



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

Faculty Council Report to the Temple College Board of Trustees

March 17, 2025

I. News

- 18 faculty members have participated in the Faculty Book Club sponsored by Faculty Council and the CTL. The book club is centered on *Small Teaching*, by James M. Lang, and facilitated by **Dr. Reid Echols** (English). Each session is 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)
- Lesley Keeling-Olson, a long-time faculty council member and past officer, will lead a Zoom session, sponsored by Faculty Council, to share what she has learned about planning for retirement.

II. Committee Updates

- Elections Committee (**Erica Perrine**, Chair)
 - Faculty council elections will begin this month.
- Faculty Advancement Committee (**Dr. Lisa Keil**, Chair)
 - The Faculty Advancement Committee has received and approved a handful of grants following an increase in the maximum amount an individual can request.
- Faculty Development Leave Grant (**Kerry Bekkedahl**, Chair)
 - The Faculty Development Leave Grant Committee received two strong applications for the Faculty Development Grant. As stipulated by policy, the FDLG Committee reviewed the applications and selected one recipient for the award. The chair of the committee has provided Dr. Gutzmán-Treviño with a letter of recommendation reflecting the committee's decision.
- Ways and Means Committee (**Erica Perrine**, Chair)
 - The Ways and Means Committee has prepared revisions to the Faculty Council Constitution, which will be presented and voted on at the March meeting.

III. Faculty Council Meeting Updates

- In addition to the midsemester meetings, Faculty Council is continuing to hold monthly Zoom sessions.

V. Faculty Service and Achievements

- Faculty from across the college participated in the Texas Community College Teachers Association annual convention in Houston Feb. 20-22.
- A handful of faculty from different departments have been chosen to participate in the Spring Talent Strong Pathways Institute, which will focus on teaching and learning.
- Another group of faculty have been selected to participate in a semester-long series of workshops, led by Achieving the Dream, focused on course redesign for student success by leveraging AI as a thought partner.
- Many faculty across the college are working on doctorate degrees.

FINE ARTS

- Music faculty attended the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) annual conference in February, where faculty worked a 3-day recruiting table, reaching 30,00 students, parents, and music teachers. Music students Jesus Garcia and Madison Bratton, as pictured below, sang in the Texas Two-Year College All State Choir at TMEA.



- Also at TMEA, **Teri Johnson**, Professor of Music, met up with past students (as pictured above), all of whom are now teaching music in the public school system. Teri also directed this year's opera, "Figaro's Marriage," a highly abridged version of Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*.
- **Priscilla Santana**, Chair of the Department of Music, directed the musical theatre program's production of *Catch Me if You Can* at the end of February.
- **Melissa Green**, Associate Professor of Communication and Theatre, designed over 100 costumes for *Catch Me if You Can*. Melissa is also directing *My Fair Lady* at Waco Civic Theatre, which runs May 15-31.
- **Sara Harris Baker**, Dean of Fine Arts, is directing *Ain't Misbehavin'* at Temple Civic Theatre, which runs March 13-23.
- **Derek Mudd**, Chair of the Department of Communication, Theatre, and Humanities, is finishing his two-year term on the planning committee for the Texas Educational Theatre Association's Higher Education Research and Creation Conference, which will be held in Houston this year. He is also coordinating the second biennial Temple College film festival, which will take place at the Beltonian March 20.
- **Michale Donahue**, Professor of Visual Arts, and **Deric Ence**, Department Chair of Visual Arts, are members of the Texas Association of Schools of Art. Both attended this year's annual conference.

- **Deric Ence** is also a member of the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts and will be attending their conference in April.
- **Jessica Just**, Assistant Professor of Visual Arts, is a member of the Society for Photographic Education. She is also a board member of the Texas Photographic Society.
- Earlier in the semester, the Visual Arts Department partnered with Feed My Sheep of Temple to host the first annual Empty Bowls Project, where students made and donated ceramic bowls, raising approximately \$2,000.

HEALTH PROFESSIONS

- Faculty in the Associate Degree of Nursing program are working hard to prepare for accreditation.
- Faculty in the Sonography program are completing a self-study through JRC DMS to maintain accreditation.
- Faculty members in Health Professions report that they are testing new strategies to motivate students to stay on their pathway.
- Faculty in Health Professions also report that they are working outside of the classroom in their respective fields to stay abreast of the latest developments and best practices.

LIBERAL ARTS

- **Kim George**, Department Chair of English and Foreign Languages, 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 March 7. Several faculty members in English will attend the conference.
- **Rebecca Sader**, Assistant Professor of English, has been conducting poetry and drama workshops in her classes to engage students. She is encouraging students to present their writing at a future open-mic night hosted by the library.
- **Natalia Fernandez**, Adjunct Professor of Spanish, is volunteering at the Temple Library to teach conversational Spanish.
- **Ray Stockstad**, Assistant Professor of English, and other faculty from across the college volunteered as evaluators for the 2025 Science Challenge, now in its 5th year.
- Nu Zeta, The Temple College chapter of Sigma Kappa Delta, the English honor society for two-year colleges, is currently recruiting students. **Sarah Honeycutt** serves as the lead sponsor. Co-sponsors include **Esther Guenat**, **Reid Echols**, **James Knabe**, and **Nick Kocurek**.
- Psi Beta, the national honor society in psychology for community colleges, will also be recruiting students this semester. Psi Beta is led by **Christine Simon** and **Jamie Arnold**.

NATURAL SCIENCE

- **Prudence York-Hammons**, Chair of the Math Department, is participating in a Macmillan research study using an AI Tutor for homework assignments.
- Faculty in Natural Sciences attended the Texas Academy of Science annual meeting at the end of February.

- **Lance English**, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, was selected for a fellowship through the American Chemistry Society. He has also been elected to the position of Academic Director (2024-2027) of the Texas Academy of Science and has assembled a steering committee to guide the development of a STEM lecture series at Temple College. **Erin Tilton, Wendy Waiwaiole, Jason Locklin**, and **Martha Hartt** are also involved in developing the STEM lecture series. In 2025-2026, the inaugural year, the series will host six speakers, including a microbiologist that sent microbes to the International Space Station and a biochemist with the Texas Department of State Health Services.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- **Yvette Davis**, AEL Coordinator of Curriculum and Instruction, attended the Texas Computer Education Association (TCEA) annual convention in February, where she earned two micro credentials, one in "AI in Education" and another in "Instructional Coaching." [Click here to see a video of Yvette at the conference.](#)