

Annual Report of Texas Tech
University Faculty Senate
1985-86

During the 1985-86 academic year, the Faculty Senate met in nine regular meetings (numbers 71 through 79) and two special meetings (April 2, to elect Senators to serve on the Tenure Task Force; May 5, to vote on the tenure policy drafted by the Tenure Task Force). President Margaret Wilson presided at all meetings. The Senate also arranged forums during which faculty members met candidates for the post of Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research (January 27, February 3, 12, and 17), and forums to discuss the new tenure policy (May 1).

Guests and their Reports to the Senate. Senate guests included Dean Clyde Hendrick of the Graduate School, reporting on criteria for graduate faculty membership (September); Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research Virginia Sowell, reporting on sick leave policy (September); Edward George, Classical and Romance Languages, and Irmgard Hunt, Germanic and Slavic Languages, reporting on the refusal of Tech Press to publish the proceedings of the Comparative Literature Symposium, "War and Peace; Perspectives in the Nuclear Age" (December); Vice President for Student Affairs Robert Ewalt, reporting on the University's responses to the problem of AIDS (January); and Amy Love, Student Senate, reporting on the Student Senate's request that liaison be established between the Student Senate and the Faculty Senate (February).

Reports and Resolutions From Standing Committees.

Study Committee A. Studied student absences and tardiness, but could recommend no specific action because of logistical complexities (March).

Study Committee B. Recommended that grade appeal procedures be made consistent and clear through several revisions in language (April).

Study Committee C. Recommended that department or area chairpersons be evaluated regularly, and that it be clear that they serve at the pleasure of their deans (March).

Study Committee D. Developed an interim recommended sick leave policy to address the problem of the legislature's removal of 9-10-month faculty from the regular sick leave system (April).

Academic Programs. Studied proposed General Education curriculum and provided detailed comments which were approved by the Senate and sent to the General Education Committee (February). Studied pass-fail grading options and terminology, leading to Senate resolution that students be permitted to take only elective courses pass-fail (April, May).

Committee on Committees. Submitted slates of nominees for University and/or Senate committees in September, November, December, January, March, April and May.

Faculty Status and Welfare. Continued to monitor the intellectual property policy, and will be responsible for reporting on that policy in the fall of 1986 (May).

Tenure and Privilege. Studied the refusal of Tech Press to publish the proceedings of the 1985 Comparative Literature Symposium, "War and Peace: Perspectives in the Nuclear Age" (report in December). Studied the report of the Tenure Study Committee and recommended Senate endorsement of that report (March).

Reports and Resolutions From Ad Hoc Committees.

Campus and Community Relations. Recommended the continuation of the Speakers' Bureau despite low faculty participation (December).

Financial Exigency. Worked throughout the year to develop a financial exigency policy, and hopes to complete its work in the fall of 1986.

University Status and Progress. Reported on declining student quality, faculty morale, and faculty quality (September and November).

Other Senate Business.

Senate Participation in Revision of Tenure Policy. Throughout the year Vice President Haragan consulted with the Senate, and Senate representatives were appointed to the Tenure Study Committee, which recommended revisions in its report (March), and elected to the Tenure Task Force, which drafted the new tenure policy approved by the Senate, ratified by the faculty at large, and adopted by the Board of Regents.

Joint Faculty Senate/Administration Committee to Review Enrollment Procedures. Has investigated most major areas and recommended in its interim report that the comprehensive degree audit be begun on an experimental basis, and that scheduled pre-registration be limited to one week (May). Plans to submit a final report by October 1.

Academic Publications. The Tenure Advisory Committee, chaired by Senator Brink, recommended that the Tech Press establish clear, written procedures for selecting and evaluating manuscripts submitted for publication. President Cavazos directed Vice President Haragan to implement the committee's recommendations (May).

Liaison with Student Senate. A representative from the Student Senate will attend Faculty Senate meetings and a faculty senator will attend Student Senate meetings. Senator Cravens was appointed as the first faculty liaison.

Liaisons with Other Groups. Senate President Wilson served on the search committee for vice president for academic affairs and research. Senate Vice President Havens served as liaison with the Academic Council. Chairperson Carlile of the Academic Programs Committee served on the General Education Committee. Senator Rude served on the Intellectual Property Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Whitsitt

Julia Whitsitt, Secretary