

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

Thursday, August 22, 2019 – The members of the Academic and Student Success Committee of the University of Houston System Board of Regents convened at 11:16 a.m. on Thursday, August 22, 2019, 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

Beth Madison, Chair  
Paula M. Mendoza, Vice Chair  
Durga D. Agrawal, Member  
Peter K. Taaffe, Member  
Jack B. Moore, Member  
John D. Fields, Student Regent, Non-voting  
Tilman J. Fertitta, Ex Officio

Non-Member(s) in Attendance

Steve I. Chazen, Regent  
Gerald W. McElvy, Regent  
Doug H. Brooks, Regent

In accordance with a notice being timely posted with the Secretary of State and there being a quorum in attendance, Regent Beth Madison, Chair of the Committee called the meeting to order at 11:16 a.m. Regent Madison stated the committee would be presented thirteen (13) agenda items: ten (10) action items for the committee’s consideration and approval and three (3) information items.

Regent Madison moved to the first approval item, the approval of the minutes from the May 16, 2019, Academic and Student Success Committee meeting.

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AGENDA ITEMS

**Action Item(s):**

1. Approval of Minutes – Item B

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

- May 16, 2019, Academic and Student Success Committee Meeting

Following the approval of the minutes, Regent Madison moved to the next item listed on the agenda, Item C, the Approval of Faculty Workload Report – University of Houston System and introduced Dr. Paula Myrick Short, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost, who presented this item.

Dr. Short stated that faculty workload for each academic year was reported annually to the Board of Regents as described in the Texas Education Code (Section 51.402) and UHS Board of Regents Policy 21.05.

The report followed the common format which included the required information such as rank/type of faculty appointment held, full- or part-time status, effort distribution across the three (3) possible components of faculty workload (teaching/instruction, research/scholarship and/or service activities), number and type of classes taught, academic year salary and salary source for each individual faculty member across the various UH System institutions.

Dr. Short also added that each campus had its own process in place for creating these reports. Faculty teaching was calculated based on classes taught, and other areas that related to student instruction and support, research and service were also developed based on the work of the faculty. This process occurred when the faculty met with the department chair to set goals for the upcoming academic year and then a report on these goals was provided by the faculty during their performance review.

Dr. Short explained that these reports from faculty were then in turn reviewed and approved by the department chairs, college deans, Provost and/or President at each of the respective campuses and then submitted to the Board by the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. To provide context as to faculty workload expectations at each of the different institutions, each university's faculty workload policy accompanied the report submitted to the Board.

Because the institutional mission of each university is unique, the amount of effort a faculty member was expected to dedicate to each of the three (3) possible components of faculty workload (i.e. teaching/instruction, research/scholarship and/or service activities) varied depending on the type of faculty appointment they held and the institutional mission of the component university in which they were employed.

Dr. Short noted that the faculty work very hard and made a significant contribution towards the mission of their institution.

On motion of Regent Moore, seconded by Regent McElvy, and by unanimous vote of the committee members present, the Approval of Faculty Workload Report – University of Houston System was approved.

Next on the agenda was Item D, Approval of a Master of Science in Data Science – University of Houston-Clear Lake. Regent Madison asked Provost Short to present this item to the committee for their consideration.

Dr. Short stated that the University of Houston-Clear Lake was requesting approval to establish a Master of Science in Data Science. The proposed degree required 33-36 credit hours that used a multidisciplinary approach with eight (8) required core courses from the Data Science, Computer Science, Statistics, and Computer Information Systems rubrics. Students could select up to four (4) relevant elective courses in their chosen areas of specialization, including Business Analytics, Cloud and Big Data Solutions, and Bioinformatics.

Dr. Short added that there was a recent increase in data science jobs that resulted from the need to organize, understand and manage big data in businesses and government agencies.

This degree would complement other programs already in existence at some of the UH System campuses. The University of Houston has a Master of Science degree in Statistics and Data Analytics, offered by the Department of Mathematics with mostly mathematics and statistics courses as requirements and electives. Similarly, UH-Downtown has a Master of Science degree in Data Analytics, also offered by the Department of Mathematics with mostly mathematics, statistics, and computer science courses as requirements and electives.

Dr. Short noted that the program at UH-Clear Lake would be unique in that it was offered by their Department of Computer Science, and it included a focus on both computer science and computer engineering. It was expected to become a very popular program and to generate revenue in its second year.

On motion of Regent Agrawal, seconded by Regent McElvy, and by unanimous vote of the committee members present, the Approval of a Master of Science in Data Science – University of Houston-Clear Lake was approved.

The next action item on the agenda was Item E, Approval of a Master of Science in Kinesiology with a specialization in Sports Management – University of Houston-Victoria. Regent Madison asked Dr. Short to present this item to the Board for their consideration and approval.

Dr. Short stated that this was the first of four (4) programs to be approved at the University of Houston-Victoria.

UH-Victoria was requesting approval to establish a Master of Science in Kinesiology with a specialization in Sports Management. The proposed degree would be offered entirely online in order to meet the needs of the population; and this degree requires 30 semester credit hours of graduate-level courses in education and diversity, research, management, leadership, legal and ethical issues, and a required capstone project.

Dr. Short explained that there were two (2) other programs in the UH System that were slightly related to this one, a Master of Arts in Sports and Fitness Administration at the UH campus, and a Master of Arts in Exercise and Health Science at UH-Clear Lake; however, both of these programs were taught in a traditional classroom setting.

On motion of Regent Agrawal, seconded by Regent McElvy, and by unanimous vote of the committee members present, the Approval of a Master of Science in Kinesiology with a specialization in Sports Management – University of Houston-Victoria was approved.

Next on the agenda was Item F, Approval of a Master of Accountancy – University of Houston-Victoria, and Regent Madison asked Dr. Short to present this item.

Dr. Short stated that the University of Houston-Victoria was requesting approval to establish a 30-credit hour Master of Accountancy at their campus. UH-Victoria currently offered a Bachelor's degree in Accountancy.

Dr. Short explained that while entry-level positions in accounting required only a Bachelor's degree, the Texas Board of Public Accountancy required 150 credit hours to be able to sit for the CPA examinations. This program at UH-Victoria was designed to cover the exam content in detail as well as the research and ethics requirements from the board. The courses in this program would be offered mainly online but also included some face-to-face instruction.

Dr. Short noted that UH-Victoria was particularly interested in establishing this program to serve the Victoria and Coastal Bend area where students have difficulty accessing quality graduate accounting programs.

On motion of Regent McElvy, seconded by Regent Mendoza, and by unanimous vote of the committee members present, the Approval of a Master of Accountancy – University of Houston-Victoria was approved.

The next action item on the agenda was Item G, Approval of a Master of Arts in Criminal Justice – University of Houston-Victoria. Regent Madison asked Dr. Short to present this item to the Board for their consideration and approval.

Dr. Short stated that the University of Houston-Victoria was requesting approval to establish a 30 semester credit hour Master of Arts in Criminal Justice to be delivered both online and face-to-face.

This program would enable law enforcement and other criminal justice professionals to advance in their careers, thus improving the delivery of justice-related services to the general population of Texas by filling management and leadership positions with well-educated professionals. Dr. Short noted that this would be the first program in the entire UH System.

She also added that research demonstrated that police officers with graduate degrees tend to receive less complaints from the community and were less likely to use deadly force in encounters with the population. The same results have been indicated among probation and parole officers and corrections officers working in prisons.

Dr. Short noted that this program would fit well with the Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice already being offered at UH-Victoria and expected that it would become a popular program fairly quickly, generating revenue in its second year.

On motion of Regent McElvy, seconded by Regent Agrawal, and by unanimous vote of the committee members present, the Approval of a Master of Arts in Criminal Justice – University of Houston-Victoria was approved.

Regent Madison moved to the next action item on the agenda, Item H, Approval of a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science in University Studies – University of Houston-Victoria, and asked Dr. Short to present this item.

Dr. Short stated that the University of Houston-Victoria requested approval to establish a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science in University Studies. The proposed degrees would be offered both face-to-face and online, required 120 semester credit hours, and in most cases would be awarded to returning students. These degrees were designed for students who were seeking a multidisciplinary degree that allowed them to investigate different areas of study and utilize coursework already earned.

Dr. Short explained that many times students would take courses but, because of certain circumstances, would be forced to stop before completing their degree. This program would allow those students to use their accumulated credits and group them together, based on their interests, and earn a Bachelor's degree.

Dr. Short added that the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) recently invited UH-Victoria to participate in an initiative focused on bringing former students back to school to complete a degree. One way for UH-Victoria to be a partner in this important initiative was to offer this degree in university studies to help serve the needs of students who had some credits but had yet been able to complete a degree. The best way to achieve this was with a general studies degree arranged around Meta majors or career clusters which involved students taking courses in their areas of interest and would support the transition once a degree program was selected.

Lastly, Dr. Short mentioned that UH-Victoria believed that this program would serve their rural population extremely well and it was expected to generate revenue in the second year of the program.

A brief discussion followed.

On motion of Regent Agrawal, seconded by Regent Mendoza, and by unanimous vote of the committee members present, the Approval of a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science in University Studies – University of Houston-Victoria was approved.

Item I was the next action item on the agenda, Approval of a Bachelor of Science in Systems Engineering – University of Houston. Regent Madison asked Dr. Short to introduce this item to the Board.

Dr. Short mentioned that the University of Houston would be presenting three (3) programs from the Cullen College of Engineering for Board approval. After conducting a market analysis, these

three (3) programs were found to be highly marketable and needed in the Katy area; therefore, would be offered at the University of Houston Katy campus.

The first program presented for consideration was the Bachelor of Science in Systems Engineering. This degree would require 123 semester credit hours. Dr. Short stated that one of the challenges in engineering was having to work in more interconnected and complex environments in systems. This program would prepare students with a strong engineering background to be able to understand systems and apply this expertise in various industries such as aerospace, communications, defense, energy, government, transportation, finance and more.

Dr. Short explained that students would also be provided with a sound foundational core engineering education, along with engineering probability and statistics, system thinking, system integration and optimization, decision analysis and risk management.

Dr. Short noted that CNNMoney called Systems Engineering the “best career in America” which was based not only on a high median salary, but a 45% growth in the field over the first half of this decade.

On motion of Regent Mendoza, seconded by Regent McElvy, and by unanimous vote of the committee members present, the Approval of a Bachelor of Science in Systems Engineering – University of Houston was approved.

Next on the agenda was Item J, Approval of a Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering and Analytics – University of Houston, and Regent Madison asked Dr. Short to present this item.

Dr. Short stated that UH also requested approval to establish a 130 semester credit hour Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering and Analytics. She explained that the purpose of this program was to prepare students to enter the workforce with a blend of core engineering topics, along with knowledge of computer engineering, controls, automation, robotics, and data analytics. Additionally, students would experience practical applications of data science by means of capstone projects or internships in local area companies as part of the degree requirements.

The proposed combination of computer hardware and software engineering, controls and robotics, and data analytics is unique and does not duplicate any other existing program within the U.S.

Dr. Short noted that this was a growing market and that there was particularly strong demand for software design. In a 2015 report, the Texas Office of the Governor announced that the state ranked second in the country for IT employment, which included Computer Engineering and Analytics.

A brief discussion followed.

On motion of Regent McElvy, seconded by Regent Mendoza, and by unanimous vote of the committee members present, the Approval of a Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering and Analytics – University of Houston was approved.

The last action item on the agenda was Item K, Approval of a Bachelor of Science in Construction Engineering – University of Houston, and Regent Madison asked Dr. Short to present this item to the Board.

Lastly, Dr. Short mentioned that the Cullen College of Engineering was also requesting approval to establish a 128 semester credit hour Bachelor of Science in Construction Engineering.

This program combined civil engineering and business principles to produce graduates who could design and manage the construction processes that produced, maintained, and rehabilitated the public infrastructure. This included design and construction of commercial buildings, airports, dams, roads, utilities, bridges, residential communities, and schools. Accreditation for this program would be sought through the Construction Engineering Criteria of ABET.

Dr. Short stated that there were only two (2) of these programs in Texas (Texas Tech University and Texas A&M – Commerce); however, these programs were far from Houston. Therefore, this degree would serve a local need particularly with Houston's construction market making UH an ideal location for a Construction Engineering program.

On motion of Regent Agrawal, seconded by Regent Mendoza, and by unanimous vote of the committee members present, the Approval of a Bachelor of Science in Construction Engineering – University of Houston was approved.

Following the approval of the last action item, a motion was called to place all nine (9) action items, unanimously approved by the committee, on the Board's Consent Docket Agenda for final Board.

On motion of Regent Agrawal, seconded by Regent McElvy, and by unanimous vote of the committee members present, all nine (9) action items were placed on the Board of Regents' Consent Docket Agenda for final Board approval at the Board meeting held later that day, August 22, 2019 as follows:

1. Approval of Faculty Workload Report – UH System;
2. Approval of a Master of Science in Data Science – UH-Clear Lake;
3. Approval of a Master of Science in Kinesiology with a specialization in Sports Management – UH-Victoria
4. Approval of a Master of Accountancy – UH-Victoria;
5. Approval of a Master of Arts in Criminal Justice – UH-Victoria;

6. Approval of a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science in University Studies – UH-Victoria;
7. Approval of a Bachelor of Science in Systems Engineering – UH;
8. Approval of a Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering and Analytics – UH; and
9. Approval of a Bachelor of Science in Construction Engineering – UH

The next items would be presented for the committee's reference only. The first information item addressed was Item L, the Introduction of the College of Public Service Dean-Downtown.

Regent Madison asked Dr. Short, who in turn invited Dr. Eric Carl Link, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost at the University of Houston-Downtown, to present this item to the committee.

Dr. Link was pleased to introduce Dr. Jonathan Schwartz, new Dean of the College of Public Service at the University of Houston-Downtown, effective July 1, 2019.

Dr. Schwartz joined from the University of Houston's College of Education, where he served as the Associate Dean and as a faculty member in the College's Department of Psychological, Health & Learning Sciences.

Dr. Schwartz received a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology and a Master of Arts in Counseling from New Mexico State University. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from State University of New York at Buffalo and is a nationally-renowned scholar in the area of men and masculinity, prevention, and intimate violence. In 2017, he won the Lifetime Achievement Award in Prevention from the Prevention Section of the American Psychological Association's Society of Counseling Psychology.

Dr. Link stated they were very pleased to have Dr. Schwartz join UH as the next Dean of the College of Public Service. He would bring to the role years of administrative experience and considerable accomplishments both as an administrator and as a scholar and teacher, and with his vision and leadership, the College of Public Service would continue to grow and serve the greater metropolitan Houston region with distinction.

Dr. Schwartz thanked the audience for the warm welcome and expressed his enthusiasm to begin his work at the University of Houston-Downtown.

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

Next on the agenda was Item M, the Introduction of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs – University of Houston-Victoria. Regent Madison asked Dr. Short to present this item.

Dr. Short invited Dr. Robert Glenn, President of the University of Houston-Victoria to present this item to the committee.

President Glenn was delighted to introduce Dr. Chance M. Glenn, Sr., new Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of Houston-Victoria, effective August 5, 2019.

Dr. Glenn joined UH-Victoria from Alabama A&M University College of Engineering, where he served as the Dean and as a faculty member in the College of Engineering, Technology and Physical Sciences. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland at College Park, and his Masters and Ph.D. from John Hopkins University. He also received a Management Certificate from the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Dr. Glenn was currently the Dean of the College of Engineering, Technology and Physical Sciences at Alabama A&M as well as President and Executive Director of the Alabama A&M Research, Innovation, Science and Engineering (AAMU-RISE) Foundation.

President Glenn stated that they were very pleased to have Dr. Glenn join UH-Victoria as the next Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and believed he would make a great impact on their campus.

Dr. Glenn thanked everyone for the opportunity and expressed excitement to join UH-Victoria. He believed education to be a transformative power and looked forward to working with his colleagues at UH-Victoria and throughout the system.

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

The next information item on the agenda was Item N, the Introduction of Dean, C.T. Bauer College of Business – University of Houston. Regent Madison asked Dr. Short to present this item.

Dr. Short was delighted to introduced Dr. Paul A. Pavlou, the new Dean of the C.T. Bauer College of Business at the University of Houston, effective July 1, 2019.

Dr. Paul Pavlou joined the University of Houston from Temple University where he served as Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Research, Doctoral Programs, and Strategic Initiatives at the Fox School of Business. During his tenure, five of the school's disciplines were among the Top 10 in the nation in terms of research productivity.

Dr. Pavlou was also the Milton F. Stauffer Professor and served as Co-Director of the university-wide Data Science Institute. As co-director, he facilitated interdisciplinary collaborations among faculty and Ph.D. students across multiple departments and colleges across campus and facilitated the development of several data analytics programs and initiatives, including programs to connect with industry, the business community and K-12 schools. His research interests include information systems, marketing, management, operations, data analytics, digital business strategy, and artificial intelligence.

Dr. Pavlou earned a Ph.D. in Business Administration and a Masters in Electrical Engineering from the University of Southern California and a Bachelors in Electrical Engineering from Rice University.

Dr. Pavlou thanked everyone and expressed his excitement to join the University of Houston. He believed C.T. Bauer College of Business offered a very unique and valuable proposition to students and hoped to help Bauer College achieve even greater levels.

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

The last information item listed on the agenda was Item O, a Presentation of Student Success Story – University of Houston, and Regent Madison asked Regent Mendoza to introduce this item.

Regent Mendoza introduced Stephanie Nweke, a second-year student at the University of Houston Law Center to present her story to the Board.

Stephanie thanked the Chancellor and Board for the opportunity to present at this meeting. Originally from Dallas, Stephanie was part of the inaugural class of the 3+3 Program at the University of Houston, a collaboration between the Honors College and the Law Center to provide undergraduate students with an accelerated opportunity to start law school.

Stephanie said this program provided mentorship throughout her undergraduate career and presented her with several opportunities each semester to meet with established legal professionals throughout the Houston area. She had the opportunity to meet a famous film producer and even Scott Lemond, whose father was the first African American to graduate from the Law Center. She enrolled in the Law Center's Pipeline Program in summer 2016 and immediately felt it was a game changer. Stephanie was certain she wanted to attend law school, but did not know how to do it and the pipeline program provided her with the tools, resources, and network to accomplish her goal.

Once Stephanie started law school she joined her friend AJ in building Blademy, an online platform where Black millennials go to learn new skills, land better jobs, and reach their full potential. Blademy was created in response to the widening racial wealth and economic opportunity gap that exists in this country between black millennials and millennials belonging to other racial and ethnic groups. Blademy would work in partnership with companies and universities to create programs and curriculum that prepare students for top jobs. Essentially, Blademy provided companies access to a diverse pool of talent and then helped train these students to successfully navigate their careers.

During her second semester of Law school, Stephanie received an offer from Porter Hedges, a full-service law firm headquartered in downtown Houston, to be a summer associate. Stephanie was also selected to receive the Gus A. Schill Ethics in Representation scholarship, which covered tuition for the last two years of her law degree. Additionally, she received scholarships from the Cougar Athletic Alliance and the Graduate School. Stephanie stated law school tuition

is a major financial investment and felt very blessed and grateful for the financial aid opportunities provided by the University of Houston.

Stephanie was recently selected as a Forbes 30 Under 30 Scholar, an honor that recognized student leaders across the country and sponsored them to the annual Forbes Summit, which would bring together the world's top business leaders, influencers, and change-makers. The Summit would be held in Detroit, Michigan at the end of October and Stephanie was looking forward to attending this event.

Lastly, Stephanie stated that she would not had been able to receive any of these opportunities if she had not ventured out to Houston from Dallas. Family was very important to her as the oldest of four and the child of Nigerian immigrants, she will be the first lawyer in her family, and it was very important for her family to witness all of the wonderful opportunities she received since moving to Houston four (4) years ago.

One of the most meaningful accomplishments for Stephanie was the opportunity to mentor and assist students aspiring to be successful lawyers, opening doors for the students coming behind her. Stephanie thanked the Board for investing their time and energy in the University of Houston and in students like her, and looked forward to the possibility of being a member of the Board of Regents in the future.

Chairman Fertitta and the Board thanked Stephanie for this presentation and congratulated her on her many accomplishments.

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

Regent Mendoza took a moment to thank Regent Agrawal for his support in bringing the BP Summer Global Engineering program to the University of Houston campus.

Lastly, Regent Mendoza also thanked Dr. Andrew Davis, Founding Dean of the Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts, for his support in the creation of our very first mariachi program, Mariachi Pumas, as well as Ms. Susie Molina, Director of Community Relations, who was instrumental in steering the committee in charge of this initiative.

It was noted that an Executive Session would not be held.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.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  
Jim McShan  
Paula Myrick Short  
Dona Cornell  
Don Guyton  
Richard Walker  
Eloise Dunn Brice  
Amr Elnashai  
Ira K. Blake  
Juan Sánchez Muñoz  
Robert Glenn  
Mike Johnson  
Lisa Holdeman  
Raymond Bartlett  
Chris Pezman  
Stephen Spann

Jon Aldrich  
Matthew Castillo  
Macie Kelly  
Mike Atteberry  
Joe Brueggeman  
Brian Thomas  
Shannon Harrison  
Ryan Harrison  
Gerry Mathisen  
Marquette Hobbs  
Brenda Robles  
Nadar Ibrahim  
David Oliver  
Dan Maxwell  
Ed Castillo  
Mark Denney

Sabrina Hassumani  
Jeff Palmer  
Caesar Moore  
Leonard Baynes  
Andrew Davis  
Chris Paul  
Wane Beran  
David Bradley  
Steve Berberich  
Mark Clarke  
Joe Tedesco  
Stephanie Nweke  
Susie Molina  
Jonathan Schwartz  
Chance Glenn, Sr.  
Paul Pavlou