

Lamar State College Port Arthur (LSCPA)
Faculty Council Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2026 | 3:30–4:30 PM | Microsoft Teams

Presiding Officer: Dr. Percy Jordan

Associate Presiding Officer: Marshall Godwin

Secretary: Madeleine LaFollette

Attendees: Chelsey Galloway, Melissa Smith, Carl Richardson, Carlos Quintero, Ersula Davis, Kenneth Ballou, Sarita Medhekar, Brian Lynch, Mary Lou Camarena

I. Call to Order

Dr. Percy Jordan called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes

No minutes were presented for approval, as this was the council's first meeting.

III. Legislative and Policy Updates

Mr. Marshall Godwin provided updates on recent legislative developments:

- SB 37: Proposed abolition of faculty senates and increased state oversight of faculty councils; includes system-level review of core curricula. Institutional impact remains unclear.
- SB 8 (Texas Women's Privacy Act): Noted without further discussion.

IV. SACSCOC and Accreditation Updates

Mr. Godwin reported:

- Appointment of Dr. Stephen Pruitt as the new SACSCOC President.
- Conclusion of the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP); future replacement is uncertain.
- Ongoing substantive change reforms.

V. Artificial Intelligence (AI) Developments

Prompted by Mr. Marshall Godwin, Ms. Chelsey Galloway shared updates from the AI Steering Committee:

- A formal campus statement on AI use is in development for inclusion in course syllabi.
- Evaluation of Packback, an AI detection tool compatible with Blackboard; potential ADA compliance concerns noted. A trial rollout is under consideration.
- Exploration of a new Blackboard proctoring service to replace Respondus.

Discussion:

- Mr. Kenneth Ballou inquired about a course-specific generative AI tool. Ms. Galloway indicated that Ms. Shanelle Lawson is investigating a Google-based solution with this capability.

VI. Classroom Management and Student Behavior

Ms. Madeleine LaFollette raised concerns regarding dual-credit student behavior, including classroom disruptions and inappropriate conduct in hallways.

Discussion highlights:

- Previous use of high school hall monitors was noted but is not currently in practice.
- Dr. Jordan referenced a former Dual Credit Committee that is no longer active.

Action Item:

- Ms. LaFollette will contact the Dual Credit program to communicate concerns and initiate discussion on potential solutions.

VII. Additional Business

- Mr. Godwin reported that the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness is evaluating the Foundry platform to improve academic assessment processes.
- Mr. Ballou inquired about dual-credit student orientation; Ms. Galloway noted that Summer Bridge exists but has limited effectiveness.
- Mr. Brian Lynch suggested dedicating a Faculty Development Day activity to dual-credit campus issues.

VIII. Council Announcements and Updates

Dr. Jordan reported:

- The Executive Council meets regularly with upper administration; members are encouraged to submit topics for discussion.
- An upcoming meeting with the Interim President, TSUS Vice President, and Chancellor is scheduled for the following Friday.
- Two Spring graduation ceremonies are planned; details forthcoming.

IX. Scheduling of Future Meetings

Future Faculty Council meetings are scheduled for:

- April 8, 2026 (afternoon, time TBD)
- May 6, 2026 (afternoon, time TBD)

X. Adjournment

Ms. Chelsey Galloway moved to adjourn; the motion was seconded by Ms. Ersula Davis. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:30 PM.

Minutes submitted by:

Madeleine LaFollette, Secretary