

UTPA Staff Senate

November 12, 2009 Minutes

Name	P	A	Name	P	A	Name	P	A
Angulo, Joe	X		Galan, Yvonne	X		Rivera, Ernestina (Tina)	X	
Barrera, Mary	X		Gernentz, LuAnn	X		Rodriguez, Maria G.		X
Bell, Aaron	X		Gorena, Arlene	X		Salazar, Gloria	X	
Cano, Mary Lou	X		Hannah, Carolyn		XE	Sandoval, Michael		XE
Cavazos, Celeste	X		Jaramillo, Maria Teresa	X		Smith, Bryan	X	
Delgado, Ismael	X		Yolanda, Martinez	X		Thompson, Larry	X	
Espinoza, Patty	X		Ramos, Arturo	X		Tobin, Sally	X	
Ybarra, Mary	X							

UTPA

November 12, 2009

Authored by: canom

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Ralph Schilling Room 2.120 – 2nd Floor Library 2:00 p.m.

AGENDA

I. Call to Order

- Roll Call
- Quorum **19 attended**

II. Special Guest – Marianella Franklin, UTPA Director of Sustainability Programs

Marianella Franklin addressed the Staff Senate with a power point presentation about the University Sustainability Council. This committee was established to develop a framework for the University's Sustainability Campus Action Plan. The university defines sustainability as development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Staff Senate Chair requested from Sustainability Programs a project list for review and consideration. Staff Senate would like to take a bigger role in participating in a sustainable project.

III. Final Approval of Minutes - **approved unanimously**

IV. Committee Reports & Assignments

- New President Update
 - Dr. Robert S. Nelsen will be introduced at a welcoming event on Wednesday, November 18, 2009, at 3:30 p.m., Student Union Auditorium. Staff Senators are urged to attend.
- EAC Report
 - Art Ramos reviewed with Senators the October 27-28 meeting agenda of the UT System Employee Advisory Council. The meeting took

place at UT-Brownsville and was attended by Art Ramos and Gloria Salazar (representing Jaime Miranda).

- Communications/Special Events
 - Motion was made by LuAnn Gernentz and seconded by Art Ramos to purchase Senate badges for all senators to wear at functions/meetings where they represent Staff Senate. These Senate badges are being sought to help promote the visibility of Staff Senate on Campus. The badges will be issued to individual senators at the start of their term. Senators are asked to return the badges once their term expires. After discussion, a vote was taken and it was unanimously approved to authorize LuAnn Gernentz to purchase 22 colored badges with gold trim from Gateway.
 - Celeste Cavazos handed out instructions to Senators who had signed up to volunteer at the annual “Feast of Sharing” event sponsored by HEB on Sunday, November 15, 2009. A total of 21 Senators and their families volunteered for this event.
- Special Issues Committee
 - Tabled

VI. Website

- Mary Lou Cano announced that the online Campus Report Newsletter is scheduled to go out on Monday, November 16, 2009. This Campus Report Newsletter will be the first issue containing announcements/information from Staff Senate.
- Patty Espinoza introduced to the Senate a draft of the guidelines being proposed for the nomination process that UTPA staff can use to nominate an employee to be featured as a “Staff Senate Star”. The proposed guidelines will be reviewed and finalized by the Communications/Special Events Committee.

VII. New Business

VIII. Announcements

- Yolanda Martinez announced that the pool is available to faculty and staff MWF from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m. Mary Lou Cano will send out more information at a later date.

- Next meeting December 7, 2009 – 2:00 pm.
- Motion to Adjourn – 3:25 p.m.
 - Motion made by Arlene Gorena
 - 2nd by Bryan Smith