

*REVISED September 5, 2023 (Provost San Miguel added additional information via an email to the Deans on September 4, 2023)

August 30, 2023, Deans' Council Notes taken by Dr. Lourdes Vilorio, Faculty Senate Vice-President

The meeting started with Updates from Colleges:

Dr. James O'Meara - COE faculty had a question about textbooks and QM course shells. COE persistence rate is 90% based on COE data collection. Two new advisors were hired. Dr. O'Meara shared that the Federal Aviation Administration visit to TAMIU on September 25, and September 30, 2023. Some of the events aligned to this visit will feature opportunities for TAMIU students to apply for [FAA internships](#) and explore opportunities for other colleges to partner with FAA. A PSA and informational flyer will follow.

Dr. Hayley Kazen substituted for Dr. Alfredo Ramirez, Jr. Dr. Kazen reported that UC is currently conducting a Dean of University College search and three candidates will visit TAMIU for interviews and public forums. The [Reading the Globe](#) initiative is going well. This year's selection is *Where the Dead Pause and the Japanese Say Goodbye* by Marie Mutsuki Mockett. The book's author will be on campus on October 13, 2023. She reminded all about the TAMIU Freshman Convocation which will be held on September 8, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. in the KCB gym. University College is still looking for faculty volunteers to help with these events. If you are interested please sign up via this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/eSNaY920fV>

Dr. Lola Norris- (see attached hand-out). Dr. Norris shared the most recent graduate student enrollment data. She also explained for faculty teaching online graduate courses to request an Academic Coach. Dr. San Miguel and Dr. Norris are also exploring the possibility of having Academic Coaches for online undergraduate courses (3000 and 4000 level) that are writing intensive. Currently 26 potential courses have been identified and once Mr. Juan Castillo informs Dr. San Miguel and Dr. Norris of available funding for this initiative faculty will be contacted by Dr. Norris. Dr. Norris also reported that all the Lamar Bruni Vergara scholarship recipients have been notified. Two dissertations and 2 master's theses have successfully been processed.

Dr. Sears- The College of Business has had several personnel changes during the summer. Currently, there are some active faculty and staff searches. The College of Business enrollment has increased by 9%.

Dr. Torregosa- The beginning of the semester started with some classroom assignments challenges that have been resolved. Furthermore, the Nursing Students Certification Exam passing rate is excellent 47/48 passed their certification exam. Dr. Torregosa attributed this success to the curriculum working well as well. There was also a discussion about the Start of the Semester faculty travel (concern). More guidance to follow on this topic from the provost.

Dr. Duffy- There are currently two areas of concern in COAS. First, revisiting the first-year writing program. And the enrollment of the ROTC program needs to increase. Dr. Duffy stressed that this is a

particularly important program for TAMIU and the Laredo community. Some ideas were discussed to increase the recruitment of future students.

Dr. San Miguel reminded all that Dr. Arenaz will continue to focus on increasing the enrollment and persistence of transfer students. She also said that first-time students need to experience different activities and support systems that foster a sense of belonging to TAMIU.

Deans were also asked to carefully look at providing more options for course schedules like hybrid, flip and Saturday classes.

Budget Advisory Committee [funding recommendations](#) were reviewed since these were released by the TAMIU Public Relations office. Most important for TAMIU faculty and staff is the 4% merit pay. TAMIU's merit pay percentage is the highest when compared to all the TAMU system's regional universities.

The University's Convocation will be held on October 5, 2023. Dr. San Miguel will be sending a calendar invitation. All colleges need to submit college and faculty accomplishments to Dr. San Miguel by September 15, 2023.

Legislative Bills

SB 17- Faculty are reminded to keep their conversations and lectures within the realm of their area of expertise.

SB 18- Tenure and Due Process will be reviewed by faculty led committee. Dr. San Miguel will be requesting volunteers for this committee.

[SB 12](#) – Sexually explicit performances – (students need to be 18 and older to enter these types of events).

[HB 1316](#)- Eligibility of Persons finally convicted of a felony for certain public offices.

[SB 412](#)- Pregnant and Parenting Students

[SB459](#)- Parenting Students in Public

*Additional Information Received via email from Dr. San Miguel on September 4, 2023

Deans,

We unfortunately ran out of time at deans' council, and I did not get a chance to discuss several items.

1. Because I do not have an Associate Provost, Sean Maddan has agreed to serve as co-chair of UCC, along with Chelelo, until I name an Associate Provost. Both are ex-officio

members. UCC dates are below. Please inform your departmental/college CC of dates so they can plan accordingly.

- a. September 29th
 - b. October 20th
 - c. November 17th
 - d. December 8th
2. Travel funds for faculty. How much does each college provide to faculty for travel to academic conferences (where faculty are presenting scholarship/creative works)? Please send me this information.
 3. P&T candidates, full professor, fixed-term faculty, emeritus. Please provide me with the following information:
 - e. Name of faculty applying for promotion to:
 - i. Associate Professor
 - ii. Full Professor
 - iii. Instructional Associate Professor
 - iv. Instructional Full Professor
 - f. For those applying to Associate and Full Professorships, how many external letters have you received?
 - g. Do you know of anyone being nominated for emeritus?
 4. Please provide me with a list of faculty searches you are proposing to start this academic year? If searches are replacing a faculty member, please provide the name of the faculty who separated from the university.
 5. If you have a faculty resignation, please let me know asap. I do not receive Workday notifications regarding separations if I am not their immediate supervisor.
 6. Please provide me with a list of new degrees you are thinking of proposing within the next two years. I will also ask your department chairs and faculty for input.

At our next deans' council meeting, I have asked Trevor and bookstore reps to attend the first part of our meeting.