

**FACULTY SENATE MINUTES  
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY**

February 22, 2024  
3:30 - 5:00 p.m.  
Newton Gresham Library

**Senators Present (18)**

Samuel Adu-Prah (COSET), Diana Brown (COBA), Tamara Cook (COSET), Miltonette Craig (CJ), Kevin Crouch (CAM), Magdalena Denham (CJ), Xiaoman Duan (COBA), Debbi Hatton (CAM), Daphne Johnson (COE), Owen Kelly (COM), Nick Lantz (CHSS), Victoria Lantz (CAM), Kimberly LaPrairie (COE), Audrey Murfin (CHSS), Todd Primm (COSET), Karen Sherrill (COBA), Zachary Valdes (NGL), Rebecca Wentworth (COE).

**Guests**

Volha Minich (COSET)

**Senators Not Present (11)**

Patrick Buzzini (CJ), Brandy Doleshal (COSET), Dustin Gross (COSET), Kenneth McIntyre (CHSS), Diana Nabors (COE), Shyam Pandey (CHSS), Erica Pasquini (COHS), Vlad Radoias (COBA), Zeinab Shuker (CHSS), Anthony Watkins (CAM), Darren Williams (COSET).

**Special Guests**

Dr. James Stykes, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, SHSU

**Called to Order**

3:30 p.m., by Chair, Samuel Adu-Prah.

**Discussion with Special Guest, Dr. James Stykes, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, SHSU**

Dr. Stykes presented on the topic of “Seeing and Supporting Student-Parents on Campus,” in which he detailed key findings from his research assessing student-parent conditions, barriers, and challenges at SHSU. The presentation detailed the methodology and research design employed, and contextualized the research topic against the backdrop of Texas legislation, comprehensive institutions, and the role of individual faculty. Additionally, Dr. Stykes discussed *APS 800401 – Class Attendance*, and detailed perceived limitations to the policy’s clauses while highlighting the impact these limitations could present to students and faculty in applicable scenarios.

Questions and comments from senate covered various topics pertaining to the presentation, including: optimal policy revision strategy; university disability accommodations; research participant recruitment methods; syllabus policy requirements; and relevant state legislation.

The senate thanked Dr. Stykes for attending and presenting on this topic.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes report for the February 08, 2024, meeting was approved.

**Senate Committee Reports**

### **Academic Affairs Committee**

The Academic Affairs committee reported on its review of *APS 890303 – Employment of Graduate Assistants*, noting one suggested revision to section 7 for enhanced clarity in relation to *APS 871214*. The AA committee recommended the policy be approved with inclusion of its suggested revision. Faculty Senate voted unanimously to approve the policy with the AA committee’s included suggestion.

### **Faculty Affairs Committee**

The Faculty Affairs committee reported on its review of *APS 221111 – Data Ownership, Sharing, and Management*, and recommended that the policy be approved as written. Faculty Senate voted unanimously to approve the policy.

### **University Affairs Committee**

The University Affairs committee reported on its review of *APS 950818 – Distribution of Recovered Facilities and Administrative Costs*, and recommended that the policy be approved with several suggested minor revisions to sections 1; 3; and sections 6-8. Faculty Senate voted unanimously to approve the policy with the UA committee’s included suggestions.

### **Committee on Committees & Surveys**

The Committee on Committees & Surveys reported on its review of *APS 860110 Shortened Format Courses*, noting one suggested revision request to define the administrative office tasked with overseeing short course institutional deadlines, such as drop and withdrawal dates (2.02). Following discussion, senate also proposed removing text referencing course syllabi as a suggested medium for communicating the aforementioned deadlines (2.02). The CC committee recommended that the policy be approved with the suggested revisions. Faculty Senate voted unanimously to approve the policy with the included suggestions.

### **Other Business**

1. Announcement for nomination and voting to Faculty Senate.
2. APS 800722 - Merit Increases in Salary.

### **Chair’s Report**

1. Update on meeting with Dr. Anne Gaillard regarding policy approval.
2. Update on ORSP Incentive Compensation Guidelines document.
3. Update on workgroups.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.