

## MINUTES OF FACULTY SENATE MEETING 76

The Faculty Senate met February 12, 1986 in the Senate Room of the University Center, with President Margaret E. Wilson presiding. Senators present were Aycock, Blair, Brink, Burnett, Carlile, Collins, Cravens, Curry, Davis, Dvoracek, Gades, Gipson, Goss, Hartwell, Havens, Higdon, Keho, Khan, Lawrence, McLaughlin, Mann, Minifie, Newcomb, Oberhelman, Owens, Platten, Randolph, Rude, Scott, Shine, Skoog, M. Smith, Sparkman, Steele, Strauss, Sullivan, Tereshkovich, Whitehead, Whitsitt, Wicker, and Williams. Senators absent because of University business were Dixon, Ford, Koepe, R. Smith, Stockton, Vallabhan, and Wright. Senators Bissinger and Teske were absent. Senator Pearson is on leave from the University.

### I. Introduction of Guests

After calling the meeting to order at 3:35, Wilson apologized for the conflict between the Senate meeting and the faculty meeting with VPAAR Candidate Marvin Barker, citing the closing of the University last Monday because of snow as the reason. She then recognized the following guests: Donald Haragan, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research; Eric G. Bolen, Associate Dean of the Graduate School; Amy Love, Student Senator; Charles D. Brunt, Avalanche Journal; David Cortes, University Daily; and Preston Lewis, News and Publications.

### II. Approval of Minutes of Meeting 75, January 22, 1986

The minutes were approved after correcting Representative Wilhelmina Delco's title on page 5.

### III. Report of Senate Vice President Havens

Havens called attention to his written report on the COFGO meeting in Austin (distributed to Senators with agenda) and, in response to questions, said that faculty members should write to Senator Lloyd Bentsen if they wish to protest the proposal to effectively eliminate optional retirement plans and severely limit the amount of money that can be tax-sheltered.

Because the Academic Council meets next week, Havens had no Academic Council report.

### IV. Report of Academic Programs Committee

Chairperson Carlile reported that, in response to the General Education Curriculum distributed to the faculty November 26, 1985, the Academic Programs Committee supported the idea of a general education curriculum if such a curriculum can be incorporated which trains each student in the goals outlined. The Academic Programs Committee agreed that each college must be free to fulfill the requirements of General Education in accordance with its program needs. The Committee expressed specific concerns about the "Fundamental Skills" (item I), recommending that students be permitted to choose four or five of the six listed rather than having to demonstrate all six; about whether actual course work will be required in all seven major categories, recommending that courses not be required in all and asking for specific guidelines on how many of the seven will require coursework; about how many credit hours will be recognized as fulfilling any specific requirements; and about who will monitor the General Education curriculum, and who will hold final authority over it. The Committee also reported that it had not had enough time to determine whether any departments are already fulfilling an acceptable General Education curriculum, or how existing or new courses might be added to programs not fulfilling the curriculum.

During discussion Senators asked whether the question of whether or not to have any General Education curriculum had been decided. VPAAR Haragan responded that nothing has been "pre-ordained," but that the Select Committee on Higher Education is interested in the subject and may even move to impose a state-wide core curriculum. Several Senators expressed dismay at the vagueness of the General Education committee document, a vagueness Carlile said was "planned" to avoid premature bickering over details.

Steele moved that the Academic Programs Committee report be sent to the General Education committee as information, not necessarily as the policy of the Senate. The motion was seconded and carried without opposition.

Hartwell moved that the Senate vote its sentiment for or against the idea of establishing any General Education curriculum for the University. The motion was seconded.

Whitehead moved to table Hartwell's motion, citing the Senate's lack of specific information about what general education in fact means at this time. The motion to table was seconded and carried.

Collins moved that the Senate request to see and judge (before adoption) any report of the General Education committee containing specific requirements and terms. The motion was seconded. Rude suggested that such specifics might include hypothetical degree plans for each college, specific courses to fulfill requirements, a comparison between proposed and present requirements, and how new courses needed to fulfill new requirements might be developed and staffed. The motion carried without opposition.

#### V. Report of Nominating Committee

Chairperson Strauss moved the following slate of nominees for Senate offices. The election will take place at the March meeting:

##### President

Kenneth Davis, College of Arts & Sciences  
Gerald Skoog, College of Education

##### Vice President

Milton Smith, College of Engineering  
Bill Hartwell, College of Arts & Sciences

##### Secretary

Evans Curry, College of Arts & Sciences  
David Koeppe, College of Agricultural Sciences

No nominations were made from the floor. The slate was adopted without opposition.

#### VI. Report of Financial Exigency Committee

Chairperson Aycock reported that the policy is still being developed, and will be presented to the Senate when it is completed.

#### VII. Interim Report of Tenure Study Committee

Chairperson Bolen reported that the Tenure Study Committee appointed by VPAAR Haragan has been meeting and is now ironing out the language of its recommendations. The

Committee hopes to submit recommendations to VPAAR Haragan in time for him to take them to the Board of Regents at their March meeting. Because the Senate meets only two days before that Regents meeting, Strauss moved that the draft recommendations be sent to the Senate Tenure and Privilege committee as soon as Haragan sends them to the Senate. The motion was seconded and carried without opposition.

#### VIII. Report of VPAAR Haragan on Computing

Haragan believes that Texas Tech is well on its way to developing a high-quality academic computing network that will serve the needs of faculty and students. He noted that six vendors have visited the campus and been heard by interested faculty. He invited faculty to communicate their recommendations to Prof. Tom Newman, chairperson of the University committee on computing.

Haragan hopes that equipment purchases can begin this semester.

#### IX. Visit of State Select Committee on Higher Education

Wilson reported that, despite conflicting newspaper reports, the Select Committee will meet to hear comments about Texas Tech University at 3 p.m. Thursday, February 13, in conference room 2B, 152 Health Sciences center. She will make a five-minute presentation on behalf of the Senate. Most members of our Board of Regents will also attend, as will the president of the Student Senate, who will also speak. Any individual may submit written comments to the Select Committee.

#### X. Student Senate Resolution to Establish Liaison between Student Senate and Faculty Senate

Student Senator Amy Love, representative of the College of Business Administration, was granted the privilege of the floor and asked the Faculty Senate to approve such a liaison as being a step toward furthering the two groups' mutual concerns for the welfare of the University.

McLaughlin moved Senate approval of Student Senate Resolution 21:9, which reads:

WHEREAS: Both the Student Senate and the Faculty Senate have relatively the same goals and aspirations to improve the affairs and activities of Texas Tech University, and

WHEREAS: Increased communication between these two vital bodies would benefit both, therefore, be it hereby

RESOLVED: That a Faculty Senator serve on the Student Senate and a Senate committee as an ex-officio member with voice privileges but no vote, and be it further

RESOLVED: That a Student Senator serve on the Faculty Senate and a Faculty Senate committee as an ex-officio member with voice privileges but no vote, and be it further

RESOLVED: That the author of this resolution appear before the Faculty Senate on February 12, 1986, to present the resolution to the Faculty Senate for their approval, and be it further

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RESOLVED: That this action be implemented on a trial basis for one year, after which time both the Faculty Senate and the Student Senate can evaluate the effectiveness of this program, and be it further

RESOLVED: That the President of the Student Senate appoint the Student Senator to represent the voice of the Student Senate.

The motion was seconded and carried without opposition.

Cravens moved that the Faculty Senator to serve as liaison be appointed by the President in consultation with the Agenda Committee. The motion was seconded and carried without opposition.

#### XI. Other Business

A. Wilson noted that the agenda for the March meeting will be set on March 3, and all attachments must be in the Senate office by that date.

B. Wilson reported that the Board of Regents has apparently dropped its idea of eliminating reserved parking spaces and will instead plan to build parking garages on campus. She warned Senators to expect parking fee increases to pay for the garages.

C. Wilson called attention to the newly-released Coordinating Board salary figures, and invited faculty members to examine the entire report at the Senate office.

D. Chairperson Minifie of the Committee on Committees, noting the resignation of Prof. Hazel Taylor, College of Education, from the Minority Affairs Committee, moved the nomination of Prof. Ralph Carter, College of Education, to the Minority Affairs Committee. The motion carried without opposition.

E. Shine asked whether, as he heard in a department meeting, the posting of student grades by social security number has in fact been entirely forbidden. Several Senators responded that such posting is permitted with the student's written permission, or with a numerical code that prevents students from identifying each other (that is, not by social security numbers in alphabetical name order if the class roll has been regularly called in alphabetical order). Shine expressed dismay that this issue has been raised again. Wilson noted that lawsuits are threatened both because of the posting of grades and because of the non-posting of grades.

F. Wilson expressed appreciation to Horn Professor Warren Walker of English for his rebuttal to an Avalanche-Journal editorial. Walker's column appeared recently in the University Daily. Applause followed.

G. Platten stated that reports of the death of the Faculty Club have been greatly exaggerated, and that the club's debt may be as much as \$10,000 less than the \$40,000 previously reported. He noted that a committee is investigating the billing procedures used by the University Center.

#### XII. Adjournment

No other business coming before the Senate, Wilson declared the meeting adjourned at 5:01.

Respectfully submitted,

*Julia Whitsitt*

Julia Whitsitt, Secretary