TTU Ethics Center
Re: Fall Advisory Committee Meeting

September 8, 2011

Attending
Valerie Paton (chair), Ralph Ferguson, Keisha McKenzie, Gary Elbow, Gary Smith, Cherif Amor, Bruce Bills, Marianne Evola (rep. Alice Young), Donell Callender, Kathy Austin, Judi Henry, Kevin Stoker, Archie Ruiz-Columbie, Kim Turner, Jennifer Bard, Yi hui Lee, Cathy Duran, Justin Louder

Purpose
The Advisory Committee met for its annual fall review.

I & II. Welcome and Introductions of Returning & New Members
New members Jennifer Bard and Yi hui Lee were introduced by Valerie Paton.

Discussion
Items discussed included last year’s ethics activities and progress; activities planned for 2011-2012; the Strive for Honor Campaign; and the Academic Integrity Policy Update.

Justin Louder presented a PowerPoint and printed summary about each event completed in 2010-2011. The presentation also included charted data from post-event surveys and staff reports.

III. Review of Events
TLTC/TTU Ethics Center Lunch Series workshops: Three were held in Fall 2010, on the Gulf oil spill, professional responsibility for educators, and academic integrity in the classroom. Total Fall attendance was 85. Three were held in Spring 2011, on research ethics, justice and genetic discrimination, and ethical behaviors in the classroom. Total Spring attendance was 145.

First Annual Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) Conference: The conference included two sessions: “Ethical Dilemmas in Research” and “Informed Consent and Risk”. Total participants numbered 108, from TTU, TTUHSC, ASU, UMC, and LCU. This conference laid the groundwork for next spring’s conference and helped us partner with others. The 2012 conference will be renamed a TTU-System event.

Arbor Day Assessments by Ethical Institution and Academic Integrity teams: The taskforces encouraged individual student participation and generated 539 distinct responses for the Ethical Institution assessment and 678 valid student responses for the Academic Integrity Survey.

Philosophy Guest Speakers: Dr. Howard Curzer hosted Robin Fiore (University of Miami) to present “Beyond Conflicts of Interest: A Moral Hazard”; Joan McGregor (Arizona State University) to present “Emerging Technology and Sustainability: Are Transhumanists Thinking like Mountains?”; and Ben Minteer (Arizona State) to present “Natural as a Moral Resource: Recovering Aldo Leopold’s Public Philosophy”.

Teaching Research Ethics Conference at Indiana University: TTU Ethics Center co-sponsored the conference and TTU sent 3 faculty participants. All publications were brought back to the Ethics Center and are available to TTU.

On and Off-campus presentations: Justin and staff from the Office of Planning and Assessment conducted several presentations including to IS 1100 combined Fall classes, the Residence Hall Association, the AAUP, and Personal and Financial Planning classes. He also gave presentations at the SACS, AAC&U, and SAIR Conferences.

Matador Ethics Video Challenge: Over 60 videos were submitted, and winning videos were shown at the Weber State game. Winners participated in a Meet/Greet with Coach Tuberville, and lunched with Provost Smith.

Red Raider Ethics Generator: This year’s column series contained 9 articles and a wider range of authors and topics. The articles covered 14 of 15 QEP student and institutional learning outcomes, more than last year’s series did.

NSF and NIH Grants: The Ethics Center prepared two grants during the 2010-2011 academic year. Both, “Engineering Ethics” and “Ethics Education in East Africa,” were multidisciplinary. The second is still pending.

IV. 2011-2012 Planned Activities
The Ethics Center will continue to host the Ethics Series and the TLPDC, Grad School, and Student Life will co-sponsor. The guest speaker for the November 10 session will also do a session on Nov 9 for students involved with the Center for Undergraduate Research, HHMI, Honors College, and the Grad School.

The RCR conference is scheduled for Monday, April 16, so that the Ethics Center can partner for the entire week with the Center for Undergraduate Conference and the HHMI banquet. The week will focus on research and we hope to have a great response. We are also looking at a second speaker so that the conference will have more than one.

V. Strive for Honor
Justin will share minutes from a recent meeting on how to brand Strive For Honor across campus and within the Ethics Initiative with the Advisory Committee.

VI. Academic Integrity Policy Update
The Academic Integrity Policy was revised to be less “code heavy” and more readable, and will be reviewed and tested by the Academic Integrity Policy Committee. It will be a standalone policy, so will not be part of the Student Code of Conduct. The Faculty Senate and Student Senate will be updated with the changes. When they pass it, the policy will go to the Board of Regents in December and be implemented next fall. Training will be conducted in the spring.
VII. New Business
Jennifer Bard is the new representative from the School of Law. There are some other open positions on the Advisory Board.

VIII. Next Meeting
The next meeting will be set up in November and scheduled to last 1½ hours.

IX. Adjourn
Meeting adjourned at 2:41 p.m.