



Faculty Council Vision for 2024–2025:
Building Community, Supporting Each Other

Faculty Council Report to the Temple College Board of Trustees

January 27, 2025

I. News

- During the first Faculty Council meeting at the start of the year, we began by reflecting on things we, as an organization and individuals, carry into 2025 and the new semester, including gratitude for Erica Perrine's leadership as Faculty Council president from 2022 to 2024.
- At the end of last semester, Faculty Council participated in the Trail of Trees Holiday Tree Auction to raise funds for the Leopard Food Pantry. The tree was purchased and donated back to Faculty Council for future use.
- Normally at this time of year, the Faculty Council President would present the Texas Community College Teachers Association (TCCTA) Faculty Salary Report. However, as of January 20, the report has yet to be released. According to information shared through a TCCTA discussion board, the report should be published before the end of January.
- For the first time, Faculty Council will partner with the Center for Teaching and Learning to co-sponsor a Faculty Book Club centered on *Small Teaching*, by James M. Lang, and facilitated by **Dr. Reid Echols** (English). Each session will be co-led by faculty volunteers from different disciplines across the college:
 - *Small Teaching*, Part 1, Knowledge—**Ray Stockstad** (English) and **Erica Perrine** (Nursing)
 - *Small Teaching*, Part 2, Understanding—**Dr. Geoffrey Lewis** (History), **Martha Hartt** (Math), **Sandra Melendez** (Engineering Technology)
 - *Small Teaching*, Part 3, Inspiration—**Dr. Michelle McCullough** (Psychology) and **Chad Cryer** (Biology)

II. Committee Updates

- Barnhart Award Selection Committee (**Erica Perrine**, Chair)
 - **Brice E. Olivier** (History) has been named the Claudia and WT Barnhart Outstanding Faculty Recipient for 2024-2025. (For more information about Brice, please see the November BOT Faculty Council Report.)
- Elections Committee (**Erica Perrine**, Chair)
 - In the next round of elections, Faculty Council will add elected representatives to serve on the E-Learning Committee, chaired by Brian St. Amour.
- Faculty Advancement Committee (**Dr. Lisa Keil**, Chair)
 - Faculty approved revisions to the Faculty Advancement Grant Application to align with practices and procedures established by the Purchasing Department.
 - Because cost of travel has risen since COVID, Faculty Council voted to raise the maximum amount an individual can request through the Faculty Advancement Grant from \$500 to \$750. Prior to the meeting, we reviewed applications from the previous

two years and found that \$500 did not come close to covering expenses for travel related to professional development. By raising the amount an individual can request, we expect to see even more faculty take advantage of the grant to pursue quality professional development opportunities.

- Faculty Development Leave Grant (**Kerry Bekkedahl**, Chair)
 - Applications, which are due March 1, are currently being accepted for the Faculty Development Leave Grant.
- Faculty Orientation Group (**Kimberley Clawson**, Chair)
 - The Faculty Orientation Group set-up a table during the All-College Day meeting to welcome new full-time and adjunct faculty with “swag bags” that included branded gifts and helpful information:



- The Faculty Orientation Group also sponsored and led two professional development sessions during Welcome Week for new faculty.
- Satellite and ISD Campuses Committee (**Dr. Reid Echols**, Chair)
 - The Satellite and ISD Campuses Committee continues to meet to help facilitate communication among satellite and Independent School District campuses and make recommendations about teaching and working on these campuses.
- Social Committee (**Dr. Sandra Melendez**, FC Vice-President)
 - At the end of the fall semester, the Social Committee put together a very successful and well-attended holiday party, with catering that included vegetarian and gluten-free options. Leftovers were donated to a local charity.
- Ways and Means Committee (**Erica Perrine**, Chair)
 - At the midsemester meeting, the Ways and Means Committee will present revisions to the Faculty Council constitution that will include changes to the Executive Officer terms of service and election cycle for purposes of continuity.
- In addition to Faculty Council committees, Faculty Council members are elected to and serve on the following college-wide committees: Athletics Committee, Curriculum Committee, Employee Benefits Committee, IT Advisory Board Committee, Policy Review Committee, and Safety & Security Committee.

III. Faculty Council Meeting Updates

- In addition to the midsemester meeting this semester, Faculty Council will continue to hold monthly Zoom sessions.

V. Faculty Service and Achievements

- Leopard's Learn Conference
 - **Faculty from across the college** volunteered to lead and facilitate sessions during the Leopards Learn Conference, organized and presented by the Center for Teaching and Learning.
- Caring Campus
 - **Dan Brown** (Government, Liberal Arts) and **Shannon Bralley** (Government, Liberal Arts) worked with **Dr. Becky Musil** to solicit and compile feedback from students about Caring Campus initiatives, which Dan and Shannon shared with faculty and staff during the Leopards Learn Conference.
- Liberal Arts
 - **Dr. Geoffrey Lewis** (History) successfully defended his dissertation and graduated from Texas Tech with his doctorate.
 - **Dr. Gene Rhea Tucker** (History) gave a presentation to the Texas General Land Office on "The Impact of the French Revolution on the Mapping of Texas."
 - **Kim George** (English) has been selected to present on "Trauma-Informed Pedagogy and the Power of Voice" at the Composition and Literary Studies Curriculum Conference, which will take place at Austin Community College in March.
- Fine Arts
 - **Dr. Sara Harris Baker** (Music) is preparing to direct *Ain't Misbehavin'* at Temple Civic Theatre, which opens in March.
 - **Melissa Green** (Communication and Theatre) is preparing to direct *My Fair Lady* at Waco Civic Theatre, which opens in May.
 - **Priscilla Santana** (Music) directed *Beehive* at Temple Civic Theatre in November.