Minutes for the 44th Faculty Senate Meeting  
Monday, February 1, 2021  
6:00 p.m. via Zoom

The meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order by the Chair, Dr. Ndi, at 6:10 p.m.

Attendees: 16

Names are attached to the meeting minutes. If your name was omitted, please notify the secretary so that it can be added to the roster.

Adoption of the Minutes

Since the minutes were circulated prior to the meeting, Dr. Ndi opened the floor for adoption. Dr. Tilghman noted that it was he, and not Mr. Parham, who reported on behalf of the Instruction Committee. Dr. Bender requested to have her name added to future Faculty Senate emails. It was motioned by Dr. Bender and seconded by Dr. Tilghman that the minutes be adopted with the noted corrections.

Updates/Opening Remarks

Dr. Ndi thanked Dr. Bhuyan for conducting last month’s meeting in his absence, Mrs. Samuel for continuing to do an outstanding job, and all the senators who continue to work as a team for the betterment of the University. He further explained that the word “faculty” is a collective noun, therefore, he is grateful to each of us for moving forward in a spirit of “unity” and “oneness.”

Committee Chair Reports

Academic Affairs Committee (Mrs. Mary Arrington, Chair)

Chair was absent. No report.

Academic Personnel Services Committee (Dr. Li Huang, Chair)

The Chair was absent, however, Dr. Ndi stated that the promotion and tenure packets should have been forwarded to the Provost Office by now. Mrs. Samuel, a member of the committee, explained that the packets are due to the Provost by February 18th, and the committee met on Sunday, January 31st, and will meet again on Thursday, February 4th.
Research and Graduate Studies Committee (Dr. Paramijit Kahai, Chair)

Chair was absent. Dr. Bender stated that she was new to the committee but had nothing to report.

Continuing Education and Outreach Committee (Dr. Yvette Essounga)

Dr. Essounga reported that the committee met on Friday, January 29th. All members were present, and the committee is moving forward with its plans. The committee will identify students to work on making video recordings emphasizing financial literacy to share with the principal of Tuskegee Institute Middle School. Later, more video recordings will be made for the TU community, (students, faculty, and staff) on a variety of wellness topics to include physical and mental health with experts (Drs. Glotova and Bender) in their respective fields. The committee also discussed the possibility of creating a podcast. Dr. Essounga reached out to Dr. Kimberly Scott to get permission for students to do the video recordings. Dr. Glotova added that Dr. April Jones is hosting a conference in April and Dr. Essounga has agreed to speak on “Poverty in Minority Communities.” Dr. Bender echoed the Chair’s report.

Grievance Committee (Mrs. Eunice Samuel, Chair)

The Grievance Committee met on January 6th. Six of the seven members were present. With valuable recommendations by members, a letter of response was drafted and sent to Dr. Ndi on January 12th and is now being reviewed by the university’s attorney. Once the go ahead has been received, Dr. Ndi will forward the letter to the grievant and other appropriate parties. Dr. Ndi stressed that the attorney will not be changing the wording in the letter but only making sure that the Senate or the University is not implicated in any way.

Instruction Committee (Dr. John Tilghman)

Dr. Tilghman reported that for the 2nd month, he has requested the results of the faculty survey that ended on December 15th but has not received them. He will reach out again to Dr. Kellie Samuels and copy Dr. Ndi to get the results, so that the committee can resume meeting to review and discuss teaching techniques for 2021.

Other Business

Update on the Teaching Award for Excellence in Online Teaching in honor of Jacqueline Mc Arthur

Dr. Ndi did not recall receiving the recommendation from the committee but was reminded that it had been sent. Dr. Tilghman, a member of the committee mentioned that there had been a question about whether a person who is no longer employed by the university could be honored. Dr. Ndi explained that the unfavorable response to the award expressed by one person, was not valid. He consulted with the University’s attorney who has no recollection of any legal issues or reason why we could not proceed, but that he would check into it.
To date, Attorney Johnson has not contacted him, which indicates to him that we can proceed with the award. Dr. Ndi requested another copy of the sub-committee report and will forward it to Attorney Johnson for confirmation.

**Meeting with the mother of the late Jamarion Robinson**

Dr. Ndi explained that due to personal reasons, he did not reach out in time enough to set up the meeting for this month, therefore, it has been scheduled for the March 1st, meeting. The mother did send a thirty paged document of the civil suit. Dr. Ndi will forward the document to Mrs. Samuel who was asked to share it with the body.

Dr. Essounga put out a plea for persons to join the Continuing Education and Outreach Committee to serve alongside Dr. Bender. Several senators will be rotating off the senate this year and they will need new members.

Dr. Ndi ended the meeting the way he explained we should have started it. He stated that there is a force beyond what the eyes can see which teaches us that we should humble ourselves and recognize the almighty God and thank Him for preserving us and sparing us from Covid-19 and all the other dangers around us.

The meeting ended with prayer by Dr. Ndi at 6:48 p.m.


---

Eunice A. Samuel, Executive Secretary

---

**Chair:** Dr Bill F. Ndi  
**Vice Chair:** Dr. Jay Bhuyan  
**Executive Secretary:** Eunice A. Samuel
Attendees-Faculty Senate Meeting February 1, 2021

1. Bender, Jennifer
2. Bhuyan, Jay
3. Essounga, Yvette
4. Fishkin, Benjamin
5. Glotova, Olga
6. Graham, Jo Ann
7. Irizarry, Ricardo
8. Jafarinejad, Shahryar
9. Martin, Pamela
10. Murphy, Gregory
11. Nayak, Chitra
12. Ndi, Bill
13. Ndoye, Mandoye
14. Quarcoo, Franklin
15. Samuel, Eunice
16. Tilghman, John

Chair: Dr Bill F. Ndi
Vice Chair: Dr. Jay Bhuyan
Executive Secretary: Eunice A. Samuel