

Academic Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 10 July 2025 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM MEB, 1110 Classroom

Office of Academic Affairs

Attendees			
Chaired by:	Office of Academic Affairs	Wendy Woodall, D.D.S.	Present
Voting Members:	GGHSON	Jené Hurlbut, Ph.D., R.N., C.N.E.	Present
	GGHSON	Arlene Martinez DNP, BSB, APRN, FNP-C, RNC-TNP	Present
	FGSBS	Rajkumar Lakshmanaswamy, Ph.D.	Present
	FGSBS Munmun Chattopadhyay, P		Present
	PLFSOM	Maureen Francis, M.D., M.SH.P.Ed., MACP	
	PLFSOM	Mariela P. Lane, M.D.	
	WLHSDM	Richard Black, D.D.S.	Present
	WLHSDM	Rhonda Everett, D.D.S., M.P.H.	Present
	SGA	Victor Vasquez, M.S.	
Ex-officio	Faculty Senate	Abhizith Deoker, M.D.	
Members:	Office of Academic Affairs	Michele Williams-Burns, Ed.D., M.S., M.Ed.	
	SSSE – AVP	John R. Harrell, Ed.D.	Present
	SSSE – Registrar	Diana Andrade, M.Ed.	Present
	SSSE – Financial Aid	Ron Williams	
	SSSE – Wellness	Dorothy Stewart, M.S.	
	SSSE – Student Support Services	Glenn Yri, MSCP, LPC, NCC	Present
	Student Business Services	Cynthia Flores	
	Office of Academic Affairs	Christiane Herber-Valdez, Ed.D.	Present
	TTUHSC – El Paso Libraries	Lisa Beinhoff, Ph.D.	Present
	OIRE	Martin Garcia, M.S.	Present
	PLFSOM GME	Amanda Stokes, B.S., C-TAGME	Present
	PLFSOM OSA	Charmaine Martin, M.D.	
	IPE Curriculum Council	Scott Crawford, M.D., FACEP, FSSH, CHSOS	Present
	Interprofessional Education	Alyssa C. Benavides, Ph.D., M.P.A.	
Guests:	PLFSOM	Tanis Hogg, Dr. rer. nat.	Present
	Student Business Services	Rosa Munoz	Present
	General Council	Frank Gonzales	Present
	SGA	Abigail Ramirez	Present
Recorded by:	Office of Academic Affairs	Veronica Rodriguez	Present

Objective

The purpose of these meetings is to consider requests from TTUHSC El Paso schools and leadership for degree and certificate programs; recommended course additions, changes, and deletions; institutional academic catalog content and revisions; academic calendar concerns; and academics policies, publication, and matters with institutional impact.

Summary			
Agenda Item	Di	scussion	Conclusion(s) and/or Action Item(s)
Call to order Recognic Confirmation of Quoru		Dr. Maureen Francis was unable to attend and designated Dr. Tanis Hogg as proxy in her absence Cindy Flores was unable to attend and designated Rosa Munoz as proxy in her absence Victor Vasquez was unable to attend and designated Abigal Ramirez as proxy in his absence	Dr. Woodall called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM and confirmed quorum
Review of the Minutes 2025 meeting – W. Wo	· ·	inutes of the 01 May 2025 Academic Council Meeting (Exhibit A) were mailed to council members prior to this meeting for review Members had no additions or corrections to minutes of the previous meeting	Dr. Woodall requested a motion to approve. Dr. Lakshmanaswamy motioned. Dr. Chattopadhyay seconded. Motion passed unanimously
Anticipated Action Item	ns:		
o None			
• Updates:			
O SB 37 Update — F. G Frank J. Gonzales Managing Attorney & E General Law Office of the General Co	xecutive Director for legar bunsel se	### 37: Higher Education Governance, Curriculum, and Compliance Reform" Texas Legislature, 2025, Effective Date: September 1, 2025 des were presented providing a high-level overview including gislative purpose of SB 37, general education curriculum review, minor and certificate program review, advisory committee, faculty councils or mates, key provisions affecting faculty governance, presidential duties, hared governance, office of the ombudsman, compliance deadlines and sk of non-compliance (Exhibit B) 2-confidential memoranda detailing background, overview and initial guidance were disseminated to Academic Council members 1. Texas Senate Bill 37 Overview (Exhibit C) Focus: Many of the minor/certificate and curriculum reviews directed at undergraduate programs 2. Texas Senate Bill 37 — Faculty Senate Guidance (Exhibit D) Specific requirements to be addressed relating to structure and operations of the Faculty Senate Key timelines Date Requirement Sept 1, Faculty senates must comply or be abolished 2025 Jan 1, 2027 Complete and certify general education curriculum review Every 5 Minor/certificate program review; curriculum review years Annually Administrative evaluations, curriculum updates to board, hiring reports	Institution must address and satisfy the criteria of the new SB 37 law as it pertains to faculty/senate councils before September 1, 2025

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	 The Office of General Counsel will draft a system regulation governing Faculty Senate requirements set forth by the new SB 37 law and present to BOR at its August 2025 meeting for approval Consult with counsel for any questions related to SB 37 matters 	
 Academic Policies Reviewed (2) 1. HSCEP OP 59.09 Definition and 	2-HSCEP OPs have been reviewed through the Office of Academic Affairs and per review stipulations the policies are not subject to Academic Council's detailed review and approval HSCEP OP 59.09 review is complete and posted on the "Policy and	
Calculation of Credit Hours – W. Woodall	Procedures" webpage	
 2. HSCEP OP 77.14, Accessibility and Establishing Accommodations for Students with Disabilities – G. Yri Attachment A, Verification of Accessibility Form Attachment B, Appeals Form Attachment C, Accommodations Waiver Form 	HSCEP OP 77.14 and its attachments review is complete and posted on the "Policy and Procedures" webpage "OP 77.14 Update Summary" slides provided an overview of significant changes to the policy (Exhibit E) and navigation on the Accessibility Services webpage New procedural change digitizes the application process to one singular online form, "Accommodation Request Form' Singular process results in the removal of 3-Attachments from the policy, all paper forms, Accommodation Request Form, Provisional and Temporary Accommodation Applications For semester renewals, added a tab for a new process "Semester Request" on the Accessibility Services webpage, this practice aligns with national standards Refer to the Accessibility Resource Manual for requirements and procedures for requesting accommodations Recommended change: For faculty and residents, add a 'jump button' on the Accessibility Services webpage with a clear path to request accommodations when needed (i.e., "Contact HR for Accommodation", etc.)	Add a 'jump button' with direct access to accessibility resources for faculty and residents
 HSCEP OP 77.13 Student Education Records – J. Harrell Attachment A, Student Request to Access His/Her Education Records Attachment B, Student Request to Amend Education Records 	HSCEP OP 77.13 relates to the provisions of FERPA governing access to and confidentiality of records and information pertaining to Students • Perused institutional website to final path for OP 77.13 on the Registrar's Office webpage to FERPA tab housing helpful information o HSCEP OP 77.13, Student Education Records o FERPA Information Release Form Instructions o FERPA Student Release Form (new digital form)	

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Attachment C, Confidentiality Agreement	 U.S. Department of Education FERPA policy FERPA Student Release Form requires the student to be logged in, it populates all of the student information, student will designate individual(s) they authorize to give access, type of access they authorize, and each user enters a unique access PIN 	
	 Pregnant and Parenting Students Tracking Process is for students to certify annually. A form will go out to all students to respond: are you pregnant, parenting with at least parttime custody or guardian officially/unofficially of a dependent? Yes or No? If 'NO' or prefer not to disclose – no further action. If 'YES', the form extends with several sets of questions. Key question for Student Services is, "what types of support do you need"? Norma Fuentes, Manager of Accessibility & Student Advocacy will assist students and provide supportive resources Will deploy in August 2025, this will be the first round of current students. As students are admitted they will get a request to complete the form 	
 HSCEP OP 77.16 Core Curriculum Policy W. Woodall 	HSCEP OP 77.16 policy review is complete and posted on the "Policy and Procedures" webpage	
Round table/open discussion of potential new business – W. Woodall	 Campus/Parking Maps Update – Dr. Woodall Changes to the maps were supposed to be made in July, but IA has not received the changes. We will revisit in September PhD in Biomedical Sciences – Dr. Lakshmanaswamy June 5th THECB virtual visit was received very positively and very impressed with the program. As a result, the PhD program is being presented for approval earlier at the July 24th THECB meeting (in lieu of October meeting) Target implementation for the PhD program remains Fall 2026 Accessibility re: Doors – Chattopadhyay Concern with accessibility barriers involving doors (i.e., labs, classrooms, study rooms, restrooms, etc.) at the MEB and MSB1 If federal standards are met but does not meet the needs of a particular person (i.e., student) then contact disability resources or engage with facility services 	

Summary		
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 Next Meeting 	Thursday, September 11, 2025 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM Location: MSBII, President's Conference Room	
• Adjourn – W. Woodall		Dr. Woodall adjourned the meeting at 11:29 AM

Attachments		
Exhibit	Title	Provided by
Α	Minutes of the 01 May 2025 Academic Council Meeting	Office of Academic Affairs
В	"SB 37: Higher Education Governance, Curriculum, and Compliance Reform Texas Legislature, 2025, Effective Date: September 1, 2025" — PowerPoint slides	Office of the General Counsel
С	"Texas Senate Bill 37 Overview", Confidential Memorandum Attorney/Client Privilege – Attorney Work Product – Handout	Office of the General Counsel
D	Texas Senate Bill 37 – Faculty Senate Guidance, Confidential Memorandum Attorney/Client Privilege – Attorney Work Product – Handout	Office of the General Counsel
E	OP 77.14 Update Summary – PowerPoint slides	Office of Student Services and Student Engagement