

# TAMIU STAFF SENATE

## Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

2:00 p.m. | WebEx

**Attendees:** Adriana Rodriguez, Alejandra Covarrubias, Amelia Rodriguez, Amy E. Rodriguez, Amy Palacios, Ana Clamont, Ana Gonzalez, Ana K. Manrique, Ana M. Gonzalez, Anabelly Sanchez, Andrea D. Beattie, Andria Hernandez, Araceli Sandoval, Athena V. Cortez, Azeneth Vazquez, Brenda Diaz, Brittany Cedillo, Cindy Villarreal, Claudia E. Martinez, Claudia Garza, Cristina Calderon, Cynthia Martinez, Daniel Berndt, Daniel O. Salazar, Daniel Tijerina, Diana Valdez, Elaine Almanza- Ortega, Elizabeth Martinez, Erika Cantu, Gabriela Chapa, Georgina Zamudio, Gladys Perez, Gloria Sanchez, Heather Benavides, Hilda Dennis, Jessica Acosta Lopez, Jessica Perez, Juana E. Villagran, Julia Pena, Julie Barrera, Kristina Valenciano, Ledith Ramirez, Leonela Preciado, Leti Cruz, Luis Vazquez, Margaret D. Gonzalez, Maria D. Mancha, Maria De La Garza, Maria I. Salazar, Maria M. Blasco, Maria V Villegas, Mariana Barberena Asiain, Martha Laura Medina, Melissa Dominguez, Melissa Morin, Merari T. Teran, Michelle Begwin, Nancy Ventura Vicharelli, Priscilla Munoz, Rebecca S. Delgado, Rene Prado, Roberto Torres Saenz, Rosanne Palacios, Samuel Flores, Sandra Villanueva, Shama Ali, Sofia C. Maldonado, Stephanie Martinez, Vanessa Garcia, Yelitza Howard

**Executive Board:** Cihlalli Perez, Jessica Trevino, Amy Cortina, Alejandra Eligio, Vanessa Almaraz, Ana Vargas, Patsy Lopez & Lisa Salazar

I. **Welcome:** Staff Senate President Cihlalli Perez called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

II. **Review of August 2021 Staff Senate Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve August 2021 Meeting Minutes:

Ana Vargas 1<sup>st</sup> Motion

Patsy Lopez 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion

III. **Treasurer's report:** \$3,970.00

IV. **Speaker/ Presentation**

**Veronica Gamboa – Laredo Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB)**

- City Department, whose goal is to promote Laredo.
- Swag bags are available for visitors to Laredo by the CVB office
- Sister City Festival, Main events hosted by CVB
- Paisano Rest Stop Event
- Satellite Office located in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon Mexico
- November 19 -21, 2021 Christmas Bazar hosted at the Laredo Outlets
- Destination Training- Train to be a tour guide

- Website: [www.visitlaredo.com](http://www.visitlaredo.com)
- <https://www.facebook.com/VisitLaredoTexas>
- [vgamboa@ci.laredo.tx.us](mailto:vgamboa@ci.laredo.tx.us)
- Instagram @visitlaredotx

## V. Staff Senate News

- **Staff Senate Book Scholarship**
  - The scholarship may be applied towards tuition this year.
  - Wednesday, September 29, 2021 at 11:59 PM is the application deadline
  - <https://www.tamtu.edu/staffsenate/bookscholarship.shtml>
- **A&M Chancellor Visit with TAMTU Faculty & Staff Senate**
  - All staff are encouraged to submit any questions or concerns they may have so they may be shared with the Chancellor
  - Emails may be sent to [staff.senate@tamtu.edu](mailto:staff.senate@tamtu.edu)  
Suggestion box <https://www.tamtu.edu/staffsenate/suggestions.shtml>
- **Dining Services Special**
  - Dusty Dinner \$7.99 for employees for September
- **Random Mandatory COVID Testing**
  - Testing for employees will begin the week of September 20
  - All employees vaccinated or unvaccinated will be required to be tested.
  - When selected, you will have 72 hours to do an on-campus Covid test.
  - Failure to comply will result in a reprimand.
- **Covid Vaccines**
  - Vaccines are available Wednesdays at the Student Center  
Visit the Student Health Services Website for more information visit <https://www.tamtu.edu/health/covid-19-reporting.shtml>
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Covid booster shot will be available to those who qualify was announced in the last Covid Committee Meeting.
- **Be a Champ Campaign**
  - Proof of COVID vaccination may be submitted for a chance to win a prize. Prizes include a paid day off, reserved parking, coffee gift cards, meal plan, or Rec Center pass. There will be a grand prize of \$500
  - The first drawing will take place when they have 400 participants.
  - For information on participating, visit [go.tamtu.edu/employeestogether](http://go.tamtu.edu/employeestogether)

## VI. TAMTU News

- **Rosanne Palacios – VIVA TAMTU Campaign**
  - Departments that reach 100% participation will be placed into a drawing. Departments will be selected, and the members of that department will receive a Starbucks card and have the opportunity to

choose where to give \$2500 in the name of that department. It must be given to an academic program.

- Participation for VIVA TAMIU will be till the end of September.
  - If unsure if you have already provided it to VIVA TAMIU, email: [rosanne.Palacios@tamiu.edu](mailto:rosanne.Palacios@tamiu.edu) or [heather.benavides@tamiu.edu](mailto:heather.benavides@tamiu.edu), and they will look into it for you.
  - For more information on donating, visit [go.tamiu.edu/viva](http://go.tamiu.edu/viva)
- **TAMIU Employee Performance Evaluations**
    - Evaluations are still ongoing deadline is October 15, 2021
  - **Hispanic Heritage Month**
    - Activities will begin Thursday, September 16, 2021, with El Grito and continue through the month.
    - Open to the TAMIU community is a new lecture series, Diverse Cultures, Diverse Humanity. These are virtual lectures that focus on diversity and inclusion
    - For more information, visit <https://www.tamiu.edu/coas/lla/diversity-series/index.shtml>
  - **Green Dot Training**
    - Green Dot Training for TAMIU staff will be held Tuesday, October 5, 2021.
    - To register, visit <https://www.tamiu.edu/compliance/TitleIX/greendot.shtml>
  - **Make A Difference Day**
    - The Office of Student Conduct and Community Engagement will be hosting Make a Difference Day on Saturday, October 23, 2021.
    - Make a Difference Day is a day of service for the TAMIU community. More information will be shared as the date approaches.
    - The focus of this day of service will be the Las Palmas Trail.
  - **Rotaract at TAMIU Film Screening**
    - Saturday, September 24, 2021, at 1 PM visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/film-screening-the-story-of-plastic-tickets-169893617383?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

## VII. Open Floor

- **Jessica Treviño, on behalf of Recruitment & Admissions announcement:** Application to apply to TAMIU for Fall 2022 is now open. The new link to apply is now <https://goapplytexas.org/>
- **Ana Vargas, on behalf of the Office of Public Relations, Marketing & Info Services:** TAMIU Insider was recently launched. If anyone has news regarding faculty or staff, they are encouraged to post it on TAMIU Insider. Pictures will

now be able to be added with the text. You can submit news or event information at <https://dustytamiu.sharepoint.com/sites/insider>. Questions may also be sent to Ana Vargas at [ana.vargas@tamiu.edu](mailto:ana.vargas@tamiu.edu)

- **Michelle Begwin, on behalf of the Office of Career Services:** Coffee House Wednesday began Wednesday, September 8, 2021. The next Coffee House Wednesday will take place Wednesday, September 15, 2021; the speaker will be a former TAMIU employee current LPC with SCAN San Juanita Guerra. Friday, September 17, 2021, will be the Dress for Success Professional Development Workshop. Students are being helped to prepare for the All-Majors Career Fair Thursday, October 7, 2021, from 12 PM – 4 PM. All TAMIU students and alumni are encouraged to attend. For more information, you can contact Michelle at [michelle.begwin@tamiu.edu](mailto:michelle.begwin@tamiu.edu) or call the Office of Career Services at 956-326-4473 or by email at [careerservices@tamiu.edu](mailto:careerservices@tamiu.edu)
- **Kristina Valenciano, on behalf of Healthy U:** There will be a 16 De Septiembre snack giveaway. Use the link provided to sign up.  
[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=JZjp5toFaUi\\_SeY6DgTTFEMNqdcLkqIGiy5d8OplQRZURVZPOUQzODVNSEkwSEdYS0hINEJaUVRQTS4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=JZjp5toFaUi_SeY6DgTTFEMNqdcLkqIGiy5d8OplQRZURVZPOUQzODVNSEkwSEdYS0hINEJaUVRQTS4u)

#### VIII. Door Prizes

- Donations for the door prize gift baskets are always welcomed. Feel free to contact one of the Staff Senate Officers so they may pick up any donations.
  1. Elizabeth Martinez
  2. Alejandra Covarrubias
  3. Ana M. Gonzalez
  4. Cindy Villarreal

#### IX. Motion to adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

- Ana Vargas 1<sup>st</sup> motion
- Martha Medina 2<sup>nd</sup> motion