

**MINUTES #166- FACULTY SENATE
17 JANUARY '96**

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, January 17, 1996, at 3:15 p.m. in the Senate Room of the University Center with Peter Westfall, Vice President, presiding. Senators present were Barr, Cardenas-Garcia, Casadonte, Corbett, DeBell, Dowell, Dunham, Dunne, Durland, Elbow, Fedler, Fortney, Fox, P. Goebel, Hartwell, Heintz, Held, Howe, Hufford, A. Khan, S. Khan, Meek, Miller, Nathan, Opp, Pearson, Rickets, River, Sarkar, Schaller, Stout, L. Thompson, V. Thompson, Tock, Welton, Westfall and Whisnant. Senators Coulter, Jackson, Mann, T. Morrow, and Steinhart were absent because of University business. Senator Schoenecke is on leave from the University. Senator Coombs was absent with prior notice. Senators Endsley, George, U. Goebel, Herring, McGlone, and R. Morrow were absent.

Vice President Westfall called the meeting to order at 3:20 p.m. and recognized the following guests: Virginia Sowell, Associate Vice President, Office of Academic Affairs; Thomas G. Newman, Associate Vice President for Computing and information Technology; Sharon Hart, Office of Development; Steve Kauffman, News and Publications; Charles Melton, Univeristy Daily.

I. Minutes of 6 December 1995 meeting were approved as distributed.

II. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) In response to the Faculty Senate's request for a second opinion and the article in the University Daily on the distribution of the insurance funds, the University Benefits/Retirement Committee is studying the issue and plans to make a recommendation to the Board of Regents at their May '96 meeting. Senator Dunne suggested that the committee study the prospect of establishing 7-\$1 million endowed scholarships, one for each college. The suggestion will be forwarded to the Faculty Status and Welfare Committee.
- b) A letter from Lt. Governor Bob Bullock was read thanking people from the Senate for their letter regarding faculty raises.

III. REPORTS FROM UNIVERSITY COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

Provost Council - President Coulter was unable to attend the meeting but provided a written report, which is on file in the Faculty Senate office. The principal concern highlighted was the changes in rules for waivers to be granted where at least a \$1,000 award will be required as of 1 September '95.

Academic Council - No report

Research Council - Secretary Fedler provided a report, which is on file in the Faculty Senate office. The major issue was the replacement of Shirlene Haigler with Colette Solpietro as the Coordinator of Sponsored Research Information.

University Center Board - Vice President Westfall reported that: a request for proposals for use of room 108 has been released, and; the food service menu is being examined to determine if more "healthy" items can be added.

IV. REPORTS FROM SENATE AND UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

Budget Study Committee - Senator Held reported that no response was made from President Lawless on the resolutions passed by the Senate during the 6 December '95 meeting as requested.

Teaching, Learning, Technology Committee - Vice President Westfall reported that a missions and goals statement that includes a draft master plan of the committee dated 6 November, 1995 is available and on file in the Faculty Senate office. Currently, the committee is waiting for a response from Provost Haragan on possible changes. If anyone has any comment they would like to offer, they are encouraged to call Rosslyn Smith at 2-0133. In addition, an RFP for Faculty Incentive grants is forthcoming (actually received on 24 January '96). These grants will provide up to a maximum of \$5,000 for a total of \$50,000 and are to promote excellence in teaching.

There was related discussion concerning the HEAF funds allocated for Distance Education. Dr. Thomas Newman responded that the HEAF fund allocated to TTU was increased and only the increase was being allocated to the Distance Education activity.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Senator Nathan asked if any meeting of the Faculty Forum occurred and Senator Welton report that there was none.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Senate adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Clifford B. Fedler
Secretary 1995-96