MINUTES #156, FACULTY SENATE
DECEMBER 14, 1994

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, December 14, 1994, at 3:15 p.m. in the Senate Room of the University Center with Alwyn Barr, president, presiding. Senators present were Burnett, Burns, Cardenas-Garcia, Couch, Coulter, Cravens, Curzer, DeBell, Fedler, Floyd, Goebel, Gregory, Hartwell, Heintz, Held, Hensley, Hopkins, Huffman, Jonish, Khan, Marlett, D. Mason, Mann, Morrow, Nathan, Oberhelman, Payne, Pearson, Perl, Schoenecke, Sorenson, Steinhart, Tock, Troub and Westfall. Senators Aranha, Bliese, Dunham, and Endsley were absent because of University business. Senator Howe was absent with prior notification. Senator Higdon is on leave from the University. Senators Durland, Fortney, J. Mason, McGlone, Thompson, Weber and Welton were absent.

President Barr called the meeting to order at 3:25 p.m. and recognized the following guests. Len Ainsworth, Vice Provost; Virginia Sowell, Associate Vice President; Jerry D. Ramsey, Associate Vice President; Dewey Shroyer, Director Grounds Maintenance; Jay Parchman and Danny Davis, TTU Police Department and Jan Kemp, Library.

Professor Gary Elbow, Geography, served as Parliamentarian.

I. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES

Minutes of the November 9, 1994 meeting were approved as distributed.

II. REMARKS BY LEN AINSWORTH, VICE PROVOST

Accepting course requirements by transfer from the Houston Community College System as a substitute for Texas Tech University basic requirements is a matter under consideration. (See report of the Provost Council.)

The Texas Tech Press is undergoing a change in management. The staff will be downsized, and more authority will be granted to the editorial board.

Engineering dean search. The search has ended with the appointment of Dr. Jorge Aunon as Dean of the College of Engineering effective February 1, 1995.

A Graduate Directions Committee has been formed to study the issue of graduate education at Texas Tech University. It invites ideas from the faculty via its senate representative, Caryl Heintz.

Policy reviews should be undertaken. The faculty grievance procedure needs reconsideration. Other policies likewise need attention.

III. REPORTS FROM UNIVERSITY COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

Provost Council President Barr distributed a report at the door that is available in the Faculty Senate office. There were brief remarks concerning the possibility of special faculty leaves that focus on specific university goals. These would be in addition to the regular research leaves.
Academic Council A report was distributed by Senator Huffman, and a copy is available in the Faculty Senate office.

Graduate Council Senator Couch noted that there was nothing more to report beyond the most recent minutes of the Graduate Council meeting.

Intellectual Property Rights Senator Heintz made a report available at the door. A copy is in the Senate office.

Recruitment, Admissions and Retention Senator Gregory stated that statistics for this year are about the same as for last year. Senator Gregory made a presentation on how to retain at-risk students at the most recent meeting of the committee.

General Education Committee Senator Marlett made a general report on committee activities; additional information will be available before the January meeting.

IV. REPORTS FROM FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEES

Budget Study Committee Senator Held made a presentation regarding future plans for parking fees. The committee made a motion and accepted a friendly amendment made by Senator Couch regarding item 2. The motion as amended was the following:

1. The Senate rejects both of the proposed plans (A&B). Instead, we approve a 10% increase for faculty/staff and students for fiscal year 1995, with the expectation that a long-range plan be presented to the Senate.
2. The Senate recommends that the administration develop a plan to make nonpaying users of our lots and roads pay a fair share of the maintenance costs. (Those users include visitors, night students, attendees of night events, and attendees of games.)
3. In order to ensure that the additional income is used to alleviate the problems of police understaffing, lot and road maintenance, and long waiting lists, the Senate asks that the administration submit an expenditure report to the Faculty Senate Budget Study Committee at the end of the fiscal year.

The motion passed on a voice vote.

Study Committee C Senator Mann stated that the committee was studying the idea of a teaching center, that it will meet again early in January and will report to the Senate in February or March.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Senator Nathan brought up the issue of the graduation rate of student athletes. Reputedly Texas Tech University had the lowest rank in the nation in a previous report and currently is fifth or sixth from the bottom nationally. He stated that the issue should receive continuing consideration in order to monitor progress.
VI. NEW BUSINESS

Senator Couch made a motion to congratulate Coach Dykes and the football team on their co-championship and invitation to the Cotton Bowl. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Senator Westfall moved that we create a Faculty Senate gopher with information listing the names of all senators, agendas of forthcoming meetings, and minutes of recent meetings. The motion was passed by voice vote.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be on Wednesday, January 18th.

The Council of Faculty Governance Organizations of the state of Texas is sponsoring a summer fellow program that consists of one week of orientation in May and a second week later of practical experience with the Coordinating Board. The deadline for applications is February 15. Applications are available in the Faculty Senate office.

Senator Marlett stated that he believes other teams—not just athletic teams—should also be recognized for their accomplishments.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Senate adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Harley D. Oberhelman
Secretary 1994-95