

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

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**February 12, 2026**

**TWU Denton Campus**

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

**Roll Call:**

Present Committee Members:

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

Absent Committee Members:

Regent Wilson

Other Present Regents:

Regents Amirkhan, Hyde, McDavid, and Wu

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 & Alumni Engagement; Mr. Jason Tomlinson, Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration; Dr. Henry Torres, Vice President for Information Technology and 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 **3:19 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 Student Regent Jennings, who will serve the remainder of the unexpired 2025–2026 Student Regent term. Student Regent Jennings expressed his enthusiasm for the role and noted that students who are parents are excited to have a fellow parent representing the student body. Regents Wright and Coleman shared their gratitude for Student Regent Jennings joining the Board.

## **II. Consider Approval of the Minutes of the Academic Affairs Committee Meeting of November 13, 2025**

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

The minutes of the Academic Affairs Committee Meeting of **November 13, 2025**, were approved as submitted.

## **III. Agenda**

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

### **Item A. Report on Faculty Highlight – Project Thrive: A Shared Governance Approach to Assessing Program Viability**

Dr. Angela Bauer, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, Dr. Nasrin Mirsaleh-Kohan, Professor and Interim Director of the School of the Sciences, Dr. Aaron Norton, Associate Professor and Director of the School of Human Sciences, Dr. Christopher Bolinger, Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Communication Sciences and Oral Health, and Dr. Beth Reissenweber, Chief Budget Officer, presented on Project Thrive. Dr. Bauer explained that Project Thrive, launched in Fall 2024, is a data-driven initiative to ensure the long-term financial viability of TWU's academic programs.

Dr. Reissenweber and Dr. Mirsaleh-Kohan explained the Budget Transparency and Literacy Working Group, emphasizing varied training initiatives tailored for specific levels of faculty and administrators. Dr. Bolinger summarized the viability metrics used by the Program Viability Working Group, which include retention rates, net revenue, workforce alignment, and academic quality. Dr. Norton explained the multi-level review process supported by quantitative and qualitative data.

Regent Shepard asked if Project Thrive had begun reviews, to which Dr. Norton clarified that reviews will be conducted at the degree level — not individual courses — and reviews were in beta testing. Dr. Bauer added that faculty had embraced the plan thus far.

### **Item B. Report on TWU's Proposed Engineering Program**

Dr. Angela Bauer, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, presented an update to launching an engineering program at TWU. She explained that TWU would first focus on a mechanical engineering degree, noting its growing workforce demand. Dr. Bauer stated that TWU has a unique position to offer a competitive mechanical engineering degree, strengthened by its woman-focused approach and ties to local industry leaders. She explained that the implementation timeline had been revised to now launch the program in the Fall 2027 semester. Dr. Bauer stated that the consultant team is developing a detailed *pro forma*, identifying space needs, and helping design a unique curriculum.

Regent Coleman asked if there was adequate space to house the mechanical engineering program, to which Chancellor Feyten replied that while specific space has not yet been identified, more classroom space was coming online in the new College of Business building to offer greater scheduling flexibility.

### **Item C. Report on Texas Woman's University Programs that Prepare Mental Healthcare Professionals**

Dr. Angela Bauer, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, presented on the numerous programs offered at TWU which prepare mental healthcare professionals. She summarized

the growing need for mental healthcare professionals, underscored by recent state legislation to expand loan repayment options and streamline academic progression for students studying mental healthcare. Dr. Bauer provided an overview of TWU's relevant undergraduate, graduate, and doctorate programs. She highlighted notable alumni from counseling psychology, school psychology, music therapy, and social work programs.

Responding to a question from Regent Shepard, Dr. Bauer stated that conversations with faculty are ongoing to address how to further increase enrollment in these programs. Student Regent Jennings and Regent Coleman both underscored the lack of mental healthcare professionals across the state and commended TWU's efforts to grow its enrollment in these programs.

#### **Item D. Report on Curriculum Review and Senate Bill 37 Implementation**

Dr. Angela Bauer, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, and Ms. Wonny Lervisit, General Counsel, presented on curriculum review and the implementation of Senate Bill (SB) 37 from the Regular 89<sup>th</sup> State Legislature. Dr. Bauer explained the updated curriculum review process, through which all courses will be reviewed, updated, and approved by the Fall 2026 semester.

Ms. Lervisit reviewed the compliance steps taken in 2025, including policy revisions and ratification of a reconstituted Faculty Senate. Ms. Lervisit previewed the upcoming compliance steps in 2026, including initial reviews of general education curriculum, minor degrees, and certificate programs. Dr. Bauer explained the updated process to consolidate or close low-enrollment minor degrees and certificate programs.

#### **Item E. Report on General Education Review Framework**

Dr. Angela Bauer, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, presented on the general education curriculum review pursuant to Texas Education Code, Section 51.315. She apprised the Board on the intent and timeline of the initial review. Dr. Bauer noted that the Board would appoint a General Education Review Committee to present initial recommendations to the Board in May and August 2026, with a new general education launching in the Fall 2027 semester. She explained that the General Education Review Committee will ensure that general education courses are foundational, necessary to civic life, equip students for the workforce, provide a breadth of knowledge, and be cost effective. Dr. Bauer previewed a suggested composition of the General Education Review Committee, which could include a combination of faculty, administrators, and industry or community leaders.

#### **IV. Recess Academic Affairs Committee Meeting into Executive Closed Session**

Regent Coleman announced that the Committee would recess into Executive Closed Session for Consultation with Attorney Regarding Legal Matters or Pending and/or Contemplated Litigation or Settlement Offers pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code. Specifically, she stated that the Board would receive consultation with attorney regarding confidential legal matters, including pending, threatened, and contemplated litigation or settlement offers, and possible action.

Regent Coleman announced that the Committee would also 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 recommendations to approve emeriti faculty, tenure faculty, and the formation of a General Education Review Committee pursuant to Texas Education Code, Section 51.315.

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

The meeting recessed at **4:22 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 **5:18 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 B.1 Recommend Approval of Emeritus Faculty to Consent**

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

**Motion to Move Approval of Item B.2 Recommend Approval of Faculty for Tenure to Consent**

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

**Motion to Amend the Title of Item B.3 to “Recommend Approval of Formation of General Education Review Committee Pursuant to Texas Education Code, Section 51.315, and the Proposed Members of the General Education Review Committee, Subject to Further Review and Revision, as Appropriate”:**

Regent Shepard motioned and Regent Coleman seconded. Prior to the vote, Regent Shepard announced the names of the nominees to the General Education Review Committee:

Ms. Angela Griffin	Dr. Sarah McMahan
Dr. Ken Boonme	Dr. Joy Spadachene
Dr. Ann Wheeler	Dr. Brian Fehler
Dr. Angela Bauer	Dr. Nancy Chick
Dr. Brandi Falley	Three community leaders, to be later identified

The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**Motion to Move Approval of Item B.3, as amended, to Consent Agenda:** Regent Shepard motioned and Regent Coleman 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 **5:21 p.m.**