

**ACADEMIC COUNCIL**  
Texas Tech University

Meeting of  
**May 22, 2012**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Sam Bradley, Bobbie Brown, Cathy Duran, Gary Elbow, Ralph Ferguson, Ryan Gibbs, Sheila Gray for Ethan Logan, Melanie Hart, Bob Henry, Sheila Hoover, Lynn Huffman, Jorge Iber, Ramona Johnson for Cindy Akers, Sue Jones, Debbie Laverie, Pat McConnel, Audra Morse, Donna Perry for Peggy Johnson, Marjean Purinton, David Roach, Brian Shannon for Wes Cochran, Geleah Sharp for Michele Moskos, Brian Steele, Rob Stewart (chair), Kevin Stoker, Janessa Walls, Vicki West.

**Guests:** Christine Blakney

Stewart presented the April 17, 2012, minutes of the Academic Council. Stoker moved they be accepted as presented, Brown seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Brown and Blakney discussed the problems associated with posting grades after the death of a student and the decision to use W's for Withdrawal.

Brown discussed the problems incurred as a result of faculty not posting final grades in a timely manner. Stewart asked deans to discuss the problem with faculty and department heads.

Elbow led the council members in a commencement debriefing, emphasizing that an estimated 3,350 graduates resulted in a "packed crowd" on Saturday.

Elbow updated the council on the progress of the Core Curriculum Steering Committee in reviewing and approving courses for a new core curriculum that must be reported to THECB by November 30, 2013. Phase I was completed in June 2012 and Phase 2 is slated for completion during fall 2012.

Jones presented the April course approval summary. After discussions regarding problems with #25 (EDSP 6301), #26 (EDSP 6303), and #29 (PETR 5384), Purinton moved that the three courses in question be tabled and all other courses be accepted as presented. Roach seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Stewart discussed the need to keep up with the notifications of students who would be cancelled for nonpayment and to be timely in warning those students about the potential loss of their schedules. He also cautioned departments to submit justifications for retaining small classes in time for students to make schedule adjustments if any small classes were to be cancelled or modified.

Stewart reported that the Board of Regents has adopted revisions to OP 32.01 on standards and procedures for promotion and tenure. The BOR also approved the new OP 32.02 on faculty non-reappointment, dismissal, and tenure revocation. New tenure-track faculty beginning in September 2012 will be under the revised OP 32.01 and new OP 32.02. Existing faculty will be able to opt for either the current or the revised OP 32.01 for purposes of tenure or promotion.

Based on comments from Dean of Libraries Don Dyal at a recent meeting of Provost's Council, Stewart asked council members to engage conversations on campus about trends in the textbook industry and in libraries to increasingly move to electronic textbooks. Because public education in Texas is seriously

considering adopting etextbooks in many subject areas, these students will soon be university students accustomed to reading and working out of electronic texts.

#### Other Business

- Ferguson discussed target figures for graduates with a master's or doctoral degree.
- Brown distributed a handout on grade replacement course changes.