Faculty Senate
Faculty Governance Committee (FGC)

Faculty Senate’s Vision of Shared Governance at UT Health San Antonio

The UT System Faculty Advisory Council promotes shared governance among UT system campuses. The Council defines shared governance as a concept of collegial, cooperative and trust-based organization leadership that enables meaningful combine participation by administration and faculty in the management of an institution’s operations.

The Faculty Senate fully supports the concept of shared governance as describe above. The following are the recommendations of the Faculty Senate to ensure that it will have an active role in the decision-making process of the university on issues that directly and potentially affect the faculty. These recommendations will help foster an organizational culture of caring, mutual respect, and commitment, as expressed by Chancellor McRaven in his UT system-wide memo.

1. The Faculty Senate leadership will continue to hold monthly meetings with the President and the Chief Operating Officer (COO) to discuss current and emerging issues relevant to the faculty where they will provide input and perspectives. The aim is to reach a shared decision-making process between the administration and the faculty. Issues needing decisions will then be reported to the Senate for input from the senators. All Faculty Senators will disseminate issues discussed at the Senate to their respective schools in a timely manner.

2. The UTHSCSA President will report regularly to the Faculty Senate to seek input on emerging issues and report the development of shared decisions.

3. The Faculty Senate may arrange town hall meetings for faculty, when needed.

4. The Faculty Senate will have voting representation on various University-level Committees (i.e., Executive Committee, Strategic Planning, Compensation Advisory Committee, Search Committee for key University administrative positions, and any other relevant Committee)

5. The President and the Administration must at all times maintain openness and transparency of decision-making processes on issues affecting the faculty. Various means such as surveys and online feedback mechanisms can be used to seek input from the faculty, without threat of reprisal.

6. The President may consider having a President’s Corner/Message Board in the University’s website (updated weekly, fortnightly or monthly) where he can share current and emerging issues.

7. The Administration considers creating a Faculty Retention Committee which will monitor issues related to retention and resignations especially those that are relevant to shared governance.

Faculty Governance Committee Members
Dr. M. Danet Lapiz-Bluhm (Chair), Dr. Shweta Bansal, Dr. Christie Bialowas, Dr. Cheryl Burns, Dr. Benjamin Eaton, Dr. Maxim Eckmann, Dr. Yui-Wing Francis Lam, Dr. Lori Pounds