

MINUTES - FACULTY SENATE MEETING #69

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, April 10, 1985, at 3:30 p.m. in the Senate Room of the University Center with Evelyn Davis, President, presiding. Senators present were Adamcik, Blair, Bloomer, Burnett, Collins, Cravens, Curry, K. Davis, Dixon, Dvoracek, Eissinger, Ford, Gettel, Gipson, Gott, Havens, Keho, Khan, Lee, McKown, Mehta, Oberhelman, Owens, Rude, Sasser, Steele, Stockton, Strauss, Sullivan, Teske, Vallabhan, Welton, Whitsitt, Wicker, Williams, Wilson, and Wright. Senators Anderson, Ayoub, Carlile, Coulter, Freeman, Goss, Shine, and Thornhill were absent. Senators Newcomb, Richardson, and Sparkman were absent because of University business. Senator Higdon is on leave from the University.

Vernon McGuire, Associate Professor, Speech Communications, served as Parliamentarian.

Guests included C. Len Ainsworth, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research; Preston Lewis, University News and Publications; Kevin Smith, University Daily; Paul Cline, Jr., Avalanche Journal; and Frank Bass, Lab reporting student.

President Davis called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. and recognized guests present.

I. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 6, 1985 MEETING

Wilson moved the minutes be accepted as circulated. The motion passed.

II. TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO SUPPORT MINI-DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

Wilson moved that the \$1500.00 given the Faculty Senate by the Ex-Students Association be used for faculty development (Mini-Development Grants). The motion passed without opposition.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Faculty Senate Academic Programs Committee

Dixon, Chair, reported that his committee had met with Dr. Virginia Sowell, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research, and discussed the matter of the University Calendar and several other areas of concern to faculty members. Senators asked questions and voiced opinions such as:

1. The University of Texas has 3 dead days, why can Tech not do the same?
2. Faculty would like to see absence column added for the benefit of parents.
3. The administration should not change the schedules of dates when grade reports are due, etc. without consulting the faculty.
4. Does a professor have a right to deny a student admission to a class after registration is closed?

Senator Gott moved acceptance of Dixon's report. The motion passed.

B. Faculty Senate Study Committee D

Owens, Chair, referred to the committee report circulated with the agenda and moved that the committee recommendations be accepted by the Faculty Senate and forwarded to the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research, the Committee on Admissions and Retention, and department chairpersons. Again, the Senators asked questions and voiced opinions such as:

1. If student advising must go on all summer, salary money should be available for those faculty involved

Committee D report continued.....

2. Registration has been lengthened from 6 days to 365 days
3. The information on the computers should be updated more often
4. The whole registration process needs to be re-evaluated, with faculty input

Owen's motion that the Senate accept the committee report and forward it did not pass. Following some suggestions from members of the Senate, Committee D was instructed to come back to the Senate with a new set of recommendations.

C. ad hoc Committee on University Status and Progress

Sullivan, Chair, reported information gained from a questionnaire circulated by this committee to department chairpersons as follows:

1. 28 chairpersons out of "50 odd" responded
2. More resignations are being seen at the assistant professor level
3. Enrollment is up 1½% since 1980--up 12% statewide
4. Possibly a decline in the quality of students; average SAT scores for TTU = 940, University of Houston 959; UT and A & M students have SAT scores 100 points above ours.
5. Provisional students at TTU are not being followed relative to their success at TTU.
6. Some students say they are leaving TTU because they are thrown into classes with poor students.

D. ad hoc Committee for the Development of Financial Exigency Policy and Procedure

Aycock, Chair, reported that this committee has met twice, March 20 and April 3. The committee reviewed its charge and studied the document that the Tenure and Privilege Committee drafted in 1984. There was a consensus of agreement that this document needed to be revised, and the committee has begun its work. The committee has looked at several other documents (including the 1981 policy passed by the Senate). The committee is now in the process of formulating a definition of Financial Exigency and of identifying the issues that might be appropriately addressed in the policy.

Vice President Darling has been made aware of dates of committee meetings and plans to attend the April 15 meeting. President Cavazos has also been made aware of the existence of the committee and will meet with Aycock and Dr. Davis, President of the Faculty Senate on April 30.

Aycock concluded by saying that this committee has just begun its work.

E. Committee on Committees

Welton, Chair, submitted two nominees for membership on the Faculty Senate Tenure and Privilege Committee. Judith Fischer, was the nominee for the fifth member of that committee. Wayne Ford, a nominee as an alternate member. The Faculty Senate approved both nominations.

F. Executive Committee

Davis, Faculty Senate President reported (see Davis' report attached)

IV. UPDATE ON ELECTIONS IN PROCESS

Carlton Whitehead, Chair, Faculty Senate Elections Committee, has reported that nominees have been secured for election to the Hearing Panel for the Tenure Advisory Committee and the ballots are being circulated.

The election of faculty to fill Senate vacancies and vacancies on the Faculty Development Committee is in process.

V. RESPONSE TO AAUP COMMITTEE T

Wright reported that officers of the Faculty Senate and officers of the local chapter of the AAUP met to go over the 33 page report from Committee T and to work on a joint response to that report. He said the report is fairly detailed and reasonably well done, but contains a lot of mistakes.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

The following motion was presented by Havens.

" I move that the Faculty Senate officers continue meeting with the President of TTU by mutual agreement so long as such meetings produce beneficial results. Such meetings are not to substitute for the President's responsibilities in Section 4, Article IV of the Constitution of the Faculty Senate of Texas Tech."

The motion passed.

Senator Gott mentioned that the Southwestern Social Science Association passed a resolution to the effect that "the Southwestern Social Science Association reaffirms the AAUP 1940 principles on faculty governance." This resolution will be sent to Dr. Cavazos.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Henry A. Wright
Henry A. Wright, Secretary
Faculty Senate

REPORT OF CONFERENCE WITH PRESIDENT CAVAZOS

1 April 1985

Those attending the meeting were the three Faculty Senate officers, Sullivan, Wright, and Davis; Virginia Sowell, Assistant to the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Research; and President Cavazos.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

**Appreciation was expressed for the President's quick attention to the 5 percent reduction on research projects

**President Cavazos said there would be selective lifting of the faculty hiring freeze based on the priorities set by the the Deans.

**Because of the planned cut back in part-time faculty, we asked if there were plans for restricted enrollment with particular attention to freshmen level English and math classes. He said that he would review the problem with Dr. Darling.

**Dr. Cavazos indicated he had not seen plans for the implementation of the tenure policy. He said a time had not been set to start the five year performance reviews. When questioned about the criteria to effectuate the five year reviews, The President said there should be some broad general guidelines consistent across disciplines. Dr. Sowell thought the plans being developed were along the same lines as tenure and promotion today. Dr. Cavazos said he wanted Dr. Darling to discuss the plans for implementation of the tenure policy with the Faculty Senate officers.

At the last Faculty Senate meeting, Mr. Birdwell, Chairperson of the Board of Regents, indicated the Regents may not be locked into the tenure policy. Dr. Cavazos said he would try to set up another meeting before school is out between the Regents' ad hoc committee and the Senate officers to discuss the tenure policy.

**The development of a financial exigency policy was discussed with the President agreeing to an extension of the deadline from May to the end of October. He reiterated his commitment to a collaborative process.