

**TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS**

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**August 14, 2025**

**TWU Denton Campus**

**Hubbard Hall – Southeast Ballroom and Room 2238**

**Roll Call:**

Present Committee Members:

Regents Coleman (Chair), Shepard, Wilson, and Flores (Non-Voting)

Absent Committee Members:

Regent Wright (Ex-Officio)

Present Administrators:

Dr. Carine M. Feyten, Chancellor and President; Ms. Monica Christopher, Dallas Campus President; Dr. Monica Williams, Houston Campus President; Dr. Angela Bauer, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost; Dr. Javier Flores, Vice President for Enrollment Management; Ms. Kristina Kaskel-Ruiz, Vice President for Marketing and Communication; Ms. Wonny Lervisit, General Counsel; Dr. Monica Mendez-Grant, Vice President for Student Life; Ms. Jaime Porter, Interim Vice President for University Advancement; Mr. Jason Tomlinson, Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration; Dr. Henry Torres, Chief Information Officer; and Mr. Tucker Maberry, Secretary to the Board of Regents.

**I. Call to Order**

With a quorum being present, Regent Coleman, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, called the meeting of the Committee to order at **3:01 p.m.**

Regent Coleman reminded everyone that the meeting is being streamed live and asked that everyone speak loudly and clearly as they make comments during the meeting.

Regent Coleman introduced the new Student Regent, Alyssa Flores. Student Regent Flores expressed her excitement to join the Board. She noted the many meetings she had held so far with TWU students and administrators.

**II. Consider Approval of the Minutes of the Academic Affairs Committee Meeting of May 15, 2025**

**Motion to Approve Minutes:** Regent Shepard motioned and Regent Wilson seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The minutes of the Academic Affairs Committee Meeting of **May 15, 2025** were approved as submitted.

### **III. Presentation**

Dr. Angela Bauer, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, gave a presentation on new campus leaders. Dr. Bauer introduced three new staff members: Dr. Catrine Tudor-Locke, Dean of the College of Health Sciences, Dr. Nancy Chick, Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Scholarship, and Dr. Jace Hargis, Chief Artificial Intelligence Strategist. Dr. Bauer also announced that Dr. Brigitte Vittrup has been elevated to Dean of the College of Professional Education and Dr. Erika Armstrong has been elevated to Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs.

### **IV. Agenda**

**Motion to Take up Agenda Items:** Regent Shepard motioned and Regent Wilson seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

#### **Item A. Report on Artificial Intelligence Initiatives**

Dr. Angela Bauer, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, presented on the university's growing integration of artificial intelligence (AI). She noted that TWU is in the process of launching multiple AI certificates and programs to complement existing degrees. Dr. Bauer stated that this emphasis on AI education will better position TWU graduates for evolving workforce trends. Responding to a question from Regent Coleman, Dr. Bauer said she expects to begin formally offering some of the AI certificates by Fall 2026. Responding to a question from Regent Hyde, Dr. Bauer noted that there are fewer accreditation hurdles because many of the courses that will count toward the AI certificates already exist at TWU.

#### **Item B. Report on Higher Education in the Age of AI**

Dr. Angela Bauer, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, introduced Dr. Daniel Ernst, Assistant Professor of English, who presented on the creative ways in which he is integrating AI in the classroom. Dr. Ernst shared how "prompt engineering" is a burgeoning skill that reflects shifts in how reading and writing is utilized in the workplace. Dr. Ernst also shared the results of recent empirical studies on AI teaching interventions and highlighted his recent high-profile AI-related articles and keynote presentations. Responding to a question from Regent Amirkhan, Dr. Ernst said that some professors are not concerned that students submit work augmented by AI, noting that many workplaces are simply seeking the best work, regardless of the tools used by the employee. He emphasized that his English coursework is shifting away from composition and toward editing. Multiple Regents expressed support for TWU's embrace of AI and interest in AI training for the Board. Chancellor Feyten commended Dr. Ernst on positioning TWU as an innovative leader in AI.

#### **Item C. Report on Faculty Development Leave Accomplishments**

Dr. Angela Bauer, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, presented a report on recent faculty development leave accomplishments in response to the Board's request to hear a presentation on this topic in the May 2025 Board meeting. Dr. Bauer summarized the rigorous process to be considered for faculty leave. She briefed the Board on the recent faculty leave projects of Dr. Asha Vas and Dr. Claudia Porras Pyland, who worked on VR-integrated occupational therapy and ADHD identity development, respectively.

#### **Item D. Report on the Creation of the General Education Council**

Dr. Angela Bauer, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, presented recent work to create a General Education Council (GEC) in compliance with Senate Bill (SB) 37. Dr. Bauer explained that the GEC will help oversee the university's general education curriculum and summarized the

proposed composition of the GEC. She noted that she will present proposed GEC members at the November 2025 Board meeting. Regent Coleman expressed her support for including industry leaders in the GEC.

**Item E. Recommend Approval of Regent Policy C.30020: Faculty Senate**

Dr. Angela Bauer, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, recommended approval of the new Regent Policy C.30020: Faculty Senate. She explained that SB 37 requires the Board to create a policy governing the composition and authority of the Faculty Senate. Dr. Bauer explained that approving this policy would allow the Board to ratify the Faculty Senate's revised constitution and bylaws.

**Motion to Move Approval of Item E. to Consent Agenda:** Regent Shepard motioned and Regent Wilson seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**Item F. Recommend Approval of Ratification of 2025–2026 Faculty Senate**

Dr. Angela Bauer, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, introduced Dr. Emarely Rosa-Dávila, Speaker of the Faculty Senate, who recommended approval of the ratification of the 2025–2026 Faculty Senate constitution and bylaws. Dr. Rosa-Dávila explained how the Faculty Senate worked over the summer to rewrite its constitution and bylaws in compliance with SB 37. She explained the key differences in how the Faculty Senate will operate moving forward compared to how it operated previously. Dr. Rosa-Dávila shared the new Faculty Senate membership and noted who was appointed by Chancellor Feyten. Regent Amirkhan commended Dr. Rosa-Dávila and the Faculty Senate for working over the summer to bring the revised constitution and bylaws into compliance with SB 37. Following a question from Regent Shepard, Dr. Rosa-Dávila explained that the Faculty Senate membership was determined by an apportionment of each college on each campus.

**Motion to Move Approval of Item F. to Consent Agenda:** Regent Shepard motioned and Regent Wilson seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**V. Recess Academic Affairs Committee Meeting into Executive Closed Session**

Regent Coleman announced that the Committee would recess into Executive Closed Session for Deliberations Regarding Personnel Matters Relating to Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties, Discipline, or Dismissal of Public Officers or Employees pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code. Specifically, she stated that the Board would hear a recommendation to approve emeriti faculty.

Regent Coleman stated that Dr. Angela Bauer, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, would join the Executive Closed Session.

The meeting adjourned at **4:28 p.m.**

**VI. Reconvene to Open Session and Take Any Possible Action Regarding Matters Discussed in Executive Closed Session**

At the conclusion of the Executive Closed Session, Regent Coleman reconvened the meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee into open session, a quorum being present at **4:39 p.m.** Regent Coleman stated the Board would take any possible action regarding matters discussed in Executive Closed Session.

**Motion to Move Approval of Item A.1 Recommend Approval of Emeriti Faculty to Consent**

**Agenda:** Regent Wilson motioned and Regent Shepard seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**VII. Adjourn**

With no further business coming before the Academic Affairs Committee, Regent Coleman adjourned the Academic Affairs Committee meeting at **4:40 p.m.**