



Meeting Minutes
Tuesday February 13th, 2024
2pm / Teams

Attendees: Acosta Lopez, Jessica A; Aguilar, Anissa M; Aguilar, Rosa A.; Almaraz, Vanessa L; Al-Nasser, Sanaa; Alvarado, Daniel E.; Angeles, Jhoanna; Angie A. Sifuentes; Arce, Alice; Arce, Marissa D.; Barajas, Yesika; Barberena Asiain, Mariana; Barrera, Aquiles; Barrera, Julie E; Beltran, Claudia C.; Benavides, Heather; Benero-Roman, Yarisely; Berndt, Daniel; Blasco, Maria M; Botello, Denisse; Botello, Enrique E.; Bryand, Sandra G.; Buenrostro, Fernando; Calcaneo, Eva A; Calderon, Cristina M; Canales, Michelle S; Cardenas; Jr., Jose G.; Carey, Ashley K; Casares, Kathy A; Castillo, Alexander; Ceballos, Marcos A; Cedillo, Brittany L.; Cervantes, Jordan A.; Clamont, Ana P; Contreras, Joscelen; Cortez, Lorissa M; Covington, Rhonda V; Crooks, Derrick W; Cruz, Maria Leticia; De La Garza, Maria D; De Leon, Isabel S.; Delgado, Rebecca S.; Dominguez, Adrian; Dominguez, Javier G; Echandy, Laura; Echeverria, Perla A; Elizalde, Anna K; Flores, Aide; Flores, Michelle Y.; Flores-Westerman, Maria C; Foster, M. Susan; Franco Garza, Celeste L; Franco Hinojosa, Zoila; Garcia Gurrola, Rocio M.; Garcia III, Heberto; Garcia, Hilda P.; Garcia, Rocio; Garza Garza, Edith; Garza, Jessica M; Garza, Priscilla M.; Garza, Sofia A; Garza, Valeria L.; Gonzalez, Ana; Gonzalez, Carolina; Gonzalez, Jessica M.; Gonzalez, Selina; Granado, Elizabeth D; Gutierrez, Aleen M; Gutierrez,; Angela J.; Gutierrez, Graciela; Gutierrez, Tiffany A.; Guzman, Consuelo L; Hernandez, Andria M; Hernandez, Bernardo; Hernandez, Gloria P; Hernandez, Maria Elena; Hinojosa, Lyanne; Howard, Yelitza M.; Jimenez De La Fuente, Cecilia A.; Justice, Donah M.; Kennion, Vanessa; Lara, M. Connie; Larumbe, Rogelio D.; Leal, Karla; Litman, Rebeca R; Lopez, Virginia; Mancha, Maria D; Manrique, Ana K; Martinez, Brenda C; Martinez, Claudia E.; Martinez, Cynthia; Martinez, Elena M; Martinez, Gabriela; Martinez, Jr., Alejandro A; Martinez, Vanessa F.; Medina, Julio C; Mendez, Ruben; Mendiola, Cynthia Y.; Mendoza Jr., Oscar; Mireles, Vanessa L.; Molina, Josefina; Olivas, Miguel S; Ordonez, Samuel; Ornelas, Patricia; Ortiz, Daniela; Ortiz, Daniela M.; Oviedo, Cristina; Palacios Robledo, Monica; Pedraza, Karla; Pena, Julian D.; Pena, Maria J; Perez, Cihlalli G; Perez, Cordelia G; Perez, Gladys D; Perez, Jessica; Poblano de Garcia, Zaira; Preciado, Leonela; Quintanilla, Krista S.; Ramirez, Cesar; Ramirez, Ricardo; Ramirez-Moreno, Cynthia; Ramos, Blanca E; Rangel, Melisa R; Real, Elsa; Resendez, Kassandra N.; Reyes, Uriel I.; Rodriguez, Amelia V; Rodriguez, Amy E.; Rodriguez, Lorena; Rodriguez, Tina; Salazar, Daniel O.; Salazar, Kelly I.; Salazar, Maria I.; Salinas, Marycarmen; Sanchez, Gloria Z.; Saucedo, Alejandra; Serna, Jonathan P.; Sifuentes, Gloria; Soto, Samantha C.; Tamez, Jessica; Tamez, Klarissa E; Teran, Merari T.; Tovar, Julio C; Trevino, Tano; Vargas, Ana M.; Vasquez, Elizabeth; Vela, San Juanita; Vela, Sonia L; Vera Jr., Francisco R.; Zamudio, Georgina

Executive Board: Daniel Berndt, Mayra Hernandez, Enrique Botello, Consuelo L. Guzman, Martha L. Medina, Yesika Barajas, Aleen Gutierrez and Marissa Arce.

- **Welcome:** Meeting called to order at 14:00 by Staff Senate President Daniel Berndt

- **Review of December 2023 Staff Senate Meeting Minutes.**

Motions to approve- 1st Marissa Arce, 2nd Heather Benavides

- **Treasurer's Report:**

Previous balance of \$ 10,506.00. Donations of \$ 25.00. Expenses of \$ 798.00, \$ 496.00 and \$ 302.00. Remaining balance: \$ 9,733.00.

- **Speaker / Presentation**

- *Crystal Wagner, Visiting Professor- Rhizome- Performance April 12th 2024.* Information shared regarding an inspiring, multidisciplinary contemporary art project that will be created on campus. It will include a large-scale installation at the Fine and Performing Arts building, a performance with faculty and students from the dance departments, a poetry reading keeping with the theme of humans and nature and a collaborative soundtrack. The art piece is created from recycled materials, with some of it eventually be turned into reusable tote bags.
<https://www.tamtu.edu/coas/fpa/rhizome/index.shtml>

- **Staff Senate News**

- Bylaws Update and Vote- Clarification on majority vote during last Staff Senate meeting. Motion to amend the Bylaws to include the governance committee and comply with the Staff Senate Constitution.
<https://www.tamtu.edu/staffsenate/index.shtml>

Motions to approve- 1st Enrique Botello, 2nd Lorissa Cortez

- Staff Senate Meet and Greet February 2nd 2024 at the KCB North Lobby Recap. Staff were invited to mix and mingle. Please visit link below to view photos.
<https://www.facebook.com/tamtuistaffsenate>
- NeighborWorks Laredo- Initiative aimed to assist first time home buyers and existing homeowners with credit counseling and financial education. More information to come.
<https://www.nwlaredo.org/>
- Employee Recognition Program by Staff Senate- A way to say thank you to our hardworking community for everything you do to make this Institution a success. Nominations and voting to recognize two employees, one non-exempt and one exempt per semester will be open through the end of February. Winners will be announced in April and will receive a \$ 100 cash prize and plaque.

<https://www.tamiau.edu/staffsenate/staff-recognition-program.shtml>

- Book Scholarship- Applications continue to be accepted through early March and are open to all TAMIU staff who are actively enrolled in courses to cover the cost of books for this semester. Please visit our website for eligibility requirements.
<https://www.tamiau.edu/staffsenate/bookscholarship.shtml>
- Staff Senate Suggestions and Comments- Daniel addressed several comments dropped into our comments box including a Book Club, Lunch Walk Bunch, Virtual Bingo etc. Please continue to send in your suggestions to our link below. Clarissa Guerrero also shared information on Healthy U Committee upcoming events including - Hike and Sketch, Ditch the Diet and a Lunch and Learn.
<https://www.tamiau.edu/staffsenate/suggestions.shtml>
<https://www.tamiau.edu/healthyu/>

- **TAMIU News**

- Athletics Updates- Yesika Barajas encouraged all staff to come out and attend the last of the Men's and Women's home basketball games. Baseball and softball are starting up with some rescheduling due to weather. Please visit website for all updates.
<https://godustdevils.com/>
- Recreational Sports- Clarissa Guerrero shared info on current TAMIU eSports competitions. Please visit the link for updates and plan to come out and support.
<https://www.tamiau.edu/recsports/index.shtml>
<https://www.tamiau.edu/recsports/esports.shtml>
<https://www.tamiau.edu/recsports/esports-tryouts.shtml>
- *Summer of Soul* Screening will take place on February 20th from 2:00 – 5:00pm AIC 126. This event is free and open to the public.
<https://www.tamiau.edu/newsinfo/2024/02/blackhistorymonth21524.shtml>
- Spring Break Revolution *Work Hard. Play Smart*- Mayra Hernandez shared information regarding a series of upcoming events hosted by the Office of Student Conduct and Community Engagement that are taking place March 4th through the March 7th and are held annually to promote a safe and healthy Spring Break on and off campus. Some topics include Consumption and Alcohol Awareness, Eating Healthy, Mental Health Awareness, using the Buddy System, consent and others.
<https://www.tamiau.edu/scce/sbr.shtml#:~:text=Spring%20Break%20Revolution%20is>

[%20series,Student%20Health%20Services%2C%20and%20Wellness](#)

- The Big Event, PVSA, Submitting Hours Saturday, March 23rd 2024- Priscilla Cadena delivered information on the event which this year will take place in the Canta Ranas Neighborhood on the West side of Laredo. She also encouraged staff to continue to submit volunteer hours to PVSA and reminded us about TAMIU Presence platform.
<https://www.tamiu.edu/scce/madandtbe.shtml>
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSePYOkPLqrmTZoAzVsuutHM8HTz5VEz_AHl1IuzTcBo4S72Q/viewform
<https://www.tamiu.edu/scce/pvsa.shtml>
<https://tamiu.presence.io/>
- Discover TAMIU will take place on April 6th from 11:00am to 3:00pm. This is an annual event that is free and open to public. Vanessa Martinez reminded us that all departments are encouraged to host an activity or booth on campus during the event.
<https://www.tamiu.edu/discovertamiu/>
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance VITA is actively assisting tax payers her on campus and is located in WHT 126 and open Monday – Friday 5:30 -8:00pm and Saturdays 9:00am-3:00pm
<https://www.tamiu.edu/vita/index.shtml>
vitalaredo@tamiu.edu
- EHS Workshops- Daniel Berndt shared upcoming workshops for Spring 2024 including topics such as Emergency Preparedness 101, Fire Safety: Using a Fire Extinguisher among others. Please visit website to sign up for more information and to sign up for classes.
go.tamiu.edu/EHS
<https://www.tamiu.edu/adminis/safety/index.shtml>

- **Open Floor**

- **Door Prizes**

- Johanna Angeles
- Yesika Barajas
- Selina Gonzalez
- Araceli Sandoval
- Starbucks gift card winner Elsa Real

- **Motion to adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 15:02 pm**

- 1st motion Clarissa Guerrero 2nd motion Daniel Berndt