

**TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS**  
**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**May 15, 2025**

**TWU Dallas Campus**

**T. Boone Pickens Institute of Health Sciences – 3rd Floor, Room 3260 and 2nd Floor, Room 2502**

**Roll Call:**

Present Committee Members:

Regents Coleman (Chair), Shepard, Wilson, Wright (Ex-Officio), and Landgrebe (Non-Voting)

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. Lisa Rampy, Vice President for University Advancement; Mr. Jason Tomlinson, 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 **11:47 a.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.

**II. Consider Approval of the Minutes of the Academic Affairs Committee Meeting of February 13, 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 **February 13, 2025** were approved as submitted.

**III. 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 Faculty Senate**

Dr. Angela Bauer, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, and Dr. Emarely Rosa-Dávila, Speaker of the Faculty Senate, presented on activities of the Faculty Senate during the 2024–2025 academic year. Dr. Rosa-Dávila explained the Faculty Senate's role in navigating the shifting landscape in higher education on behalf of faculty members.

## **Item B. Report on Faculty Highlight, Computer Science, College of Arts and Sciences – Denton Campus**

Dr. Angela Bauer, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, Dr. David Gardner, Associate Professor and Division Lead of Computer Science, and Dr. Gustavo Salazar, Assistant Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry, presented a prototype of an innovative robotic arm capable of analyzing soil contaminants. This project highlights important cross-disciplinary collaboration between the computer science and chemistry divisions.

## **Item C. Report on Adding the “E” to STEM**

Dr. Angela Bauer, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, presented a report on TWU’s exploratory efforts to develop engineering degree programs. Dr. Bauer shared how TWU, as a primarily woman-focused institution, can offer unique engineering opportunities for women. Based on a consultant report, TWU will focus on creating mechanical engineering and civil engineering programs, with a goal of offering these programs beginning in the Fall 2026 semester.

## **Item D. Recommend Approval of New Bachelor of Science Degree in Food Science**

Dr. Angela Bauer, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, Dr. Wen-Hsing Cheng, Professor and Chair of Nutrition and Food Sciences, and Dr. Cynthia Warren, Professor of Nutrition and Food Sciences, recommended approval for a new Bachelor of Science Degree in Food Science. The new degree will provide training in various aspects of food science and technology to prepare students for careers in different parts of the food industry. The program includes a focus on hands-on independent studies and internships with major DFW-based food companies.

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

## **Item E. Recommend Approval of Awards for Faculty Development Leave for Academic Year 2025-2026**

Dr. Angela Bauer, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, recommended approval of faculty for Faculty Development Leave after consideration and recommendation by the Faculty Development Leave Committee. Regents deliberated on the merits of faculty leave recommendations and inquired about the process to individually vote on each approval.

**Motion to Itemize Approval of Awards for Faculty Development Leave for Academic Year 2025-2026 Into Four Individual Items:** Regent Shepard motioned and Regent Wilson seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**Motion to Move Approval of Item E.1 Recommend Approval of Award for Faculty Development Leave for Academic Year 2025-2026 to Dr. Paul Bones to Consent Agenda:** Regent Shepard motioned and Regent Wilson seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**Motion to Move Approval of Item E.2 Recommend Approval of Award for Faculty Development Leave for Academic Year 2025-2026 to Dr. Xiaofen Du to Consent Agenda:** Regent Shepard motioned and Regent Wilson seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**Motion to Move Approval of Item E.3 Recommend Approval of Award for Faculty Development**

**Leave for Academic Year 2025-2026 to Dr. Debra Mollen to Consent Agenda:** Regent Shepard motioned and Regent Wilson seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**Motion to Move Approval of Item E.4 Recommend Approval of Award for Faculty Development Leave for Academic Year 2025-2026 to Dr. Heather Roberts to Consent Agenda:** Regent Shepard motioned and Regent Wilson seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

#### **IV. 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 faculty for promotion and tenure.

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 **12:47 p.m.**

#### **V. 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 **1:25 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 Faculty Member for Tenure to Consent Agenda:** Regent Shepard motioned and Regent Wilson seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

#### **VI. Adjourn**

With no further business coming before the Academic Affairs Committee, Regent Coleman adjourned the Academic Affairs Committee meeting at **1:26 p.m.**