

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Faculty Senate
Minutes
April 24, 2026

Attendance

Senators Present:

Cynthia Tiongco (President), Cory Church (Vice President), Jeff Dennis (Secretary), Josee Guindon, Gurvinder Kaur, Laurence Wood, Susan Bergeson, Hoyoung Yi, Jessica Brashear, Samira Kamrudin, Kerem Shuval, Rebecca Clark, Elizabeth Matos, Abraham Al-Ahmad, Ronald Hall

Guests Present:

Schoen Kruse, Matt Hernandez, Kate Carpenter, Patricia Francis Johnson, Rosemary Walulu, Stephanie Shippey, Virginia Holter, Rick Fought

Regrets:

Amanda Masters, Maciej Markiewski

Call to Order

President Cynthia Tiongco called the meeting to order. Secretary Jeff Dennis conducted roll call via Zoom and confirmed that a quorum was present.

Opening Remarks

President Tiongco welcomed members to the inaugural meeting of the reconstituted Faculty Senate and noted that, as a newly formed body, there were no prior meeting minutes requiring approval. She explained that the Faculty Senate will serve as an advisory body representing faculty perspectives to university administration.

Provost's Office Update

Dr. Schoen Kruse provided an overview of the Faculty Senate's formation in accordance with Texas Senate Bill 37. He reported that the Faculty Senate bylaws were revised and approved by the Board of Regents in August 2025.

Senate Business

Faculty Senate Resolutions Process

The Senate discussed establishing a formal process for submitting, considering, voting on, and posting Faculty Senate resolutions.

- Senators Church and Dennis volunteered to assist with developing the process.

- The Bylaws Committee will be consulted.
- The Senate will review procedures used by the Student Government Association for guidance.

Meeting Schedule and Materials

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be held on July 24, 2026.

- Materials for the meeting are due by June 26, 2026.
- Vice President Church emphasized the importance of submission deadlines to allow sufficient time for required public posting.
- Senator Brashear inquired about standardized report templates.
- The Executive Committee will discuss development of reporting guidelines.
- Senator Bergeson requested access to the reporting spreadsheet.

Committee Appointments

Volunteers for committee membership were solicited

Bylaws Committee

- Samira Kamrudin
- Cory Church

Awards Committee

- Josee Guindon (Chair)
- Jessica Brashear
- Elizabeth Matos

Staff Senate Liaison

- Susan Bergeson

The Staff Senate Liaison will attend Staff Senate meetings and provide periodic reports to the Faculty Senate.

Academic Affairs Coordinating Committee (AACC)

Secretary Dennis noted that he currently serves as the AACC representative for the Julia Jones Matthews School of Population and Public Health. Dennis suggested further

discussion regarding whether Faculty Senate should designate a formal representative to the committee.

Membership and Terms

President Tiongco reviewed the Senate's composition and meeting schedule, noting that the Senate will meet quarterly and includes both appointed and elected members.

In response to a question regarding term lengths:

- Presidential appointees serve one-year terms and may be reappointed for up to six years.
- School-elected representatives serve two-year terms.
- President Tiongco noted that all current senators are serving as appointees during the Senate's initial formation.

Bylaws Availability

Senators discussed access to the Faculty Senate bylaws. Senate leadership indicated that the bylaws will be posted on the Faculty Senate website and may be shared with interested parties in the interim.

Adjournment

Upon motion by Dennis and second by Bergeson, the meeting adjourned. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes approved unanimously at July 24, 2026 Faculty Senate meeting, as recorded by Faculty Senate Secretary Jeff Dennis.