

MINUTES OF FACULTY SENATE MEETING 83

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, November 12, 1986 in the Senate Room of the University Center with Gerald Skoog, president, presiding. Senators present were Aycock, Brink, Carlile, Cartwright, Cravens, Curry, Davis, Ford, Gades, Gettel, Gustafson, Hartwell, Higdon, Hudson, Keho, Koh, Lawrence, McLaughlin, McKown, Mann, Muma, Newcomb, Oberhelman, Payne, Pearson, Platten, Reid, Samson, Sasser, Savage, Schoenecke, Smith, Steele, Stoune, Tereshkovich, Whitehead, Whitsitt, Williams, J. Wilson, and M. Wilson. Senators Barnard, Ethridge, Gipson, Owens, and Postell were absent. Senator Scott was absent because of illness. Senators Blair, Koeppe, Mathis, Stockton, Wicker and Wood were absent because of University business.

Calling the meeting to order at 3:35 P.M., Skoog recognized and welcomed the following guests: Virginia Sowell, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research; Gene Medley, Admissions and Records; Preston Lewis, News and Publications; Christy Grimes, Student Senate; and Cindy Pandolfo, University Daily.

I. Approval of minutes of September 24, and October 8, 1986 meetings

Minutes of the meetings were approved as submitted.

II. Report by Senate Vice President Hartwell

Issues addressed by the Academic Council in its November meeting include:

- A. Letters of Recommendation - Letters of recommendation for tenure and promotion have been ruled to be open to the person of reference.
- B. Summer Classes - While Summer sessions will operate on a four day week, work days will begin at 8:00 A.M. this year.
- C. Convocations - There will be two University Ceremonies this year. Details will be provided as appropriate.
- D. Standardized Vitae - Consideration of such has been suspended for the time being.
- E. HEAF Funds - Last years funds have been released.
- F. Organized Research Funds - Seventy five percent of the previously withheld Organized Research Funds have been released for use.

III. Report from Virginia Sowell, Assistant Vice President, Academic Affairs and Research

Representing VPAAR Haragan, Assistant VPAAR Sowell addressed the issues of:

- A. Sick Leave - Sick leave has been reinstated for faculty on nine month appointments. The new policy represents only minor changes for the old sick leave policy. Copies of the Operating Procedure are currently being circulated.
- B. Evaluation of Administrators - Procedures for the evaluation of administrators are being currently considered. AVPAAR Sowell requested input from faculty on this matter. Procedures used in other organizations or procedures recommended by professional organizations are particularly desired for consideration.

IV. Report of the Enrollment Procedures Committee by Panze Kimmel and other committee members

Kimmel recognized committee members serving. They are, in addition to Kimmel, Barnes (Finance & Administration), Bethea (Engineering), Clark (Agriculture), Dukes (Business Administration), Felstehausen (Home Economics), Medley (Admissions & Records), Nevius (Education), Perez (Graduate School), Richmond (Finance & Administration), Sowell (Academic Affairs & Research), Templer (Arts & Sciences), and Tomlinson (Finance and Administration).

Kimmel then presented twenty two recommendations of the committee addressing the area of (1) Recruitment, (2) Admission and Admission Requirements, (3) Orientation, (4) Academic Advisement, (5) Registration, (6) Retention, (7) Personal Counseling, (8) Financial Aid, and (9) Other Support Services. Kimmel then moved on behalf of the committee that the Faculty Senate received the report and the recommendations be scheduled for Senate consideration. The motion passed without opposition.

Note: Copies of the committee report may be obtained from the Faculty Senate Office or from your Faculty Senator.

As a point of information Medley informed the Senate that the official Fall enrollment figure for Texas Tech is 23,479.

V. Reports

A. Academic Programs Committee, McKown Reporting

McKown recognized committee members who include, in addition to McKown, Carlile, Gades, Petrini, Tereshkovich, Whitehead and Wilson.

The Committee report reads:

I. Should the Faculty Senate advise President Cavazos, as well as the policy-makers of the state, to support the development of policies and procedures needed to implement and finance a basic-skills testing and remedial program for entering freshmen at Texas colleges and universities?

The Committee members acknowledge that there is a basic skills problem and commend those who are concerned with the issue; however:

1. It is felt that this problem is best addressed at the high school level.
2. Efforts are already underway to improve basic skills in high schools and many exams are given prior to graduation eg: ACT, SAT, high school exit test.
3. The effect of HB 72 has not yet had an impact on improving basic skills.
4. Remedial programs at individual universities may need strengthening; however, it is problematic that this need is consistent across the state.
5. In time of economic stress the expenditure for yet another basic skills test while others are in place is poor management.
6. In lieu of an expenditure of 6.5 million dollars at a time when Texas can ill afford the expense, the committee would like to suggest consideration of legalizing the use of the high school exit scores as a remediation tool.

II. Should the Faculty Senate advise President Cavazos, as well as the policy-makers of the state, to support the development of a core curriculum that would be studied and mastered by all graduates of Texas postsecondary institutions?

It is felt that each university in the state meets a special need and that universities are to be commended for their unique education qualities. These autonomous and unique qualities must be preserved. A standardized state wide core would detract from the preservation of each university's special qualities. It is recommended that each university develop its own university wide general education requirement consistent with its mission and accreditation guidelines. Texas Tech University has undertaken a general education curriculum molded to the specific requirement/capabilities of each college and this institution. The three year process followed by the general education committee, appointed by the VPAAR, has given special consideration to all the existing program accreditation. A state wide core would be in direct conflict with retaining a four year program (as opposed to a four and one-half year program) and with fulfilling national accreditation requirements.

McKown moved Senate acceptance of the motion. The motion passed without opposition.

B. Financial Exigency Policy, Aycock Reporting

The current draft of the Financial Exigency Plan is awaiting conference with VPAAR Haragan. Following discussion of recent activity related to the plan, Whitehead moved that the Ad Hoc Committee for Financial Exigency continue its activity and bring a new version of the Financial Exigency Plan to the Faculty Senate for consideration. The motion was seconded and passed without opposition.

VI. New Business

A. Consideration of the review draft of the proposed operating policy and procedures regarding performance evaluations of members of the faculty.

Skoog read a letter from the Texas Tech chapter of the AAUP concerning the draft of the evaluation policy. The letter made four key points concerning the revision of the current draft of the operating policy.

1. All matters concerning dismissal are to be handled in accordance with procedure contained in the university tenure policy which was approved by the Board of Regents in May, 1986.
2. The tenured faculty of each unit must have an advisory role in the determination that any faculty member's performance is unsatisfactory.
3. There should be no implication in the OP that the setting of goals is in any way contractual.
4. In fairness to tenured and tenure-track faculty, there should not be implementation of the OP until the academic year 1988-89.

Newcomb moved that the Senate express to VPAAR Haragan the desire that the projected implementation date be pushed back considerably.

The motion was seconded.

Whitsitt moved to amend the motion to read:

Given widespread faculty dissatisfaction with the proposed OP as it currently exists, the Faculty Senate expresses its desire to VPAAR Haragan that the projected implementation date be pushed back considerably pending consideration by an appropriate faculty committee.

The amendment was seconded and passed without opposition.

The motion as amended passed without opposition.

B. Administration of Faculty elections

In response to delays and other problems in elections administered out of the Office of Academic Affairs, the Faculty Senate has been requested to take over future elections as it did in the past.

Sasser moved to have the Faculty Senate take responsibility for administration of faculty elections provided funds in the Faculty Senate budget are adequate to do so.

The motion was seconded and passed without opposition.

C. Senate representative to work with Office of Academic Affairs on the University calendar

Keho moved that the Chair of the Academic Programs Committee represent the Faculty Senate to Office of Academic Affairs in matters of the University Calendar.

The motion was seconded and passed without opposition.

D. Other Business

Pearson on behalf of himself, and Senators Brink and Wilson introduced the following resolution:

Whereas various faculty members at Texas Tech have received personal letters from Kent Hance between October 30 and November 3 urging them to vote for Bill Clements on November 4, and

Whereas there had been a rash of rumors during the campaign that Bill Clements intended to make drastic cuts in the funding for higher education in order to meet the budget deficit of the state, and,

Whereas Mr. Hance assures us that former Governor Clements personally informed him Saturday, October 25 that "there will be no cuts in higher education," and,

Whereas the voters of Lubbock County, including many Texas Tech faculty, believed these assurances and voted for Mr. Clements by a 60% margin,

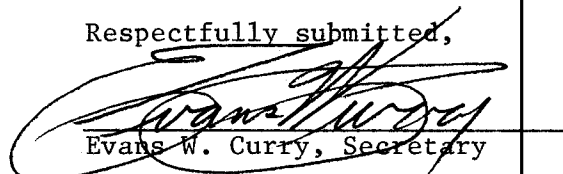
Be It Resolved that the Faculty Senate of Texas Tech University expresses its thanks to Mr Hance for these assurances that higher education in Texas will be enhanced and improved in the future.

Pearson moved passage of the resolution.

The motion was seconded and passed.

Skoog declared the meeting adjourned at 5:12 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Evans W. Curry, Secretary