

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, April 22, 2025

Executive Committee members present: Daniel A. Montez, Jaclyn Miller, Richard Buchli, Mark R. Murray and Nicholas Hinojosa

Senators Present

Liberal Arts: Rachael Brown, Silvia E. Herrera, Annie Liss, Melissa Terry, Micah Bailey, Robert Miller

Nursing and Allied Health: Sharon Rice, Blanca Herrera, Alexia Trigo, Layman D. Miller

Bachelor's Program: Laura Garcia

Business and Public Safety: Ruby Campuzano, Joanna Martinez, Jesus Amaya, Guadalupe Sanchez,

Math, Science, IT: Fidel Rodriguez, Dr. Mehrzad Mahmoudian Geller, Juan Luna, Nicholas Hinojosa-still considered an acting senator?

Social and Behavioral Science: Ana Riojas, Nihan Kayaardi Hinojosa, Tim Weber, Pooja Rishi

Lecturer Representative: Celina Jorge

Adjunct Representative: Rebecca Lynch

Senators Absent

Victor Fonseca-missed two consecutive?, Jennifer Rosillo, Adrian Gonzalez, Courtney Galle

Meeting Agenda

Welcome (5 minutes)

Motion to allow minutes approval virtually (5 minutes)

- Minutes approval Sharon Rice motioned to approve the minutes at 5:05 p.m., seconded by Mehrzad Geller. The motion carried.

Mark Murray report on elections pushed back to later in the meeting.

Melissa Pena-Valley Promise Presentation (21 minutes)

Recruitment strategy-Melissa started last November

Rebuilding relationships with high school partners

Collaborating with schools to keep relationship

The high schools want more from STC.

There are 300 pledges so far. 3082 pledges from the cohort

Want to bring students to campus earlier

PSJA went with a competitor

Workshop sessions and faculty spotlights to get the faculty involved

Junior day and senior day

Fall and spring preview day with families

Students need to fill out financial aid because they may still qualify

Daniel asked how can faculty participate?

Melissa said waiting to see what schools want from STC

There is a disconnect with the high schools regarding valley promise

Senator Gellar wants the biology club to be part of this effort

Daniel believes promoting the bachelor's program at the enrollment management program

Melissa stated that post-COVID, students want a safety net

Ended at 4:25pm

Mark Murray on faculty senate election results

Talked about a couple of senators were disqualified because of the limit of how many senators can come from each department. Official election results were included as an attachment.

Daniel asked about Senate Bill in Austin. Mark thinks the bill does not apply to community colleges

4:35pm

Sharon Rice any people working remotely in your departments, some programs at STC are all online

Completed at 4:34pm

Update from Dr. Suarez

Contract distributions this Thursday April 24, 2025

Contracts should be available by mid-march timeline for next spring 2026

Should have 2 weeks to review and sign for fall 2025

This is only for faculty

4:35-Daniel-Pathways Update

Texas Strong by 2030 for degrees and certificates (based on gained pathways)

Student Engagement and Learning Activities document from Dean Nelson

PLOs can be changed by a department

This document is still a draft

93 percent of STC faculty participated in the Starfish surveys

Senator Gellar said Starfish is not accurate-students can't find courses, students may drop-email only effective online. She is not sure if system is updated for faculty. Senator Gellar's impression is that students feel threatened by flags

Senator Pooja Rishi asked if dual credit students were getting the reports

President-Elect Nick Hinojosa wondered if there was a way to track down students

Daniel said Shannon Perales claims profiles are internal to Starfish

Completed discussion at 4:57pm

Open Discussion (12 minutes)

- Senator Gellar asked about the Classification Committee

The meeting was cancelled according to Daniel due to the flood last month so the committee has yet to meet

President-Elect Hinojosa-master of ceremonies given a script for use in teleprompter?

Senator Rishi asked if Dr. Suarez talked about payroll changes, the way deductions are done weekly or monthly

Daniel responded that there should not be a change in deductions

Senator Gellar wanted to know if there were any updates regarding travel documentation

Daniel said department secretaries can initiate those on their end

Adjournment (5:09 p.m.)

- Daniel ended meeting without official adjournment motion?