Temple College Faculty Senate

Faculty Senate is a body of elected and appointed Faculty Advisory Council members who work to promote the interests of faculty individually and collectively. Faculty Advisory Council is open to all faculty, offers Faculty Senate strategic and specialized guidance, and provides faculty opportunities to participate in shared governance through committee work.

Faculty Senate Report to the Temple College Board of Trustees
November 16, 2026

I. News

A. We are happy to announce that Alicia Buck (Surgical Technology) is the recipient of the 2027 Claudia and W.T. Barnhart Award and the Temple College nominee for Minnie Stevens Piper Professor Award.

II. Committee Reports

A. Faculty Advancement Committee (Geoff Lewis, Chair)**:** At the time of this report, the committee has awarded the following grants:

- Alex Corbett for $291.00
- Jeff Troy for $1,000.00
- Lily Penfold for $641.01
- Prudie York-Hammons for $1,000 (new since last report)
- Kerry Bekkedahl for $897.94 (new since last report)
- Choongwoo Steve Ko for $1,000 (new since last report)

There is one grant pending for $50. If approved, the committee will have $3,120.05 left in the account.

Dr. York-Hammons will use the funds to attend the 52nd AMATYC Annual Conference and Delegate Assembly in Philadelphia, PA from November 18-23, 2026. The content of this conference is specifically targeted to provide excellent professional development for Mathematics faculty teaching at Two-Year colleges. There are three days of concurrent sessions as well as exhibits and affiliate meetings (SW Regional AMATYC and TexMATYC). Dr. York-Hammons will be focusing on sessions related to College Algebra, Contextualized Mathematics, Data Science, and AI in the Math curriculum, as well as improving online instruction. She will be assigned sessions as a presider as well as serve as a delegate to the National Assembly.

Prof. Bekkedahl will use the funds to attend the National Association of Economic Educators (NAEE), whose mission is to advance economic and financial literacy by serving educators. Its professional development conferences give attendees a chance to share best practices and learn about programs and resources for teaching economics, personal finance, and entrepreneurial literacy, along with activity-based, student-centered teaching methods. The

2027 Spring Professional Development Conference will be held at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis from March 3-5, 2027.

Dr. Ko will use the funds to attend the 2027 American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) National Conference, which will take place March 7–10, 2027, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The conference features choral performances, educational sessions, repertoire reading sessions, publisher exhibits, and professional networking. Participation will include exploring new repertoire and teaching practices, supporting the introduction of Korean choral publications on which Dr. Ko has collaborated, and potentially serving as a Korean–English translator while representing Temple College.

TEMPLE COLLEGE
TEMPLE HUTTO TAYLOR

June 17, 2026
Claudia & W.T. Barnhart Teacher of the Year Award Selection Committee
Temple College

Re: 2026-2027 Claudia & W.T. Barnhart Teacher of the Year Award

Dear Members of the Selection Committee,

It is my privilege to nominate Alicia Buck for the 2026-2027 Claudia & W.T. Barnhart Teacher of the Year Award. Throughout my career in higher education, I have encountered few faculty members who embody the spirit of transformational teaching as completely as Alicia. She is an educator, mentor, innovator, and servant leader whose impact extends far beyond the classroom and into the lives of her students, colleagues, and community. Her enthusiasm is contagious.

Alicia is an outstanding teacher because she approaches education as an opportunity to transform lives. Having begun her own educational journey at Temple College and earned her Surgical Technology certificate here before advancing to bachelor's and master's degrees, she understands firsthand the power of education to open doors and create opportunities. Her personal journey allows her to connect with students in authentic and meaningful ways. She sees potential in every student and relentlessly works to help them recognize and achieve it.

What truly sets Alicia apart is her willingness to ask, "What if?" What if we could better prepare students for the demands of healthcare? What if we could create a more engaging learning experience? What if a struggling student simply needs someone who believes in them? These questions drive her to think creatively, challenge assumptions, and continually seek new ways to improve teaching and learning. She does not settle for maintaining the status quo. Instead, she consistently pursues excellence and innovation in every aspect of her work.

Alicia's commitment goes far beyond what is expected of an average educator. As Program Director, Department Chair, and Associate Professor, she balances leadership responsibilities while teaching across the full spectrum of the Surgical Technology curriculum—from introductory courses to clinical experiences and capstone preparation. Yet even with these responsibilities, she remains deeply invested in individual students. She dedicates additional time to mentoring, coaching, and supporting students both academically and professionally, ensuring they not only master technical competencies but also develop the confidence and professionalism necessary to succeed in healthcare.

Alicia also excels because she is a true team player. She willingly shares her knowledge, collaborates with colleagues, and invests herself in the growth and success of others. She is confident in her abilities yet remarkably humble in her approach. She celebrates the accomplishments of her peers, welcomes new ideas, and continuously seeks opportunities for

her own personal and professional growth. Her leadership style is grounded in service, authenticity, and a genuine desire to elevate those around her. Her commitment to being part of a great good spills over into the Temple College, and she actively participates on multiple committees as well as carrying a board position for her affiliated professional organization. She embodies leadership in the classroom, in the department, at Temple College, and far beyond the scope of her employment. She demonstrates purposeful commitment to her profession and to seeing other grow and develop.

Exceptional educators are remembered not only for what they teach but for the possibilities they inspire in others. Alicia Buck exemplifies this kind of transformational educator not only for her students but also her peers. She leads with heart, teaches with purpose, and serves with humility. Her dedication to students, commitment to innovation, and unwavering pursuit of excellence make her extraordinarily deserving of this prestigious recognition.

I offer my highest recommendation and strongest endorsement of Alicia Buck for the 2026-2027 Claudia & W.T. Barnhart Teacher of the Year Award. She represents the very best of our profession and the very best of Temple College.

Sincerely,



Becky D. Musi, Ed.D
Director, Special Projects
Phone: 512-750-1660
Email: becky.musil@templejc.edu
Temple College

September 2, 2026

Dear Faculty Council Members,

I am deeply humbled to receive this nomination for the 2027 Claudia and W.T. Barnhart Teacher of the Year award. Temple College and the surgical technology program are the absolute foundation of my professional journey, enabling me to obtain my first degree, enter the healthcare field, and eventually transition into faculty. I was incredibly fortunate to learn from exceptional educators at Temple College, such as Dr. Pat Simpson and Mrs. Nancy Whitmire, who believed in me, supported me, and inspired my own path. Having the opportunity to now give back to our community and support true student success is both an honor and a blessing.

Guided by my own experiences, my focus is to support our surgical technology students as they navigate their education while paying forward the mentorship that shaped my career. It is a true privilege to work with a collaborative team of faculty and administration, all united by a shared commitment to student success and community growth.

Thank you for the nomination and consideration,



Alicia Buck

Program Director / Department Chair Surgical Technology

Alicia.buck@templejc.edu

Alicia Buck, MS, BAAS, CST

Alicia.buck@templejc.edu

EDUCATION

Master of Science in Organizational Learning & Technology
Texas A&M University–Commerce, Commerce, TX | 2019
Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences
Texas A&M University–Commerce, Commerce, TX | 2016
Associate of Arts in General Studies
Temple College, Temple, TX | 2014
Certificate of Completion in Surgical Technology
Temple College, Temple, TX | 2011

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Temple College, Temple, TX
Program Director & Associate Professor, Surgical Technology | 2018–Present
Clinical Coordinator & Instructor, Surgical Technology | 2015–2018
Adjunct Instructor, Surgical Technology | 2013–2014

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Baylor Scott & White Memorial, Temple, TX
Certified Surgical Technologist (CST) | 2011–Present (PRN)

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **Course Redesign (HPRS 2302):** Overhauled *Medical Terminology for Allied Healthcare* to utilize Open Educational Resources (OER); built interactive H5P learning modules and rewrote all major examinations (2024).
- **Clinical Evaluation Digitalization:** Redesigned clinical competency tracking to align with program objectives; developed an automated, faculty-friendly digital evaluation form for tracking grades and signatures (2023).
- **Workforce Program Development:** Authored and launched the *Central Sterile Supply and Distribution* curriculum for the Workforce and Continuing Education department; developed syllabi, core functions, assessments, and course content (2022).
- **Curriculum Realignment:** Revised the Surgical Technology curriculum to meet national standards outlined in the Association of Surgical Technologists (AST) 7th Edition Core Curriculum (2021).

- **Course Creation (SRGT 1244):** Developed and introduced *Technological Sciences*, a course covering advanced modalities including surgical robotics, lasers, and interventional radiology (2021).
- **Course Creation (SRGT 1160):** Designed and implemented a new pre-clinical rotation course to transition students from laboratory environments to active clinical practice (2021).
- **Instructional Media Production:** Produced an in-house laboratory skills video series to support hybrid and remote instructional delivery (2020–2021).
- **AAS Program Restructuring:** Transitioned the Surgical Technology program from a 12-month certificate pathway to a 17-month Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree cohort (2021).
- **Degree Pathway Creation:** Engineered the first Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree pathway for Surgical Technology at Temple College, including articulation tracks for legacy certificate holders (2016, revised 2019).
- **Laboratory Manual Publication:** Authored the program's primary *Surgical Technology Laboratory Manual*, aligning learning outcomes with foundational clinical entry skills (2019).

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP & NATIONAL SERVICE

Accreditation Review Council on Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (ARC/STSA)
Vice President, Board of Directors | 2024–Present
Site Evaluator for Programmatic Accreditation | 2022–Present
Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB)
Sub-Committee Member, Texas Workforce Education Manual Revision | 2022

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

Temple College

- Member, Course Quality Champions Committee | 2025–2026
- Member, Center for Teaching and Learning | 2025
- Member, Return to Campus Committee | 2020–2021
- Member, Circle of Support Committee | 2019–2020
- Member, Student Success Council | 2018–2020
- Member, Health Sciences Orientation Committee | Summer 2017
- Faculty Advisor, Association of Surgical Technology Students | 2014–Present

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CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- "Writing Effective Syllabi & Lesson Plans for Student Success." *Association of Surgical Technologists 28th Annual Educator Conference*, New Orleans, LA | February 2025.
- "Tackling Retention Head On – Student Success Strategies from Enrollment to Certification and Beyond: Standard IV." *AccredX 3rd Annual Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting Accreditation Conference*, Indianapolis, IN | October 2024.
- "Transition from Practitioner to Educator." *AccredX 3rd Annual Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting Accreditation Conference*, Indianapolis, IN | October 2024.
- "DIY Laboratory Simulations on a Budget." *AccredX 2nd Annual Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting Accreditation Conference*, Norfolk, VA | November 2023.
- "Promoting Self-Regulated Learning." *Association of Surgical Technologists 23rd Annual National Educator Conference*, San Antonio, TX | February 2020.

HONORS & AWARDS

- NISOD Excellence Award | 2025
- Texas Community College Teachers Association (TCCTA) Faculty Fellow | 2019–2020

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Association of Surgical Technologists (AST) | 2011–Present
- Texas Community College Teachers Association (TCCTA) | 2019–Present
- National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS) | 2015
- Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) | 2010

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Committee Member, Rogers ISD Project Celebration, Rogers, TX | 2025–2026
- Financial Sub-Committee Member, Ocker Brethren Church, Zabcikville, TX | 2019, 2025
- Committee Member, Unity of the Brethren Christian Sisters, Zabcikville, TX | 2015–Present
- Foster Volunteer, Association for Pet Adoption, Temple, TX | 2014–2019