

MINUTES OF FACULTY SENATE MEETING 77

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

I. Introduction of Guests

After calling the meeting to order at 3:35, Wilson recognized the following guests: Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research Donald Haragan; Preston Lewis, News and Publications, Mark Stutz, Avalanche Journal, David Cortez, University Daily; and Kelly Snow, KCBD, Channel 11.

II. Approval of Minutes of Meeting 76, February 12, 1986

The minutes were approved as distributed.

III. Announcements

Wilson announced that the Executive Committee has appointed Cravens to serve as Faculty Senate liaison to the Student Senate for the remainder of this year and for the 1986-87 year.

Wilson announced that applications are open for two one-week internships (May 19-23) with the Coordinating Board at its headquarters in Austin. A curriculum vitae and a one to two page essay stressing the applicant's experience in faculty governance, potential benefits of the program to the applicant, and potential contribution which the applicant could make to the coordination of higher education at state level should be sent to Michael J. Wiebe, Department of Special Education, Box 23029, Texas Woman's University, Denton, Texas 76204, by March 24, 1986. The internships are funded at \$200.

III. Election of Officers

Wilson asked the Nominating Committee to distribute, collect, and count ballots, and to report the results to her.

Senate officers for 1986-87 will be:

President: Gerald Skoog
Vice President: Bill Hartwell
Secretary: Evans Curry

IV. Reports of Standing Committees

A. Committee on Committees. Chairperson Minifie moved the nomination of Professors Francis Fuselier, Theater Arts, and Robert Gades, Education, to fill a vacancy on the Convocations Committee. The slate was approved without opposition.

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B. Study Committee C. Chairperson Burnett moved adoption of recommendations regarding the terms and review of department and area chairpersons.

Newcomb moved to amend recommendation 2, inserting the words "in consultation with senior members of the department/area." The motion was seconded. R. Smith moved to strike "senior" from the amendment. Smith's motion was seconded and carried. Newcomb's motion carried.

After discussion clarifying the difference between the kinds of reviews given on administrators' performance and the kinds given on faculty performance, Skoog moved to insert, after the word "review" in item 1, the words "process that involves faculty input." The motion was seconded and carried.

The following amended recommendations were then adopted.

1. That all department or area chairpersons serve at the pleasure of the dean and that they be subject to a mandatory review process that involves faculty input every three years.
2. That a chairperson be subject to removal at any time by the Dean in consultation with members of the department/area.
3. That in the matter of evaluating chairpersons the several colleges or schools develop evaluation procedures suitable to the needs of each college or school.
4. That the second sentence in paragraph 2C (OP 32.03, Vol. I) be deleted because it is redundant.
5. That the OP be revised carefully:
 - a. to reflect the fact that the School of Law does not have departments or areas, and
 - b. that the sections in the OP about chairpersons be edited and revised carefully to reflect any and all changes.

C. Study Committee A. Chairperson Cravens reported that student absences and tardiness are not a universal problem, and that, although the committee agreed that it could conduct a full-fledged study of the problem at the expense of much time and effort, such a study seemed unlikely, in the committee's judgment, to lead to concrete action. In addition, some faculty members might perceive any more rigidly prescribed attendance policies as a threat to their academic freedom.

The specific problem of the unsynchronized bells and clocks across campus, Cravens said, results from the age and poor condition of the equipment, and is unlikely to be resolved soon. The specific suggestion that advisors avoid giving students back-to-back classes in buildings far apart is working only in cases of multi-section courses.

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During discussion, Haragan stated that, as the Catalog says, instructors may devise and enforce their own attendance policies provided that such policies are made clear to students.

Hartwell moved acceptance of the Committee's report. The motion was seconded and carried without opposition.

V. Report of Ad Hoc Committee on Financial Exigency

Chairperson Aycock reported that the Committee's draft policy is under review by the administration.

VI. Report of Vice President Haragan

Haragan assured senators that the University's sale of computer time to the Lubbock Independent School District will not affect academic computer users in any way. The school district will use time on the new administrative machine, not the academic machine, and the understanding is that University business will have priority.

Haragan reported that he has not had time to check with the Academic Council and the University legal counsel on grade posting. He will have a report as soon as he can.

VII. Report on Status of Faculty Club

Platten said that a committee of the faculty club has met with the internal auditors and found almost \$11,000 in overcharges by the University Center to the Faculty Club. The Club's debt is now \$11,134, and Platten will present the Club with a plan to retire the entire debt within two years without raising dues.

VIII. Report of Faculty Senate Tenure and Privilege Committee

Wilson announced that the report of the Tenure Study Committee, which all Senators received, had been reviewed by the Tenure and Privilege Committee. Because Chairperson Collins also served on the Tenure Study Committee, he absented himself from the deliberations of the Tenure and Privilege Committee. Senator Ford, on behalf of the Tenure and Privilege Committee, moved the following:

The Tenure and Privilege Committee recommends that the Senate strongly endorse the report of the Tenure Study Committee and urge that the recommendations contained therein be adopted with the suggestion that should the 1979 policy be reinstated on an interim basis, the probationary periods in that policy be replaced by those provided in the 1984 policy.

The Tenure and Privilege Committee further recommends that the Senate express its appreciation to the Tenure Study Committee for the thoroughness and high quality of the report and the soundness of its recommendations.

McLaughlin moved to limit debate on this issue to 3 minutes per Senator. The motion was seconded and carried.

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Strauss moved to suspend the Senate's rules to permit action on this committee report even though it had not been sent to Senators with the agenda. The motion was seconded and carried by the necessary two-thirds majority.

Newcomb expressed concern that the Study Committee's suggestion that the 1984 Tenure Policy might be kept in place with some portions not implemented would deny procedural protections to faculty members coming up for tenure this year. He moved the addition of "and that the procedures in regard to denial of tenure in the 1979 policy temporarily replace those in the 1984 policy should the 1984 policy remain in force" to the first paragraph of the Tenure and Privilege Committee's report. The motion was seconded.

Haragan commented that, in his opinion, great progress has been made on the tenure issue but that the Board of Regents will resist efforts simply to reinstate the 1979 policy.

Hartwell and McLaughlin spoke in favor of the report and urged adoption of the Tenure and Privilege Committee's recommendations.

The amendment failed.

Higdon, citing "flawed logic, flawed sentences, and errors" in the Tenure Study Committee report, moved to strike the second paragraph of the Tenure Study Committee report. The motion was seconded.

Sullivan asserted that the Tenure Study Committee report includes "polemic, sarcasm, inaccuracy, and illiteracy," and that to send the report forward with the imprimatur of the Senate "insults the faculty's intelligence."

Strauss commended the Tenure Study Committee, noting that he was initially skeptical but believed that they did "a marvelous job" on the report.

The motion to strike the second paragraph failed.

Sullivan outlined his numerous objections to specifics of the report, including its recommendation that the 1984 policy might be revised, its "undocumented polemic," and its attribution of motives to writers of the 1984 policy.

The Tenure and Privilege Committee report was adopted.

XI. Report of Vice President Haragan on Budget

Haragan, stressing that the budget situation is "serious," said that Texas Tech expects to be able to cut about 6% from its budget without closing programs or dismissing employees. We will be uncomfortable and inconvenienced, especially during summer sessions, when classified employees will probably work four ten-hour days per week, some buildings will be closed, and temperatures will be higher in open buildings. About one-half of open faculty positions will not be filled this year, and out-of-state travel on state funds continues to be essentially frozen. During discussion Senators expressed concerns about the effect of high temperatures and humidities on library books, possible reductions in student enrollments to coincide with reductions

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in faculty through attrition, and the logistics of summer scheduling with the official decision on work week not yet announced. Haragan concluded his gloomy discussion by noting that we will all have to "wait and see" what happens in the legislature.

X. Request from Rude, Intellectual Property Committee

Rude told the Senate that some 40 pages of materials on Intellectual Property Policies are available for review in the Senate office. As a member of the committee studying this issue, he would like comments from faculty members sent to him by March 25, giving suggestions as to what a good intellectual property policy might include.

XI. Adjournment

No other business coming before the Senate, Wilson declared the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Julia Whitsitt, Secretary