

Minutes, Faculty Senate Meeting #60
May 9, 1984

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, May 9, 1984, at 3:30 p.m. in the Senate Room of the University Center with William J. Mayer-Oakes, President, presiding. Senators present were Adamcik, Anderson, Berlin, Burkhardt, Burnett, Coulter, Cummings, Dixon, Dvoracek, B. Freeman, Gettel, Gott, Graves, Havens, Hickerson, Khan, McKown, McLaughlin, Maynard, Oberhelman, Pearson, Sasser, Shine, Sosebee, Sparkman, Strauss, Sullivan, Teske, Urban, Vallabhan, Welton, Williams, Wunder and Zyla. R. Freeman was absent because of other University business and Richardson was absent because of illness. Also absent were Ayoub, Bloomer, Bubany, Chonko, Eissinger, Elbow, Goss, Hudson, McVay, Mehta, Twyman and Wright.

Guests included Karen Johnson, Legal Counsel for TSTA; C. Len Ainsworth, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, Pat Graves, Avalanche Journal; Preston Lewis, University News and Publications; James E. Brink, Professor, History and member of the Tenure and Privilege Committee and the following persons who were recently elected to serve on the Faculty Senate: John Blair, Margaret Wilson, Sydney Cravens, Jerry Stockton, Jack Gipson, Hong Y Lee, Wayne Ford, Kenneth Davis, Peggy Williams, Benjamin H. Newcomb, Mary Owens and Donald Rude.

SUMMARY OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED

At its May 9, 1984 meeting the Faculty Senate:

1. passed a resolution allowing for the option for motions from the floor at the upcoming May 11, 1984 faculty meeting,
2. adopted a resolution requesting that the President and the Board of Regents delay consideration of the new tenure policy,
3. moved to request that the proposed tenure policy preliminarily approved by the faculty and the administration in 1982 be the basis for discussion of a future tenure policy,
4. heard comments from Senator Shine.

Senate President, William Mayer-Oakes, called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. and recognized guests.

I. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 25 & APRIL 27 MEETINGS

Hearing no corrections or additions, the minutes were declared approved as circulated.

II. OPENING REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

Mayer-Oakes explained the contents of 3 handouts and said that in light of the current tenure situation and it being the end of the semester, the agenda will be focused on one primary issue, tenure. He concluded by expressing gratitude for the help and efforts of all those persons in the Senate and connected with it.

III. RESOLUTION FROM AGENDA COMMITTEE(S)

Secretary Coulter read the following resolution:

Resolved that the "call" for the April 27 special meeting of all TTU voting faculty (which is to be re-convened May 11, 1984 at 2:30 p.m.) be amended to add the option for motions from the floor in reference to actions on the tenure policy by President Cavazos or the TTU Board of Regents.

McLaughlin moved adoption of the above resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Davis referred to the following resolution, read the last two paragraphs and moved its adoption by the Senate.

Whereas, at the April 27 general faculty meeting, the department chairs, representing large numbers of faculty have spoken strongly against the proposed new tenure policy, and

Whereas, the voting faculty of TTU has subsequently by mail ballot overwhelmingly indicated disapproval (out of the 792 eligible faculty 644 voted disapproval, 21 voted approval and 9 abstained) of the proposed new tenure policy, and

Whereas, many individual and collective faculty voices, including the graduate council, the College of Arts & Sciences, the College of Education, the School of Law and the academic council have clearly indicated that implementation of the proposed new tenure policy would do serious and irreparable damage to TTU, and

Whereas, the Student Senate has enacted legislation supporting the faculty in this matter and opposing the proposed new tenure policy, now

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate request the President and the Board of Regents to defer consideration of any new tenure policy until such time as a tenure revision proposal, based on significant critical deliberation and collaborative effort among appropriate representatives of the Regents, the Faculty and the President, has been derived, and said proposal contains adequate consideration of both financial and program exigency, and

Be it further resolved, that the President of the Faculty Senate be directed to communicate this resolution to the President immediately and to the Board of Regents when he addresses the Board on May 11, 1984.

Other business continued.....

By unanimous consent the Senate agreed to consider the resolution. Sullivan moved to amend the second paragraph by striking the information within the parentheses and inserting out of the 792 eligible faculty 644 voted disapproval, 21 voted approval and 9 abstained. The motion to amend passed unanimously. The motion to adopt the resolution, as amended passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Pearson presented the following resolution:


We ask the Senate, when presenting its views to the Board of Regents through President Mayer-Oakes, to request that the proposed tenure policy preliminarily approved by the Faculty and Administration in 1982 be the basis for discussion of a future tenure policy for this university.

By unanimous consent the Senate agreed to suspend the rules and consider this matter at the May 9 meeting.

Shine suggested that the above resolution be verbally communicated to the Board of Regents on Friday, May 11 by Senate President Mayer-Oakes. The motion to adopt the resolution passed unanimously.

Senator Shine commended the officers of the Senate and the officers-elect for the work they have done in providing leadership to the Faculty Senate in these particularly pressing times. He stated further that in his opinion, this is the first time the Senate has had such leadership in a critical period and he is proud to be a member of the Faculty Senate at this time. The University faculty, the University as a whole, and the Senate as a whole is indebted considerably to the officers of the Senate and to the officers-elect for the work they have done in giving leadership at this time. With no reflection upon the past officers, he added, this is the first time the Senate has had leadership in a really critical period. We owe a vote of thanks to these officers, particularly to the president, William J. Mayer-Oakes he said. Shine concluded his remarks by requesting that it be recorded that this Faculty Senate owes a debt to its officers and he thanked them for the leadership they have shown.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.



Murray Coulter
Secretary