

**MINUTES**  
**UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SYSTEM**  
**BOARD OF REGENTS**  
**ACADEMIC AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE**

Thursday, December 1, 2016 – The members of the Academic and Student Success Committee of the University of Houston System Board of Regents convened at 11:06 a.m. on Thursday, December 1, 2016, at the Hilton University of Houston Hotel, Conrad Hilton Ballroom, Second Floor, 4450 University Drive, Houston, Texas 77204 with the following members participating:

ATTENDANCE –

Member(s) Present

Paula M. Mendoza, Chair  
Beth Madison, Vice Chair  
Durga D. Agrawal, Member  
Gerald W. McElvy, Member  
Peter K. Taaffe, Member  
Roger F. Welder, Member  
Joshua Freed, Student Regent, Non-voting

Member(s) Absent

Tilman J. Fertitta, Ex Officio

Non-Member(s) in Attendance

Welcome W. Wilson, Jr., Regent

In accordance with a notice being timely posted with the Secretary of State and there being a quorum in attendance, Chair of the Committee, Paula M. Mendoza called the meeting to order. Regent Mendoza stated the committee would be presented five (5) agenda items: one (1) action item for the committee's consideration and approval and four (4) information items. Regent Mendoza mentioned that the agenda would be taken out of order and would begin with Executive Session.

The Academic and Student Success Committee meeting reconvened at 11:14 a.m. Regent Mendoza stated that the Board discussed a legal matter and no action was taken during Executive Session. Regent Mendoza continued with the agenda.

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AGENDA ITEMS

**Action Item(s):**

1. Approval of Minutes – Item B

On motion of Regent Agrawal, seconded by Regent Madison, and by a unanimous vote of the members present, the following minutes from the meeting listed below was approved:

- August 25, 2016, Academic and Student Success Committee Meeting

Following the approval of the minutes, Regent Mendoza asked Dr. Paula Myrick Short, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost to introduce the next information and approval items listed on the committee's agenda.

2. Presentation of Low Producing Programs Report – University of Houston System, Item C – A&SS-C

Dr. Paula Myrick Short introduced this item and stated that approximately a year ago the university had presented a plan, at the request of the Academic and Student Success Committee (A&SS), to monitor low producing programs; and to do it on a consistent basis in order to be proactive in eliminating low producing programs entirely. Dr. Short explained that at each A&SS Committee meeting held in November, a report on low producing programs, and any actions taken to eliminate these programs, would be presented to the Board.

In November 2015, Dr. Short stated that this had been the first time this report was presented to the Committee, and at that time, the following recommendations were made: (a) to retain two (2) of the programs; (b) place four (4) of the programs on monitoring status for three (3) years; and (c) to discontinue two (2) of the programs. The appropriate action was taken as recommended at that time. The four (4) programs placed on monitoring status have now entered into their second year, stated Dr. Short and these programs have each submitted a plan for increasing both enrollment and graduation numbers. A new report on the progress of these programs will be presented to the Committee in November 2017; an evaluation will be done at the end of the third year; and a final recommendation as to whether or not they should be retained will be presented to the Board based on whether or not they have met the enrollment or graduation requirements.

Dr. Short said that as of 2016 the University of Houston had no low producing programs to bring before the Board, only those that had been placed on monitoring status. In the case of comparable institutions with low producing programs: Texas A&M has 10; the Texas State System has 16; Texas Tech has three (3); and the University of Texas System had reported nine (9).

Regent Agrawal congratulated Dr. Short on doing an excellent job and asked her to keep monitoring these programs.

Regent Mendoza also thanked Dr. Short and her team for putting together this report, and thanked Regent Agrawal for bringing up this issue at a previous meeting.

This item was presented for information only and no further action was required.

3. Approval of the University of Houston Honorary Degrees – University of Houston, Item D, A&SS-D

Dr. Short presented a list of four nominees for Honorary Degrees to be awarded by the University of Houston. Dr. Short explained that nominations had been received by a faculty

Committee, who in turn, deliberated on all of the nominees and made a recommendation of the four (4) who were presented to the Board as follows:

- **Joseph Rodney Canion**

Mr. Joseph Rodney “Rob” Canion is currently retired. Prior to his retirement in 2006, he was involved with several start-ups and companies. His past experience includes Co-Founder and Chairman of Insource Technology, investor in Cha Cha Inc, chairman and initial investor for Questia Media Inc., and investor and co-CEO of Tricord Systems. He also co-founded Compaq and served as CEO and president from 1982-1991. During his tenure as Compaq CEO, the company set records for the largest first year sales in the history of American Business, and reached the Fortune 500 and the \$1 billion revenue mark faster than any other company in history.

Mr. Canion obtained his B.S. and M.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Houston in 1966 and 1967, respectively. Mr. Canion’s support to the University has contributed to student scholarships in the Graduate College of Social Work, the Cullen College of Engineering, and the C. T. Bauer College of Business. He has served on the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation Advisory Board, and serves on several nonprofit boards, including the Methodist Hospital Research Institute and the Rice Alliance for Technology and Entrepreneurship at Rice University.

- **Michael J. Cemo**

Mr. Michael J. Cemo is the former President of AIM Distributors, Inc., a broker-dealer subsidiary of AIM, and an Executive Vice President of AIM Invesco Ltd. He served as a Director of AMVESCAP PLC from 1997-2003 and was a member of the Executive Board.

Mr. Cemo obtained his B.S. in Economics from the University of Houston in 1968. He is a leader in the Houston business community and has made exceptional contributions to the University of Houston. Mr. Cemo has served as a UHS Regent, chair of the UH Endowment Committee, and was the lead donor for the construction of Cemo Hall. He has also been an active contributor in the C. T. Bauer College of Business, having served on the Dean’s executive board and the board of directors of the Cougar Investment Fund, a student-run mutual fund that gives Bauer students an opportunity to manage money from real investors. He has endowed a professorship in the Department of Marketing and Entrepreneurship at the C. T. Bauer College of Business.

- **Richard B. Davis**

Professor Richard B. Davies is Vice Chancellor and President of Swansea University in Wales, UK, a research-driven university. Under his guidance, Swansea University has established a relatively small number of strategic partnerships with first rate universities globally and was instrumental in establishing the partnership with the University of Houston. Since this partnership was established, it has led to many positive relationships and outcomes for the university and the Graduate College of Social Work (GCSW), including collaborative research projects with faculty from Swansea University’s College of Human and Health Sciences and learning abroad experiences for students.

Professor Davies obtained his MA in Mechanical Sciences degree from Cambridge, his MSc in Transportation and Traffic Planning from Birmingham, and his PhD in Geography/Statistics from Bristol. He is also a member of the First Minister's Advisory Group on post-Brexit Wales and has served in a number of senior positions in Universities Wales and Universities UK.

- **Carlos Santana**

Mr. Carlos Santana is a professional musician. At the age of eight, he moved to the U.S. with his family. His father, a professional musician, served as his teacher and first mentor. Though he was accepted at two universities, Mr. Santana did not pursue higher education. Instead, he chose to become a musician and formed his first band, the Santa Blues Band, in 1966. His many awards include ten Grammy Awards, an American Music Award, a Billboard Century Award, and three Latin Grammy Awards. He was inducted into the Rock n' Roll Hall of Fame in 1998 and the Grammy Hall of Fame in 1999.

Mr. Santana is also a humanitarian. He represents the best of his profession, using the language of music to transcend national and linguistic borders by blending genres (Rock and Latin American). He is a model of excellence in his profession and is dedicated to serving the Mexican American and global community. In 2006, Mr. Santana was awarded the NAACP Image Award. In 2001, he received the UCLA Cesar Chavez Spirit Award for his work on social engagement and the Patrick Lippert Award for his contributions to activism, volunteerism, and political involvement. Mr. Santana's status as a role model has resonance to the Mexican American community of Houston and the student population at UHa

On motion of Regent Taaffe, seconded by Regent McElvy, and by a unanimous vote of the regents in attendance, the approval of the University of Houston Honorary Degrees – University of Houston was approved.

Following the approval of this item, a vote was called to place the action item(s) approved by the committee on the Board's Consent Docket Agenda for final Board approval.

On motion of Regent McElvy, seconded by Regent Agrawal, and by a unanimous vote of the committee members present, Item D, Approval of the University of Houston Honorary Degrees – University of Houston was placed on the Board of Regents' Consent Docket Agenda for final Board approval at the Board meeting held later that day, December 1, 2016.

Regent Mendoza stated that the last three (3) items on the agenda would be presented for information only. Next on the agenda was the Introduction of Vice President of Student Affairs at the University of Houston-Downtown – University of Houston-Downtown, Item E, A&SS-E. Regent Mendoza asked Dr. Short to present this item.

Dr. Short called UH-Downtown's Interim President, Dr. Michael Olivas to introduce Dr. Tomikia P. LeGrande, the new Vice President of Student Affairs at the University of Houston-Downtown.

Dr. LeGrande joined the University of Houston-Downtown (UHD) in December 2012 and has served as the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs since April 2015. Dr. LeGrande has more than thirteen years of higher education experience in enrollment management and student services and academic success initiatives at state supported, minority serving institutions. Dr. LeGrande's management and leadership experience includes former roles of Dean of Enrollment Management at UHD (2012-2015), Associate Vice Chancellor of Enrollment Management, Director of Undergraduate Admissions, Director of Graduate Enrollment Management at Winston-Salem State University (2005-2012), and Pre-College Program Coordinator at North Carolina A&T State University (2003-2005). Dr. LeGrande also has significant experience in strategic planning, new technology implementation, change management, and policy and business process redesign to improve retention, graduation and student satisfaction rates for minority serving institutions.

A native of Savannah, Georgia, Dr. LeGrande holds a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry from Savannah State University. She also holds a Master of Science degree from North Carolina A&T University and a Doctorate of Education from Texas Tech University. Her scholarly interests include student success approaches for low-income, minority and/or first generation students, organizational culture and climate within higher education, and women in leadership.

Dr. LeGrande shared a few words and stated how much she has enjoyed working at the University of Houston-Downtown, serving their students and looks forward to contributing to the successes of the university.

This item was presented for information only and no further action was required.

The next information item was the Introduction of College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Dean at the University of Houston – University of Houston, Item F, A&SS-F. Regent Mendoza introduced Dr. Short to present this item.

Dr. Short introduced, Dr. Antonio Tillis, the new Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS), who will be joining the University of Houston in February 2017.

Dr. Antonio Tillis comes to the University of Houston from the College of Charleston where he is currently Dean of the School of Languages, Culture and World Affairs. As the chief academic and administrative officer of the school, he provides leadership to some 28 academic departments, major and minor programs.

Dr. Tillis' research interests include Latin American, Afro-Hispanic, U.S. Latino, African Diaspora and Comparative Literatures, Film Studies, and Contemporary Theory. He has presented his academic work nationally and internationally at universities and academic conferences. He is the recipient of various honors and awards including the 2012 "Professor of the Year" Faculty Recognition Award by the Lorna Hill Culminating Ceremony and the Office of Pluralism and Leadership (OPAL).

Dr. Tillis holds a Bachelor's of Science degree in Spanish Language from Vanderbilt University, a Master of Arts in Spanish Literature from Howard University, and a Ph.D. in Latin American Literature with Afro-Hispanic Emphasis from the University of Missouri at Columbia.

Dr. Tillis expressed his gratitude and enthusiasm to join the University of Houston and mentioned he was looking forward to working with the leadership team as we continue to advance the academic mission of the university.

This item was presented for information only and no further action was required.

The last item presented to the Committee was Item G, Presentation of University of Houston Student Success Story – University of Houston – A&SS-G. Regent Mendoza introduced Daniel Flores Herrera, a student at the C.T. Bauer College of Business at the University of Houston.

Daniel Flores Herrera is majoring in Management Information Systems and Supply Chain Management at the C. T. Bauer College of Business. He currently maintains a perfect 4.0 cumulative GPA and expects to graduate by December 2018. Daniel is also involved in a wide variety of activities and initiatives across the UH campus. He works within the Bauer College as a tutor for Statistics, a required business course that students often find very challenging. He also proudly represents the college as a Bauer Ambassador, meeting with prospective Bauer students at college fairs throughout the city and serving as a resource for current Bauer students. In addition to these roles, Daniel is also actively involved with UH's Metropolitan Volunteer Program as the Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Co-Chair. He has also demonstrated his passion for giving back to others through his role as a student leader for UH's Alternative Spring Break program, taking charge of a group of 20 volunteers during a three-day service trip to Louisiana. In recognition of these and many more of Daniel's accomplishments, he received UH's Rising Star Award this past spring.

Mr. Herrera is originally from Venezuela, his mother was relocated to Houston in 2014 and one year after he started his studies at the University of Houston. Mr. Herrera stated that one of the things he learned from his mother and from the experience of moving to a different country was that one should always take advantage of every opportunity that is given, and the University of Houston and C. T. Bauer College of Business have provided him with many opportunities to grow as a person, a future business professional, and as a leader. The University of Houston has also allowed him to be actively involved on campus by participating in many different programs such as the UH Alternative Service Break, sponsored by the Center for Student Involvement, in which he led a group of 20 UH students on a three-day service trip to New Orleans to work on beautification and restoration projects during Spring Break of 2016. Mr. Herrera has also had the opportunity to serve as an Ambassador, and has accumulated an estimated of 175 hours of community service by participating in various student organizations and non-profits in the Houston area, in addition to volunteering at major UH events held on campus.

Mr. Herrera decided that he did not want to just be a good student - he aspired to be the best one, he wanted to make the best out of the opportunity to receive a high quality education at the University of Houston, and with passion and commitment he was able to maintain a perfect grade point average every semester all while making contributions to the UH student body and the community! All of the opportunities provided by the University of Houston were helping to build the leaders of tomorrow, who will continue to make an impact on campus, the Houston area, and ultimately contributing to making a difference in society. During his time at UH, Mr. Herrera has learned that success comes when we work to build others and not just ourselves.

Regent Mendoza thanked Mr. Herrera for sharing his story with the Board and for helping others achieve their goals, and wished him continued success in his academic and future professional careers.

This item was presented for information only and required no committee action.

Regent Mendoza asked Dr. Short to share a quick story about a letter she had received from a UH student regarding the Summer Reading Program. Dr. Short began by explaining that the Provost's Summer Reading Program had been implemented approximately three years ago, as a way of building the community with new incoming freshman. Each year students read a book selected by a faculty and student committee, and later, the author of that book is invited to campus to spend some time with the students. This year, Dr. Short received an email from a student in Biomedical Engineering, who stated that the selection for this year was the best book he had ever read, and reiterated the importance of the Summer Reading Program. The student had also requested a few copies to be distributed at a school where his sister was a teacher. The Provost's Office was delighted to hear that and packaged together a few copies of this book for this student.

Regent Mendoza also discussed her participation at the Complete College America Conference, which is a very informational and well-attended event. A presentation on Houston GPS was made regarding the collaboration between the University of Houston, Houston Community College and Lone Star, which is a nationally recognized program, and Regent Mendoza asked Dr. Short, if time permitted, she would prepare a presentation for the next meeting on this wonderful program.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

All documentation submitted to the Committee in support of the foregoing action items, including but not limited to "Passed" agenda items and supporting documentation presented to the Committee, is incorporated herein and made a part of these minutes for all purposes; however, this does not constitute a waiver of any privileges contained herein.

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Others Present:

Renu Khator  
Dona Cornell  
Paula Myrick Short  
Elwyn Lee  
Lisa Holdeman  
Jim McShan  
Eloise Stuhr  
Jason Smith  
Richard Walker

Mike Johnson  
Tomikia LeGrand  
Ben Aldrich  
Deidra Garcia  
Chris Stanich  
Sabrina Hassumani  
Mary Myles  
Sylvana Loc  
Johanna Wolfe

David Oliver  
Brian Thomas  
David Bradley  
Raymond Bartlett  
Phil Booth  
Wayne Beran  
Shannon Harrison  
Omar Jamal  
Jon Aldrich

Others Present (cont'd):

Don Guyton  
Raymond Vic Morgan  
Michael Olivas  
Bill Staples  
Ed Hugetz  
Ramanan Krishnamoorti  
Mark Clarke

Robert McPherson  
Cathy Horn  
Antonio Tillis  
Macy Kelley  
Pam Muscarello  
Joe Brueggman  
John Vazquez

Ryan Harrison  
Cindy Mejia  
Matthew Castillo  
Nuelesh Mutsala  
Don Price  
Daniel Flores Herrera  
Brenda Robles