

FACULTY SENATE ANNUAL REPORT
1994-95

The Faculty Senate held nine scheduled meetings during the 1994-95 academic year (meetings #153-161). Agenda Committee members were Alwyn Barr, President; Lynn Huffman, Vice President; and Harley D. Oberhelman, Secretary. Gary Elbow served as parliamentarian at the Senate's meetings.

SENATE VISITORS

September 14, 1994 - Provost Haragan wished the Senate success and offered to work with it. He reported a small drop of 55 students this fall in comparison with last fall. He announced that a task force would be developed to look at all international programs, and that the administration is seeking ways to fund a Teaching Resource Center. He reported that hearings on legislative appropriations were to begin on September 15. He stated that membership of the Texas Tech University library with the Association of Research Libraries was to be reconsidered. He noted that academic status for librarians was to be considered by the Board of Regents. He reminded the Senate of the President's meeting with the faculty on September 22.

October 12, 1994 - Provost Haragan reported on the recruitment of minority faculty and accelerated degree programs. He announced the resignation of Dean Clyde Hendrick and the plan to study the restructuring of the Graduate School. He stated that there was a search for an Engineering dean, and that the matter of a Teaching Resource Center was being studied. He announced that in each college or school a group to study computing needs had been established.

November 9, 1994 - Provost Haragan discussed the Coordinating Board's study of administrative costs and its finding that Texas Tech University had the lowest administrative expenditures among state schools. He reported that 3 finalists for the dean of Engineering post had visited the campus. He stated that he had met with the Productivity Task Force. He announced that expenditures of course fees was done under certain restrictions that were necessary to balance DOE vs. Course Fees. He then addressed the matter of parking fees.

Dr. Gary Bell, Director of Honors, spoke about the Honors Program and its development. He reported a significant increase in the number of students enrolled and in the number of courses offered.

December 14, 1994 - Vice Provost Len Ainsworth spoke about our accepting course requirements by transfer from the Houston Community College System as a substitute for Texas Tech University basic requirements; the Provost Council would consider this matter. He announced that the Texas Tech Press was undergoing a change in management and that the staff was to be downsized. He reported that the search for a Dean of Engineering had ended with the appointment of Dr. Jorge Auñón. He stated that a Graduate Directions Committee had been formed to study the issue of graduate education and that policy reviews should be undertaken in

February 8, 1995 - Provost Haragan announced that on February 13 he would meet with the House Appropriations Committee concerning the budget for the University.

Vice President for Fiscal Affairs, Don Cosby, stated that a 20% reduction had been mentioned in certain line items and an across-the-board cut was possible for some retirement programs. Both he and Provost Haragan promised to keep the Senate informed as the budget process moved forward.

Dr. Alfonso Scandrett, Associate Athletic Director, reported on the University's attempt to give all student athletes the opportunity to graduate through tutoring and mentoring services.

March 8, 1995 - Dr. John Burns together with President Barr made a report on the findings of the Productivity Task Force. It was found that there was great variation concerning faculty load and how departments and schools propose to do more with less.

April 12, 1995 - Dr. Alfonso Scandrett offered comments on the 1995 Academic Progress of Student Athletes, a report from the Director of Intercollegiate Athletics Bob Bockrath.

May 3, 1995 - Provost Haragan commented on the decision to privatize the bookstore and made additional comments on the matter of tenure and alternatives to tenure. Senator Fedler distributed a response to Provost Haragan's comments concerning tenure made at an earlier meeting. Senator Hensley was the author of the response. Late in the meeting the Provost stated that two items in the response were in error.

Result: Senator Fedler later moved that recommendations 1b, 2b, and 3c of the Hensley report be approved. The motion was tabled.

Dr. Ray Desrosiers, Chair of the Bookstore Advisory Committee, expressed his committee's feeling that they were not given an opportunity to participate in the decision to privatize.

COMMITTEES OF THE FACULTY SENATE

Committee on Committees on 9/14/94 reported its meeting on the status of filling committees and the nomination of Senate officers for 1995-96. On 2/8/95, Senator Jonish submitted a slate of senators to comprise the nominations committee: Senators Couch, Burnett and Hensley. A motion was passed to approve the slate. On 4/12/94 Senator Jonish mentioned that a list of nominations for university committees and councils was available at the door. The committee recommendations were approved by a voice vote.

Academic Programs Committee reported on 10/12/94 that it continued its support to develop a Degree Audit System.

Faculty Performance Committee on 11/9/94 gave the Senate two written reports covering the six committee meetings that were held. One document contained tentative recommendations. On 2/8/95 the Committee's final report in two sections was given to the Senate. A motion to table the first section of the report was approved. The second section recommended the establishment of a permanent Faculty Performance Committee.

Result: A motion to establish a Faculty Performance Committee was approved on 2/8/95.

On 3/8/95 the Senate passed a motion to consider the tabled portion of the report and accept it.

Budget Study Committee reported on 12/14/94 regarding future plans for parking fees. A motion to accept the report that recommended a 10% increase for faculty and staff, (with a friendly amendment by Senator Couch) was approved by a voice vote. On 2/8/95 a study that compared salary averages by rank at UT-Austin, Texas A&M and Texas Tech was received. It found no salary compression between ranks, but suggested some inequities might exist in departments.

Study Committee A - On 3/8/95 the committee moved that department chairpersons should be ineligible for membership on the Faculty Senate. The motion was defeated. At the 5/3/95 meeting Senator Couch reported that the committee had not completed its work and suggested that the charge continue in the fall.

Study Committee B - It was reported on 1/18/95 that this committee was now being chaired by Senator Steinhart on a temporary basis. On 3/8/95 Senator Steinhart distributed a copy of the committee's report on leave policies which was accepted by a voice vote.

Study Committee C - On 12/14/94 the committee reported that it was considering the idea of a teaching center. On 2/8/95 Committee C presented a report on the establishment of a Teaching Resource and Effectiveness Center.

Result: A motion stating that the Senate strongly favored a facility to improve teaching was approved on 2/8/95.

Nominations Committee - On 3/8/95 an incomplete slate of nominations for 1995-96 officers was presented. On 4/12/95 the following candidates were elected for 1995-96:

President: Murray W. Coulter
Vice President: Peter Westfall
Secretary: Clifford B. Fedler

General Education Committee - Senator Marlett on 1/18/95 distributed copies of the committee report on a multicultural requirement. Senator Marlett on 5/3/95 reported on the committee's recent meeting with Associate Vice President Sowell, and he mentioned that the science and technology course category would be studied in the fall.

Faculty Status & Welfare Committee - At the 5/3/95 meeting the committee stated that they did consider the matter of the Optional Retirement Programs and suggested that the report receive additional study next year.

ACTIONS, RESOLUTIONS BY FACULTY SENATE, AND THEIR STATUS (EXCLUDING MATTERS RELATING TO COMMITTEE WORK AND MOTIONS TO ACCEPT COMMITTEE REPORTS)

11/9/94 - The Senate passed a statement of support for President Lawless' affirmation of the principles of diversity, freedom of speech, non-discrimination, and support of the University's Human Dignity Statement.

1/18/95 - The Senate passed a motion to establish a hall or wall of honor to recognize student and faculty national standing as a result of winning first, second or third place in competitions or appointments of leadership in national organizations.

Result: On 2/8/95 President Barr announced the appointment of an ad hoc committee to study the hall or wall of honor concept. On 3/8/95 the ad hoc committee made an "in progress" report. On 4/12/95 Senator Perl stated that about a dozen fourth-year architecture students were working on a site and making plans for the wall or hall. At the 5/3/95 meeting Senator Marlett recommended that the concept be approved, that there be a standing committee to develop guidelines for its use, and that the final design should correspond to one of the models architecture students had made.

2/8/95 - A motion that the Senate support the continuance of the Graduate School as it now is was approved.

Result: The decision to continue the Graduate School in its present configuration was approved.

4/12/95 - Senator Westfall moved that information concerning senate

5/3/95 - Senator Weber offered two recommendations to be adopted by Senate. One dealt with the development of a campus-wide system to evaluate faculty, and the second was a move to investigate whether procedures of departments and colleges comply with local, state and

OTHER MATTERS

9/14/94 Senate meetings in January and May were moved to January 18 and May 3 to avoid conflicts with vacation periods and final examinations.

11/9/94 Senator Huffman reported on the meeting of the Council of Faculty Governance Organizations held in Austin.

12/14/94 Senator Nathan brought up the issue of the graduation rate of student athletes and urged the Senate to continue its monitoring of progress.

Result: On 4/12/95 Dr. Alfonso Scandrett presented Athletic Director Bob Bockrath's report on this issue.

A motion to congratulate the football team on its co-championship was approved. Another motion to create a Senate gopher with information listing the names of all senators, senate agendas, and senate minutes was approved.

3/8/95 The Senate passed a motion to go on record in favor of HR 628, a tuition waiver for graduate TAs. The Senate also went on record as opposed to raises only on the basis of merit.

4/12/95 President Barr announced that he had sent Senator Mason's comments on the Optional Retirement Programs to the Faculty Status and Welfare Committee.

Result: On 5/3/95 the Faculty Status and Welfare Committee stated that they had considered the matter and suggested that it receive additional study in the fall.

President Barr also announced that the degree audit process was on hold but would be continued later.

5/3/95 President Barr announced that the vote on the amendments to the Faculty Senate Constitution giving librarians senate representation was approved.