer 2021

Until we get equality in education, we won't have an equal society. – Sonia Sotomayor



This month:

- **Summer Meeting Dates**
- **2020-2021 Faculty Senate Accomplishments**
- **Faculty Perceptions of Academic Administrators**
- **Fall Application Due Dates**
- **Faculty Senate Fellow**
- **Green Cat Challenge Awards**
- **DEIA Task Force Recommendations**

Summer Meeting Dates

The senate will meet twice this summer:

Wednesday, June 16, 3:00 - 5:00 pm, JCK 880 and via Zoom

Wednesday, July 21, 3:00 - 5:00 pm, JCK 880 and via Zoom

Fall meetings will begin August 25.

Congratulations to the Class of 2021











2020-2021 Faculty Senate Accomplishments

Theme: Advocating for Justice and Transformation

- Reviewed and endorsed awards related to the following peer review processes: Research Enhancement Grants, Nontenure Line Faculty Workload Release, University Lecturers Series, Part-Time Faculty Teaching Awards, and the Piper Professor and Everette Swinney Teaching Awards.
- Reviewed 65 Academic Affairs and University Policy and Procedure statements.
- Contributed to efforts to enhance environmental sustainability on campus by supporting Dr. Tina Cade's 2020-2021 Senate Fellow project to create an environmental sustainability "road map," including a list of steps the university and its members can take to improve sustainability.
- Cosponsored the Academic Freedom Committee and Philosophy Dialogue Series.
- Endorsed required diversity training for faculty hiring, faculty enrichment, and department participation.
- Distributed two surveys to faculty to ensure our collective concerns and voices were heard regarding personal health, safety, and course modality options during the pandemic.
- Continued to work on drafts of the NLF Teaching Faculty Appointments and Personnel Committee policies and finalized the Academic Freedom policy.
- Advocated for an additional year's tolling of the tenure clock.
- Advocated for early semester updates from the Registrar to notify faculty of students who add/drop courses prior to census day.
- Participated in Restorative Justice sessions.
- Prepared and submitted recommendations to improve faculty morale to university administration.

2021 Faculty Perceptions of Academic Administrators



The Faculty Senate has completed the annual Faculty Perceptions of Academic Administrators Survey and the [summary document](#) is available on the senate website. The senate appreciates the assistance of the Office of Institutional Research in this effort. The data sets can be accessed using the links in the summary document. As per an agreement with the Provost, the written comments will be made available for 90 days. Rather than this period comprising the summer months, the comments will be posted via the link noted in the summary document between September 1 and November 30.

Fall Application Due Dates



[Piper Professor Nominee](#): applications are due September 17. The Faculty Requests system for Piper applications will open July 30.

[Faculty Development Leave](#): by September 15, notify your department chair or school director if you intend to apply. Applications are due October 1 via the Faculty Requests application system, which will open August 20.

[Nontenure Line Faculty Workload Release](#): by September 15, notify your department chair or school director if you intend to apply. Applications are due October 8 via the Faculty Requests application system, which will open August 20.

Research Enhancement Program (REP): applications are due early in October. For specific deadline and to apply, visit the [Texas State Internal Proposal Online Submission](#) page.

Faculty Senate Fellow

The senate has chosen Dr. Sarah Angulo, Senior Lecturer, Department of Psychology as the 2021-22 Faculty Senate Fellow.

Sarah's fellowship project will focus on campus-wide facilitation of mentorship and career development opportunities for non-tenure line faculty (NLF), a group that tends to be disproportionately composed of underrepresented minorities and women. This project has three parts. First, a pilot program of NLF mentoring and career development will begin in the Psychology Department in fall 2021. Second, key stakeholders across our university will be surveyed to assess their mentoring and career development needs. Third, equipped with these survey results, as well as knowledge gleaned from the fall pilot program and benchmarking data, Sarah will provide workshops in spring 2022. These workshops will be available to the university community in San Marcos and Round Rock. The goal will be to share knowledge gained and best practices for NLF mentoring and career development.



Green Cat Challenge Awards



The Faculty Senate's Environment and Sustainability Committee announced 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.

Student: Haley Tacker

Student organization: Gamma Theta Upsilon

Faculty member: Maedeh Dabbaghianamiri

Staff organization: Purchasing and Strategic Sourcing

On April 22, 2021 recipients were presented with an earth-friendly certificate and a gift to honor their commitment to environmental and sustainable practices at the university.

DEIA Task Force Recommendations

The faculty senate endorsed the recommendations of the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility Training Task Force. These recommendations are currently being considered by the President's Cabinet.

63rd Faculty Senate, 2021 - 2022

At the May 5 meeting, officers for the 63rd Faculty Senate were elected:

Janet Bezner, Chair

Lynn Ledbetter, Vice Chair

Dale Blasingame and Ben Martin, Co-Secretaries

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](#) (*Co-Secretary*), 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; [Peter Dedek](#), History; [Jennifer Jensen](#), Geography; [Roque Mendez](#), Psychology

Science and Engineering: [Rachel Davenport](#), Biology; [Ben Martin](#) (*Co-Secretary*), 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.