ITEM 1. Call to Order … Faculty Senate President Elena Izquierdo called the Faculty Senate to order on July 11, 2017 at 3:06 PM in the Blumberg Auditorium of the UTEP Library.

ITEM 2. Determination of Quorum was made by President Izquierdo, who called for a motion to seat the alternative members. That motion was made by Laird Smith, and seconded by Eddie Castañeda. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 3. Consent Agenda: President Izquierdo called for a motion to approve the June 13, 2017 Senate Meeting minutes. The motion to accept these minutes was made by Lisa Hennesy and seconded by Diane Monsivais. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 4. Acceptance or Modification of Agenda: There being no modifications to the agenda as electronically posted, President Izquierdo called for a motion to accept the agenda. The motion was made by Charlotte Vines, and seconded by Benjamin Brunner. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 5. Announcements: President Izquierdo announced the following upcoming events: August 25th New Faculty Orientation (8AM-3PM), September 22nd, Faculty Senate Retreat (Noon-3PM), Fall University Convocation, 28th September (3-4:30PM), and the UT System Faculty Governance Team visit, October 12th.

ITEM 6. Reports of Standing or Special Committees

Executive Council … Elena Izquierdo, President
On behalf of the Senate, President Izquierdo offered a special recognition to outgoing Interim Provost Howard Daudistel’s more than two years of distinguished service overseeing the University’s academic operations. Dr. Daudistel took the opportunity to speak extemporaneously on a number of ongoing matters, including the SACS reaffirmation process, the status of the new Pharmacy Program, the continuing evolution of PeopleSoft, the promising enrollment figures for the Fall Semester, and an appraisal of the new budget.

Nominating Committee … Carl Lieb, Chair
The Nominating Committee provided the Senate with its nominations of the following individuals for Senate Officers for the 2017-18 academic year: President: Elena Izquierdo, Vice-President: Sandor Dorgo; Secretary: Daniel Tillman. Nominations from the floor of the Senate were requested for any or all of these position. There being none, a motion was requested to close the nominations. So moved by Laird Smith, and seconded by Ben Brunner. On behalf of the nominating committee, Carl Lieb moved for election of the slate by acclamation. The motion passed unanimously.
Teaching Effectiveness and Development Committee (Laura Rodriguez, Chair)
The Committee attempted to meet on June 15, 2017, but a quorum for official business was not attained. There was some informal discussion of online student evaluations questions 7 and 8 that arose at the Senate meeting of June 13, 2017, where the new wording of questions 1-3 was approved. The Committee expects to have the three new questions loaded in the system for the Fall 2017 semester end-of-course evaluation period. For this report, however, there were no action items for the Senate.

Faculty Welfare, Responsibility, and Ethics Committee … Paul Edison Committee Member
The Committee submitted a detailed written report that reviewed practices, concerns, policies, and potential recommendations regarding the use of self-published course materials authored by students/faculty that are to be purchased by students. Paul Edison provided a verbal overview of the issues involved for the Senate, advising that the Committee would continue to be working on this matter for the next few months. A lively question-answer and discussion session followed, including follow-up on such aspects as the disparity in the amount a department can collect from these sources, the obvious need to articulate policies that are less vague than those currently in the HOP, the uniformity of quality of self-published material across core courses taught by different individuals, and that virtually nothing is known about how other institutions are dealing with these matters. The committee welcomes feedback.

ITEM 7. Presentation: Introduction to the UTEP Edge (Donna Ekal, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Studies). Donna Ekal provided a 10-minute version of an alternatively one-hour presentation on the UTEP Edge, either version readily available upon request to individual Departments and Colleges. She illustrated how the EDGE project is being conveyed to students through an example of an ice-breaking exercise used for incoming students.

ITEM 8. Old or Unfinished Business

ITEM 9. New Business: President Izquierdo will be sending out the Senate a schedule of Senate meetings for the upcoming academic year.

There being no further business before the Senate, President Izquierdo entertained a motion to adjourn. That motion so made by Charlotte Vines and seconded by Diane Monsivais. The meeting was adjourned at 4:01 PM.