

MINUTES #158, FACULTY SENATE
February 8, 1995

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, February 8, 1995, at 3:15 p.m. in the Senate Room of the University Center with Alwyn Barr, president, presiding. Senators present were Aranha, Bliese, Burnett, Cardenas-Garcia, Couch, Coulter, Cravens, Curzer, DeBell, Durland, Endsley, Fedler, Goebel, Gregory, Heintz, Held, Hensley, Higdon, Hopkins, Huffman, Jonish, Khan, Marlett, D. Mason, Mann, Nathan, Oberhelman, Perl, Steinhart, Thompson, Troub, and Westfall. Senators Morrow, Schoenecke, Tock, Weber and Welton were absent because of University business. Senators Howe and Pearson are on leave this semester. Senators Burns, Dunham, Floyd, Fortney, Hartwell, J. Mason, McGlone, Payne, and Sorenson were absent.

President Barr called the meeting to order at 3:25 p.m. and recognized the following guests: Donald R. Haragan, Executive Vice President and Provost; Len Ainsworth, Vice Provost; Virginia Sowell, Associate Vice President; Alfonso Scandrett, Associate Athletic Director; Robert M. Sweazy, Vice Provost for Research; Don Cosby, Vice President for Fiscal Affairs and Joan Conway, Student Assistant, Faculty Senate.

Professor Gary Elbow, Geography, served as Parliamentarian.

I. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES

Minutes of the January 18, 1995, meeting were approved with the addition of the phrase "on a temporary basis" regarding Senator Steinhart's assignment as chair of Study Committee B.

II. REMARKS BY THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT & PROVOST HARAGAN

Dr. Haragan announced that on Monday (February 13) he is to meet with the House Appropriations Committee concerning the budget for the University. There is some apprehension in regard to possible budget cuts. Later Don Cosby, Vice President for Fiscal Affairs, stated that a 20% reduction had been mentioned in certain line items and an across-the-board cut in some retirement programs. This could amount to 17.2 million in the next biennium for all these items. Both he and Dr. Haragan promised to keep the Senate informed as the budget process moves forward.

Dr. Haragan stated that the parking policies approved by the Faculty Senate are those being proposed for the next academic year.

III. REMARKS BY ASSOCIATE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR ALFONSO SCANDRETT

Dr. Scandrett presented three handouts at the door. These documents are on file in the Faculty Senate office. He stated that the University is attempting to give all student athletes the opportunity to graduate. Tutoring and mentoring services are available to all athletes.

IV. REPORTS FROM UNIVERSITY COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

Graduate Council Senator Couch indicated that the last meeting was routine except for discussion concerning the review of the position of graduate dean.

Academic Council Senator Huffman stated that for students to be eligible for financial aid they must have completed 75% of all hours attempted. Dropped courses count when computing the number of hours completed.

Benefits and Retirement Committee There was no report from this committee, but Vice President Cosby announced that there were some funds left over from the period when the University was self-insured. Legal opinion is being sought to decide how to dispose of these funds.

V. REPORTS FROM FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEES

Committee on Committees Senator Jonish distributed the recommendations of this committee of senators to comprise the Nominations Committee: Senators Couch, Burnett, and Hensley. The motion to approve these nominations passed unanimously.

He discussed the memorandum sent to the voting faculty with respect to the need for nominations, including self-nominations, to fill vacancies on next years' University Committees and Councils.

Faculty Productivity Committee Senator Hensley passed out the final report of the committee. This report is also available in the Faculty Senate office. He moved acceptance of the section call "Faculty Senate Guidelines," a section that states the philosophy of productivity as developed from faculty input. Prolonged discussion followed. There was a motion to table this item. It passed with 17 affirmative votes to 12 negative votes.

Senator Hensley also moved that a Faculty Performance Committee be established as a permanent committee to monitor the implementation of these guidelines. There was an amendment to add this to the charge of the Status and Welfare Committee, but the amendment did not pass. After some discussion there was a motion to consider the previous question. The original motion than passed on a voice vote.

Budget Study Committee Senator Held made a report, a copy of which is in the Faculty Senate office. The Study compared salary averages by rank at UT-Austin, Texas A&M, and Texas Tech. The report showed no tendency toward salary compression between ranks on the Texas Tech campus. It was the committee's understanding, however, that salary inequities exist within departments, and this matter should be addressed by departmental chairs in consultation with faculty and deans. A motion to accept this report passed on a voice vote.

Study Committee C Senator Mann presented the committee's report on the establishment of a Teaching Resource and Effectiveness Center. The report contained eight recommendations including one to establish such a center. There was an amendment by Senator Fedler to support only the first two recommendations. The amendment was ruled out of order since the entire committee report must be considered as a whole. The vote to approve the report passed by voice vote.

There was a motion to state that the Faculty Senate strongly favors a facility to improve teaching on the Texas Tech campus. It passed on a voice vote.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

There were no items of old business.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Graduate School Review Senator Heintz reported that only three letters have been received from senators concerning this matter. The deadline is the end of February, and senators are urged to make their opinion known.

Senator Gregory moved that the Senate support the continuance of the Graduate School as it now is. The motion passed with 11 yes votes and 7 negative votes.

Senator Coulter mentioned the need for a PPP computer connection to be available to faculty. Dr. Haragan stated that the matter is being considered, but there would be individual charges for this service.

Senator Hensley asked for a straw poll to ascertain how many would support the full report of his committee. It was determined that there were not enough senators still in attendance to have a meaningful poll.

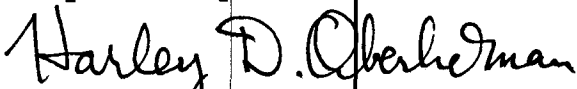
VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

An Ad Hoc Committee is to be appointed by President Barr to study the "Hall of Honor" concept to recognize student and faculty national standing as a result of winning 1st-3rd in competitions, or appointments of leadership in national organizations.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Senate adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Harley D. Oberhelman
Secretary 1994-95