

THE ANNUAL REPORT

During the 1980-81 academic year, the Faculty Senate met in nine regularly scheduled sessions (meetings 25-33). In addition, a general faculty meeting was called February 3, 1981 to consider a proposed revision in the TTU Tenure Policy.

SENATE VISITORS

During the year, E. L. Short, Bill Dean, Arnold Gully, Robert Ewalt, and Lawrence Graves visited the Faculty Senate for the purposes of discussing particular issues with the senators. At the November meeting, State Senator E. L. Short outlined several topics and responded to questions and comments. Bill Dean, Executive Director of the Ex-Students Association, spoke at length about the Association's activities and problems during the December meeting. In January, Arnold Gully spoke briefly concerning the Academic Leadership Development Program and its goals. The following month, Robert Ewalt reported the activities and recommendations of the task force developed to assess the current state of the information systems available for student/faculty academic information. At the May meeting, Dean Lawrence Graves reported on the activities of the Search Committee for the Academic Vice President.

AD HOC COMMITTEES OF THE FACULTY SENATE

The following ad hoc committees were active during the 1980-81 year:

- A. Academic Freedom - At its February 14, 1979 meeting, the senate created an Academic Freedom Committee, charging it with studying "academic freedom and its application on this campus. Special attention should be directed to developing a better understanding of the various activities that fall within the protection of the concept." In January, William Stewart, chairperson of the Ad Hoc Committee circulated a report containing conclusions and recommendations concerning certain standing committees, the Grievance Panel in particular. Action on the report's resolution was postponed until the March meeting, and the Grievance Panel was invited to the February meeting. At that time, Ernest Fish, Chairperson of the Faculty Grievance Panel, updated the activities of the Panel, explaining its history, the nature of its membership and its charge. At its March meeting, the Senate approved the resolution presented by the Academic Freedom Committee as amended. The resolution redefined and clarified the charge of the committee, its membership, and its operating procedures.
- B. Compliance of TTU with Southwest Athletic Conference Rules - In September, Bill Conroy, representing the Ad Hoc Committee to Investigate Compliance of Texas Tech University with Southwest Athletic Conference Rules, reported that the Committee had reviewed relevant documents and correspondence. He explained that the University has not been in compliance with the provisions of Article III of the Southwest Athletic Conference Constitution since 1977. A resolution concerning the length of appointment of faculty members to the Athletic Council was adopted. At the October meeting, Roland Smith, President of the Faculty Senate, reported that the Athletic Council appeared once again to have an active role in the policies of the athletic program.
- C. Conference with President Cavazos - At its March 11, 1981 meeting, the Senate created an Ad Hoc Committee and charged it with meeting with President Cavazos to discuss the complicated events leading to the resignation of the Tenure and Privilege Committee. This Committee reported in April that it had had the meeting and presented a three-point resolution for Senate action. The senate approved the resolution.

D. Van Committee - In response to an inquiry about action on the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Van Committee, established the previous year, Ainsworth reported that his office had some of the recommendations under consideration, that six new vehicles had been purchased, three other ordered, and several others leased. He indicated that most of the current needs were being met.

E. In April, the Ad Hoc Committee on the Institutional Resource Allocation Data Base filed a thirty-seven page report with the Senate Office. The Committee recommended that the report be circulated among those currently using the AAIS and that a committee be established charged with the responsibilities of evaluating the collection, coding, management, interpretation, and uses of the AAIS data. At the May meeting, Nelson Dometrius summarized the report, responded to questions, and moved its adoption. The report and its recommendations were approved.

OTHER COMMITTEES

The following committees also reported to the Senate during 1980-81:

A. Budget Study Committee - On September 10, 1980, the Senate directed the Budget Study Committee to investigate the financial situation of the library. At the same meeting, the senate registered its concern over the financial crisis and voted to inform the President of the necessity for the University to divert available funding into the purchase of books and other materials. During the November 12, 1980 meeting, Smith announced that the President and the Academic Vice President had met with the librarians and immediately thereafter transferred \$50,000 to the library. The Budget Study Committee reported in May that the library had received additional funding and clarified that the University Library and the Medical School Library were funded separately.

B. Committee on Committees - An active standing body, the Committee on Committees reported actions at the September, January, February, March, April, and May meetings involving slates of nominees for University and Senate Committees.

C. Faculty Status and Welfare Committee - October 8, 1980, Roland Smith referred the proposed revision of TTU Tenure Policy, Part IV, Section 8 to the Faculty Status and Welfare Committee for study. The committee reported November 12, 1980, recommending Senate approval of the proposed revision and calling for a voting faculty meeting to consider and to act upon the revision. This meeting was scheduled for February 3, 1981. The proposed revision was approved at that time by a vote of 64 to 42. At the February 11, 1981 meeting, the committee circulated a financial exigency report. Action on this report was postponed until March at which time it was tabled until April. Postponed then until May, the Financial Exigency Regulations, establishing procedures to be followed, were adopted May 13, 1981.

D. Study Committee A - During the February 11, 1981 meeting, the Senate approved the committee's resolution calling for modification in the IRS ruling which affects book inventories of publishers.

E. Study Committee B - On February 11, 1981, the Senate recommitted a report concerning small monetary awards for more specific recommendations. On March 11, 1981, the Senate approved the "Disbursements from Faculty Development Fund" recommendations that "the money be added to an existing teaching equipment fund for the improvement of teaching facilities...in the large lecture halls on campus."

F. Study Committee C - On February 11, 1981, Study Committee C recommended that departmental chairpersons should be evaluated with faculty input every three years and deans on a regular basis. It further recommended that a procedures for evaluating vice presidents be developed by the President in consultation with the Senate. The recommendations were approved.

G. Tenure and Privilege Committee - The Tenure and Privilege Committee reported on its policies and procedures, special concerns, and proposals at the 8 October 1980 meeting, focusing particularly on questions involving temporary faculty, the Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Freedom, and the Grievance Committee. At the 11 March 1981 meeting, the Senate received a letter of resignation from the members of the Tenure and Privilege Committee. At this time the Senate appointed an ad hoc committee to confer with the President. As a result, the President decided to appoint a six-member committee to determine proper procedures and interpretations of documents relating to tenure.

H. Undergraduate Programs Committee - In February, the committee recommended changes in the withdrawal and pass/fail dates. The report was approved. In May, the committee recommended further revisions in pass/fail policies. Action was postponed until the September 1981 meeting due to a lack of a quorum.

RESOLUTIONS APPROVED

The Athletic Council - September 10, 1980 - resolving "that the length of appointment of faculty to the Athletic Council be restored to three years' duration, with terms staggered in order to provide continuity."

The large lecture halls - September 10, 1980 - resolving that appropriate administrative action be taken to identify and correct problems with the large lecture halls on campus.

Appointments to University Committees - October 8, 1980 - resolving that responsibility for nominating members to the Biosafety, Protection of Human Subjects, Radiation and Laser Safety, and Warm-Blooded Animals Committees resides with the Faculty Senate and further resolving that these should not be "special committees" but rather be restored to their former status.

The Internal Revenue Service - February 11, 1981 - resolving that modifications or changes occur in the recent IRS ruling which may lead to "the probable wholesale destruction of book inventories, and the probable decrease in the publication of worthy scholarly books."

Faculty morale - March 11, 1981 - calling for President Cavazos to meet with the Faculty Senate to discuss the current status of faculty morale.

Leon Higdon

Leon Higdon, Secretary
Faculty Senate
1980-81

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