

2021-2022 Edition

FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT

Hello,

My name is Sylvia Flores, PhD, Sociology Associate Professor and Faculty Senate President. I was born in Pharr, Texas and grew up in La Joya. I started my academic career at South Texas College, attended UTRGV and TAMIU, and finished at Northcentral University. I have a husband who works as a cashier, Luis Flores, two kids Katarina and Troy, two German Short Hair Pointers Lula and Rukio, and Alexa from the shelter. She's the most vicious one. I have volunteered my time at Taylor Christian School as a Board Secretary for three years and Board Vice-President for another three years. After this, with the help of many Sociology Faculty from STC and Lone Star College, I was Chair of the first Alpha Delta, Sociology Honors Society for 2-Year Colleges for two years and Secretary for another two years. When I graduated from South Texas College, my sister had to drag me away from Dr. Bischoff, my advisor back then. I didn't want to leave. Rightfully so; I have never found another STC. So I came back, ready to give back to our students, faculty, staff, administration, and community members.

GOALS

As Faculty Senate President, I am hoping to personally grow by learning from the faculty senators I will be serving. I see a group of 27 senators, once vacancies are filled I see potentially 32 senators, that have many years of experience and expertise from many different divisions. The possibilities are endless with this group. As you can tell, my leadership style is Servant Leadership. There are pros and cons to this leadership style. However, I have Executive Committee members that have already provided assistance when I needed it the most.

I see a need to increase communication and shared governance between administration and Faculty senators and communication between faculty senators and constituents (*Article III, Section 1*). I feel with my experience with various boards, my dissertation, and my skills organizing several conferences and symposiums, I can close the communication gap and essentially increase productivity, efficiency, and morale by the end of my term.

Additionally, with the help of my Executive Committee, we would like to be more inclusive. We plan to open up our elections in April to all Faculty at large (*Article V, Section 3, paragraph 6, sentence 1*) (*Article V, Section 3, paragraph 7*). Please remember, our Faculty Senate meetings welcome all Faculty at large (*Article II, Section 2*).

Please feel free to reach out to me, an Executive Committee member, or any senator with concerns, questions, or suggestions you may have at facultysenate@southtexascollege.edu.

For your convenience, the Faculty Senate Contact List can be found using this link: <https://tinyurl.com/uhsmmzjy>

The Faculty Senate Feedback Link can be accessed using this link: <https://tinyurl.com/z5m5psdf>

Phone: 956-872-5615
Fax: 956-872-2523
E-mail: slflores@southtexascollege.edu

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Faculty Senate President	1
Meet the Executive Committee	2-3
FS Constitution	3
FS Parliamentary Procedure...	3
Asynchronous vs. Synchronous Online Course Debate.	4-5
Online Trainings	6
Q & A Sessions	6
Pandemic Outcomes	6
Anahid Petrosian.....	7
Online Etiquette.....	8
Communication Shifts	8
Tips for Senators.....	9
Tips for Constituents.....	9
Committee Work.....	10
To Do List.....	10



TIM WEBER, FACULTY SENATE VICE-PRESIDENT

I am Tim Weber, your Faculty Senate Vice President and Instructor in the Department of Psychological Science. I teach primarily General Psychology and Lifespan Human Development. I came to STC 16 years ago.

I have a varied educational background, with a Bachelor's degree from Concordia University in Music and Education, with minors in biology and theology. I also did Master's coursework at Texas Tech before coming to the Valley and completing a Master's degree in Clinical Psychology at UT-Pan Am (before it became UTRGV).

I have served as a faculty senator for most of my years at STC and also served one term as Senate Secretary. I have chaired or

served on Senate Committees involved with Student Attendance Policy, Salary and Benefits, Recording in the Classroom, and Full-Time Online Instructor. I am eager to serve you now in my new role.

As Vice President, I am tasked primarily with presiding if the President is unable. I look forward to contributing to the Executive Committee and taking on any additional roles delegated by the President. One of my primary goals is to help foster open lines of communication between Faculty Senate (and thus faculty) and our administrators. As information and viewpoints are freely shared, the college, faculty, and our students can only benefit.

Meet the 2021-2022 Executive Team

AARON WILSON, PH.D., FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT-ELECT

Hello! I am honored to join the Executive Committee this year, and to assume presidency of the Senate in two years, and to try to make a positive difference in the lives of faculty and students here at STC. I have been teaching courses in Philosophy, Ethics, and Logic in the Department of History and Philosophy, in the Liberal Arts Division, since the Fall of 2013, while I was still working on my PhD in Philosophy from the University of Miami, in Miami, FL. I grew up in much colder climate, in the city of Manchester, New Hampshire, and I went to college in Boston before moving to Miami. Since I earned my Ph.D. in 2014, I've continued to be an active scholar on the work of the late 19th / early 20th century philosopher and scientist, Charles S. Peirce. But I have been active with student service as well, having worked on creating a Philosophy Club on the Pecan campus, and having worked as the coordinator for the Philosophy program. During my time on the Executive Committee, I hope to help bring about more shared governance at STC and to work with administration on improving conditions for faculty and students and on growing our college to serve more of our community (including those community members we tend to forget: the incarcerated).

MESSAGE FROM PAST PRESIDENT-DIANE TETER:

A new academic year is about to begin and the past couple of years have been ones fraught with change, uncertainty, and new challenges. I taught biology at STCC/STC for nearly 25 years and the 2 motivators which drew me back year after year were the students and the faculty. The students because making subject matter comprehensible through various methodologies evolved year after year and those challenges flowed into new challenges of instructional delivery through F2F, hybrid, and then fully online. For those faculty who had not yet transitioned to a hybrid or full online teaching, then your pandemic years were fraught with learning how to teach through a new medium. We should all acknowledge what an incredible job the faculty has done by adjusting to a new pandemic style of teaching.

Faculty are essential for a college as we dispense the content to the students, and how we accomplish this is what molds students to become invaluable members of our community. But more importantly, it is faculty working across the disciplines to support student achievement and this is where Faculty Senate (FS) is essential. During my many years of involvement in FS, I've met some insightful idiosyncratic people who surprised me with a meaningful viewpoint or perspective under discussion. These merged colleague perspectives solved problems and achieved progress in numerous endeavors at STC over the years.

So, I applaud you for your flexibility and achievement during the past 2 years, and I urge you to look forward to the upcoming academic year as one full of possibilities of new promising students and fellow faculty who will forge the future for our region. Faculty Senate is essential, and our discussions and initiatives lead to a better STC!



MARK R. MURRAY, PARLIAMENTARIAN

Hello,

My name is Mark R. Murray. I am an Assistant Professor of Political Science and your Faculty Senate Parliamentarian. I have taught at STC since 2005.

My academic career started at a community college. I, first, attended Fullerton College, then transferred to Saddleback College (both in Southern California), where I earned my Associate's degree. I earned my Bachelor's degree at California State University, Fullerton and my Master's degree at San Diego State University. I was a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Kentucky from 1997-2002.

I served as a Faculty Senate senator 2007-2009, 2015-2019 and 2020-2021. I was Pres-

ident-Elect 2009-2011, President 2011-2013 and Past President 2013-2015.

I have chaired the Faculty Senate Nominations and Elections Committee and Constitution Committee for over a decade.

I will do my best to assist the president in the conduct of our meetings, give parliamentary opinion, assist in planning meetings and conventions and draft and interpret our bylaws. (Please see page 10 for links to the constitution and Robert's Rules of Order)

Faculty Senate meetings use parliamentary procedures with a Faculty Senate who abide by responsibilities outlined in the constitution.

FACULTY SENATE CONSTITUTION SUMMARY

The constitution outlines procedures and responsibilities for each Executive Committee Member and Faculty senators. The Constitution will include the Faculty Senate purpose, rules for memberships, Powers and Functions of the Faculty Senate, Faculty Senate Officers and responsibilities, By-Laws, Rules for Amendments, Rules for Ratification of the Constitution, Authentication approval, and a section for Parliamentary Procedures.

FACULTY SENATE PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES SUMMARY

Below, you will find some of the parliamentary procedures followed by the Faculty Senate during meetings. The complete list of parliamentary procedures applied during meetings can be found on Page 7 of the constitution. Please feel free to print it out and have it handy during our next Faculty Senate meeting. Remember, meetings are held every 4th Tuesday of the month. No meetings are held in August, December, January, or May, unless a Special Meeting is Scheduled.

South Texas College Faculty Senate Parliamentary Procedure for Faculty Senate Meetings

To:	You say:	Interrupt Speaker	Second Needed	Debatable	Amendable	Vote Needed
Adjourn	"I move that we adjourn"	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
Recess	"I move that we recess until..."	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
Complain about noise, room temp., etc.	"Point of privilege"	Yes	No	No	No	Chair Decides
Suspend further consideration of something	"I move that we table it"	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
End debate	"I move the previous question"	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
Postpone consideration of something	"I move we postpone this matter until..."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Amend a motion	"I move that this motion be amended by..."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Introduce business (a primary motion)	"I move that..."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority

The above listed motions and points are listed in established order of precedence. When any one of them is pending, you may not introduce another that is listed below, but you may introduce another that is listed above it.



TEACHER 'X' SAYS 'NO' TO SYNCHRONOUS CLASS

Hello,

I have been teaching at South Texas College for 11 years now. Teaching in a controlled environment is easy. However, coming home to two children and 3 dogs weren't an issue before the pandemic. Needless to say, technology and internet speed never worried me. Being on camera, while maintaining professionalism, with two kids fighting for fun until one cries, 3 dogs who love to be let in and out twenty times a day for fun, and maintaining professionalism while you establish some form of order in the household in the middle of a lecture was not an option for me. It's one thing to skype and have a casual conversation with children and dogs playing in the background, on a good day. It's a different story when one is providing a detailed lecture, maintaining professionalism, keeping organized, and managing student participation with children and dogs fighting in the background, on a bad day.

-Sylvia Flores, PhD, Faculty Senate President

ASYNCHRONOUS VS. SYNCHRONOUS CLASSES

Dr. Aaron Wilson and Dr. Rainlilly Elizondo brought forth a Synchronous Committee on behalf of the faculty senate. Their efforts consisted of discussing, researching, and gathering primary data to better understand synchronous and asynchronous efforts. Although Faculty Senate suggested the committee should expand its data, the college initiated efforts to begin synchronous trials. Asynchronous classes were sought out by students who had a busy lifestyle and issues with internet access, technology, environmental

issues, and life in general. Synchronous classes were sought out by students who longed for the traditional environment and needed more than instructional material to stay engaged. Synchronous classes were made available for students and faculty during Spring 2021. These classes were labeled as synchronous and needed to be recorded for students who were not able to attend. Attendance was not mandatory. The following will provide more insights from students and faculty perspectives.

STUDENT PERSPECTIVE- 'NO' TO SYNCHRONOUS

In Spring 2020, when the pandemic forced all classes online, I and several of my colleagues received worried student messages indicating they struggled with a lack of technology and Wi-Fi access. Some students relied on their phones, or did not have a quiet place to study, or were now babysitting younger siblings during the day. Many expressed concern they would not be able to log in during a specific time of day for every class period due to those conditions.

In August 2020, with the experiences of Spring in mind, I asked my students to fill out a survey regarding their technology/wifi access, as well as which class format they preferred, synchronous or asynchronous. 90% preferred asynchronous classes. The results and comments from that survey helped me decide that the best way to serve my students was to keep my course material asynchronous and offer occasional optional live Q&As. Below is a small sampling of student comments in favor of asynchronous classes:

"I prefer asynchronous classes because it works with my work schedule. Sometimes I am not able to get days off when I have class so being able to log in on my own time to do my class work is more beneficial ."-1

"With synchronous classes, although the professor is there and lecturing, a time for class that works for everyone is an issue as well as technological issues." – 2

"In my household, we only have one computer that is shared amongst 5 people who are attending school. My time on the computer is limited, therefore, I am not sure I may be able to attend all lectures . – 3

"I prefer to work at my own pace and set deadlines before the preset ones." – 4

"I would prefer asynchronous online classes because I don't think my internet would be able to load what the teachers are doing. My internet is slow so I think it is better to do asynchronous online class." – 5

"I prefer asynchronous classes because there would be less pressure on students. Many students are going through tough times right now and may not be able to get all their work and the ability to attend a live class. With an asynchronous class, every student is able to go at their own pace without the stress of making it to a live class session." – 6

-Rainlilly Elizondo-Weber, Ph.D., Liberal Arts Faculty Senator



ONE TEACHER'S PERSPECTIVE ON SYNCHRONOUS CLASSES: YES!

It was a pleasure to serve those students at STC who preferred live online instruction as opposed to entirely asynchronous instruction. It helped me retain that personal element of teaching. Simply recording and posting videos made me feel less like a college instructor and more like a mass-media content producer. Teaching always has a personal element for me, and that is missing in fully asynchronous instruction. Live interaction is strongly desired by some teachers and some students. Some teachers teach best live, and some students learn best with live instruction. And while the traditional “f2f” / physical classroom modality is best for live instruction, the synchronous online modality was a fair substitute during the pandemic.

Certainly, the synchronous modality is inconvenient or even impossible for many faculty and students, due to home life and/or technology requirements. I have never been in favor of a requirement that faculty teach in that modality, or a requirement that students take courses in that modality. But as a faculty member who was already comfortable teaching in that modality, and who felt a responsibility to students who learn best with live instruction, I believed it was my duty to step up and teach some “SYNC” (Synchronous) course sections.

I used Blackboard Collaborate as the platform, which has a polling tool. The polls kept students engaged during the virtual discussions and ensured students were paying attention (since I do not, and should not, require students to have their cameras on). I didn’t immediately penalize students for not responding to a poll, and I would notify them that it can harm their participation grade. Of course, students who, for whatever reason, could not make a live meeting had the option of watching the recording of the meeting and completing an asynchronous make-up assignment based on the recording. This way, attendance at live meetings was never really “mandatory”, as it was reasonably feasible for students to complete a synchronous course asynchronously.

Lastly, I suspect many of my peers feel uncomfortable with the recording of their live lectures, which feeds into hesitancy with teaching synchronous online classes. In this world of viral videos and political scrutiny of college teachers, I absolutely understand that. But it remained my duty, our duty, to serve those students who needed a live online substitute for traditional classroom instruction. I always aim to meet the needs of even a small minority of my students, and I was happy to do so by teaching synchronous online courses.

-Aaron Wilson, Ph.D., Faculty Senate President-Elect

STUDENT ‘X’ SAYS ‘YES’ TO SYNCHRONOUS CLASS

In Spring 2021, I taught a synchronous section of “Introduction to Ethics” (PHIL2306) and although it was under-enrolled, with only 9 students, it was clear that these students desired the synchronous format over the asynchronous alternative. The written comments include:

“I enjoy the synchronous format for this class better because some of the topics that were covered in the class were great to hear some of my fellow classmates opinions on the topics at hand.”

“I definitely preferred weekly live sessions as it made it easier to discuss topics out in the open instead of having to message back and forth or something. And we could also get direct feedback from classmates who were also attending. It made understanding the modules easier and it helped when you would discuss scenarios also.”

“I was unsure about the live meetings at first, but after a while it almost felt like being in an actual classroom again, with the professor polling the students and students raising their hands to answer questions. It helped me hold on to that feeling of actually being in college.”

-Aaron Wilson, Ph.D., Faculty Senate President-Elect

THE ITC TRAINING STRUGGLE IS REAL

OTC seemed to be the hardest training for me, even though I had already transitioned to blackboard Ultra. OTC training consists of four blackboard modules. That sounds complicated but in reality the first module has 6 videos from 1-2:25minutes long. Then, you take a quiz that may be taken multiple times. The second module has 3 videos with the same length, then a quiz with multiple attempts. Three videos for the third module, same format. Lastly, the fourth module requires you to create items, which can be fake, in a blackboard ultra shell. Then you schedule an appointment with your Distance Education Technician to discuss any issues with Blackboard Ultra. I discussed the accessibility report, and it was a good conversation. I highly recommend it. After that, you are set for module 4. It took me 1 hour and 15 minutes to finish, not counting prior work on Blackboard Ultra. Keep on keeping on, but don't forget about your health.

ONLINE TRAININGS

Online Teaching Certification (OTC) and Instructional Continuity Certification (ICC) are all we hear about today. On the bright side, what we are doing to transition to blackboard Ultra can be added to the 'Online Certificate Renewal Link' This is the link where you can submit it:

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=va9pCpjUcUeMyoeuyZu7OFEGd8Muue9DujwTgFaI4ppUMUZPSFZQVTEzRkhHR1VOOVM4OFM3QzBZSS4u>

If you create a training and offer it via OPOD to a group, you can submit it for OTC renewal. If you talk to your Distance Education Technician about your online courses you can submit it in the OTC renewal. OTC training is a simple Blackboard four module session with a quiz for each module. The quiz offers endless attempts. Be careful, the last one asks if you have transitioned material to Blackboard Ultra and met with a Distance Education

Technician, heads up! Lastly, Quality Matters training is added to your OTC training as soon as you request it. Look out for those start dates.

As per your request, Faculty Senate has created a 1-hour TIKTOK asynchronous training for your convenience. You may register using this link: <https://apps.esc1.net/ProfessionalDevelopment/STC/Registration/Workshop/188524>

PANDEMIC OUTCOMES

Due to the pandemic our lives were forced to transition almost over night. Classes were taught online. Technology was provided, Hotspots were created, and students were registered by Spring 2021 for Fall 2021 via the Dual Credit Department.

90% of faculty have used the blackboard gradebook section. Faculty were finished with online training by 2020 and made room for re-certification trainings.

No issues with parking were reported this year. Very few citations were received!

Faculty Academic Classification initiated an online transition process. This process is an option and is not mandatory.

Commuting to meetings was eliminated. The college allowed many faculty and staff to work from home for safety purposes.

COVID Updates, links to report Communicable Diseases, Daily Screening Procedures, and Safety Protocols can be found using this link: <https://www.southtexascollege.edu/emergency/coronavirus.html>

BREAKING THE NORMS

The purpose of the Faculty Senate is to support communication between Administration and constituents, maintain quality education for our students, and to maintain professional relationships with the Board of Trustees and our Administration.

Sometimes that requires professionally challenging policies that don't support quality education and respectfully explaining to the Board of Trustees and Administration the Faculty Senate suggestions brought forth from students and faculty.

I encourage all Faculty, including Adjuncts, Lecturers, Full-Timers, or Dual Enrollment Faculty to come forward with all your concerns. We will guide all Faculty dealing with personal/isolated concerns, clarity concerns, or even concerns brought forth from new policies that did not implement shared governance.

We recommend constituents always update their senators representing their Division, as each senator represents one vote in favor or against a motion that may be created to address constituent concerns discussed.

Email:

facul-tysenate@southtexascollege.edu

Welcome and Thank You!

September 1, 2021

Hello South Texas College Faculty, and welcome to the 2021-2022 Academic Year.

We often proclaim that what makes South Texas College special is our faculty, and while we know this to be true, it was extraordinarily evident during the past 18 months. Since March 2020, you have navigated an uncharted academic landscape full of challenges, and I am grateful that you did so with an abundance of knowledge and compassion. Each of you masterfully overcame countless challenges by adjusting and adapting while being steadfast in your determination to help students succeed – thank you!

As faculty members, you continue to be the foundation of our institution. Our students come to South Texas College with hope for a better future, and you help them turn their hopes into reality. Beyond providing instructional programs and promoting academic integrity, you inspire, challenge, and nurture our students every day. Your profession is an honorable one; through education, you have the power to change lives and change our communities.

A Special Edition of Faculty Spotlight for AY 2019-2020 highlights a few examples of how our faculty invested additional time and care to support our students during the numerous challenges they encountered. The Special Edition Faculty Spotlight can be accessed using the following link.

<https://academicaffairs.southtexascollege.edu/spotlight/pdf/Faculty-Spotlight-2020.pdf>

I look forward to working with you this academic year as we strive to make a far-reaching impact by championing student success.

~Dr. Anahid Petrosian, Chief Academic Officer



FACULTY SENATE ONLINE ETIQUETTE INITIATIVE

Due to the ease of communicating online on any concerns brought by Constituents and Faculty Senators, discussions have increased via email and teams. To better facilitate these official and unofficial discussions the following online etiquette will apply for the next 2021-2022 Academic year, and may be adjusted as the Faculty Senate approves.

Proposal: If an issue is raised unofficially in an email or Teams discussion, that eventually warrants an official discussion without emergency deadlines, (1) a new teams thread should be created, to distinguish the unofficial from the official discussion, (2) once the discussion is finalized, a motion and voting will take place at the next scheduled Faculty Senate Meeting.

Proposal: If an issue is raised unofficially in an email or Teams discussion that eventually warrants an official discussion, because of an emergency deadline arising before the next scheduled Faculty Senate meeting, (1) a new teams thread should be created, to start a discussion, (2) once the discussion is finalized, an emergency meeting may be scheduled, at the meeting a motion may be made and may include to continue edits to the motion and voting online.

No more than one official discussion shall be discussed at any time. Should another official discussion derive from the original official discussion, a new official thread can be created AFTER the original official discussion is finalized, and (2) The President has authority and parliamentary procedures will apply in all official discussion threads.



Using Technology to Our Advantage

COMMUNICATION SHIFTS

Being that the new norm is to work from home, popping up at someone's door during their office hours is not a thing anymore. Staying updated on the latest events is harder than it looks.

We must be the eyes and ears of the college to keep our constituents updated on the latest events. When was the last time you spoke to your constituents? What was the last update you sent? Do they know everything you know?

We must be innovative and encourage one another to initiate innovative ways of communication to better serve our constituents.

This is harder than it seems, unless it's as simple as forwarding an email. You may simply save your constituents emails, as Dr. Aaron Wilson has. Either assign a senator to email all constituents, create a schedule for senators in your division, or create a folder accessible online with all the latest updates such as minutes from our meetings, executive reports, and saved emails. senators may also consider emailing the chairs in their respective divisions, and asking chairs to forward the message to the faculty.

We live in a new era. Every conversation is saved and documented; all you need to

do is forward that. Let's enjoy these perks while they last.

Lastly, don't forget to encourage your constituents to talk to you. To voice their concerns with you. For every senator that attends a Faculty Senate meeting, I see 200 faculty that could not attend. Your voice represents many. Please take this responsibility seriously and stay in touch with your constituents.

You can email them before a meeting to collect any concerns or to receive acknowledgements of services well done, you may use the chatroom on Teams, you may offer your number to encourage phone calls. Whatever your division decides, this responsibility is yours and should be taken seriously. Now more than ever, since communication is as simple as logging into a computer, connecting to the internet, and sending a message, there is no reason why we should not stay updated.

Consider this a challenge for all senators. Our divisions are counting on us and departments that provide student services are watching us for guidance.



MESSAGE FROM PAST
PRESIDENT-ERIC
REITTINGER:

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to the beginning of another academic year. I am sure it will prove to be challenging, but hopefully it will turn out to be rewarding as well. I want to convey to you how important the faculty senate is. During my tenure as president, we accomplished much.

We established a more refined credential review committee, supported and worked towards approval of the STC bond, placed the Veteran's statement on the syllabi, dealt with the issue of overloads, electronic submission of Faculty Appointment letters, started a recycling program on Pecan campus (which unfortunately didn't stick), reinstated the sabbatical leave, dealt with faculty salary increases every year, dealt with dual enrollment issues, reduced the number of full time temporary faculty, and more.

We didn't win every battle, but we accomplished much. A lot of people worked very hard to accomplish these, and many more, policy and procedure changes. I have been impressed with the current organization and leadership offered by your current executive committee. They have done much to establish a good working relationship with the VP and have become a strong voice for faculty. You can be very proud of what they have accomplished. They represent you well.

I support your decision to be a member of the Faculty Senate. I have found that the number one reason that individuals volunteer for faculty senate is the opportunity to make a difference. You will have that chance to be an effective voice, in support of STC leadership, or as an agent for change. I encourage you to let the people you represent know what faculty senate is up to. I am often surprised when I find that there are faculty who don't even know there is a faculty senate, or don't know where to go for updates and information regarding faculty senate activities!

Continue the good work that past faculty senate representatives have done, and look to the future of what faculty senate can do. Good luck and have a great semester!

ERIC REITTINGER

TIPS FOR NEW SENATORS

1. It is highly suggested to email department chairs to distribute Faculty Senate updates.
2. Don't communicate with administrators (Directors, Deans, Vice-Presidents, President, Board of Trustees) on behalf of the Faculty Senate without prior approval from the Faculty Senate and Faculty Senate President.
3. Read up on the parliamentary procedures in use by Faculty Senate. Mainly focus on how to make a motion, how to vote, and reach out to Mark R. Murray, Faculty Senate Parliamentarian, with any questions regarding Parliamentary Procedures.
4. Senators should communicate constituent concerns to the Faculty Senate, and communicate administrative discussions with constituents. It's important to stay connected with constituents.
5. Respect requests of constituents who do not want to be mentioned by name when passing on their concerns.
6. Faculty Senate meetings are open to all faculty members, whether they are adjunct or full-time. (Article II, Section 2).
7. Senators must vote on behalf of constituents. The purpose of the Faculty Senate shall be to represent faculty interests (Article I, Section 2).

TIPS FOR CONSTITUENTS

1. Reach out to Senators representing your Division with any and all concerns. You may use their email accounts or the teams group chatroom. For your convenience, the Faculty Senate Contact List can be found using this link: <https://tinyurl.com/uhsmmzjy>
2. You may always reach out to any Executive Committee member. However, the more senators you discuss your concerns with the more votes in your favor.
3. Keep in mind that although the Faculty Senate President only votes when there is a tie, concerns brought forth may be presented at Administrative Meetings, when the topics arise.
4. Faculty Senate meetings are open to all faculty members, whether they are adjunct or full-time. (Article II, Section 2)
5. Issues addressed by Faculty Senate should be cross-departmental or cross-divisional issues.
6. Individual and departmental issues should be addressed with the chair, dean, ombudsperson, or Human Resources.

SEPTEMBER FACULTY SENATE MEETING: SEPTEMBER FACULTY SENATE MEETING: GOAL SETTING

Setting a goal requires a simple discussion with your constituents. Please don't forget to lend constituents your ears before you set your goals. Let's not forget, the bigger the group, the more diversity; the more diversity, the better the ideas.

FS EC Chatroom (Private):
<https://tinyurl.com/ncffhzuf>

FS 21-22 Chatroom: <https://tinyurl.com/2br4jx88>

FS SBS Teams Chatroom: <https://tinyurl.com/jz28pefd>

FS LA Teams Chatroom: <https://tinyurl.com/um8cmx53>

FS NAH Teams Chatroom:
<https://tinyurl.com/4359efxk>

FS MSIT Teams Chatroom:
<https://tinyurl.com/2acxbipi>

FS BPST Teams Chatroom:
<https://tinyurl.com/rhuetdc>

FS BA Program Chatroom:
<https://tinyurl.com/4d4ykxpy>

The Faculty Senate of South Texas College was created in 1999 to promote the cause of education, to provide quality education to students, to improve communication among the members of the faculty, and to maintain professional relations with the Board of Trustees and the Administration.

The Divisions of the College are represented by senators in proportion to the number of full-time faculty in that Division. These senators serve as the voting members of the Faculty Senate and serve as liaisons between their Divisional Faculty and the Faculty Senate. Elections for senators and the Executive Committee take place each Spring Semester for the following academic year.

If you have an issue that you would like to see the Faculty Senate address, please contact your senators, so they can present it at the next Assembly which is held every fourth Tuesday of the month. There is also a Faculty Senate email account, a collective e-mail link to the Senate, to make well thought out and constructive comments to the entire Faculty Senate.

Email:
facultysenate@southtexascollege.edu

CALLING ALL FACULTY: COMMITTEE WORK INITIATIVES

Here we go again. As we move forward this academic year, we need to focus on where we want to go. We can't get there unless we know where we are going.

So this September we need to take an active role to voice our constituents' concerns and create committees and to better serve our students.

I have provided a Discussion Section with a survey that provides live updates for your convenience. I have provided a list of concerns senators have brought up in the past, suggestions from administrators, and suggestions based on observations made from other college initiatives.

Please complete the 'Goal Setting Survey' by clicking on the assigned link:

Poll vote link <https://fast-poll.com/poll/f6442245>

Poll results link <https://fast-poll.com/poll/results/f6442245>

Then go to the Faculty Senate Blackboard Discussion area to participate in a discussion, if needed. We will then focus on the top three goals, or more if time permits, for the next academic year.

TO DO LIST:

Lastly, as a faculty senator you must be aware all forms of communication with administration must go through the Faculty Senate President, a common rule overlooked. Your discussions with administrators (Directors, Deans, VP's, and the President) on behalf of the Faculty Senate should be preapproved by the Faculty Senate and delegated by the Faculty Senate President. Please review the Faculty Senate Website and materials for further limitations and please review our constitution.

Faculty Senate Website:
<https://academicaffairs.southtexascollege.edu/facsenate/>

Faculty Senate Constitution:
https://academicaffairs.southtexascollege.edu/facsenate/pdf/Faculty_Senate_Constitution.pdf

Faculty Senate Contact List:
<https://tinyurl.com/uhsmmzjv>

Faculty Senate Workshops on Teams:
<https://tinyurl.com/2br4jx88>

Rules of Order:
<https://robertsrules.org/rror--oo.htm>

Minutes and Agenda:
<https://academicaffairs.southtexascollege.edu/facsenate/minutes.html>

Resolutions:
<https://academicaffairs.southtexascollege.edu/facsenate/resolutions.html>

Faculty Senate Email: facultysenate@southtexascollege.edu

Sylvia L. Flores, PhD, Faculty Senate President