

MEMORANDUM

To: All TTU Faculty
From: Seshadri (Ram) Ramkumar, President, Faculty Senate
RE: **Amendment to Faculty Senate Constitution**
Date: April 30, 2021

On April 16, 2021, tenured and tenure-track faculty joined via Zoom to make a momentous decision as an exercise to showcase inclusivity. Such a gathering of TTU faculty has not happened in 25 years to amend the constitution of the Faculty Senate.

Faculty Senate's constitution was amended with overwhelming majority to expand the representation to non-tenure/tenure-track faculty with continuing appointments (CA). CA is defined in Operating Policy 32.34 (<https://www.depts.ttu.edu/opmanual/OP32.34.pdf>).

It is pleasing to report that a record number of faculty were in attendance, more than required to make a quorum. The motion to amend the constitution was carried with **256 Yes** votes, which is above the required 2/3rd majority of those present and voting. Out of the 277 faculty members voting, **256 were "for,"** 15 were against and 6 abstained.

The April 16th meeting stemmed out of the action of Faculty Senate, which on Feb. 10, 2021, unanimously voted (42 Yes, 0 No, 4 abstain) to amend the constitution.

The information can be found at <https://www.depts.ttu.edu/senate/amendment.php>

The proposed amendment does not allocate a certain number of seats (or a fixed percentage) to CA faculty. It merely allows them to run for (and vote for) seats on the Faculty Senate.

Dr. Lawrence Schovanec, TTU President ratified the amended constitution on April 20, 2021. The amended constitution has been forwarded to TTU Board of Regents for their approval in the May meeting.

I sincerely thank my faculty colleagues for their support to amend the constitution and welcome our colleagues with continuing appointments to the Senate. It has been a stressful year and we have collectively achieved this milestone.

I wish a safe Summer and hope that we will return to normalcy when we begin a new academic year (2021-22). Thank you for making TTU a great place to work.