

MINUTES #163 - FACULTY SENATE
11 October 1995

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, October 11, 1995, at 3:15 p.m. in the Senate Room of the University Center with Murray W. Coulter, president presiding. Senators present were Barr, Cardenas-Garcia, Corbett, Coombs, DeBell, Dowell, Dunham, Dunne, Durland, Elbow, Fedler, Fox, George, Goebel, Hartwell, Heintz, Held, Howe, A. Khan, McGlone, Mann, Meek, Miller, R. Morrow, T. Morrow, Nathan, Pearson, Ricketts, Schaller, Schoenecke, Steinhart, V. Thompson, Tock, Welton, Westfall and Whisnant. Senator Leslie Thompson was absent with prior notification. Senators Endsley, Fortney, Jackson, S. Khan, Opp and Sarkar were absent because of University business. Senator Casadonte was absent.

President Coulter called the meeting to order at 3:20 p.m. and recognized the following guests: John Burns, Vice Provost; Virginia Sowell, Associate Provost; Alfonso Scandrett, Associate Athletic Director; Curt Bourne, President, Student Association; Sharon Hart, Office of Development; and Kirk Baird, University Daily.

I. Minutes of the 13 September 1995 meeting were approved with one correction, which was to change the word committee to senate on the second line of paragraph 2 under old business.

II. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Coulter announced the appointments of Murray Havens as the new Parliamentarian for the Fall semester and Betty Stout as a new senator for Human Sciences.

III. ADDRESS BY CURT BOURNE, STUDENT SENATE PRESIDENT

In an effort to develop better communication between the student body and faculty through the Faculty Senate, Curt was asked to address the Senate. He voiced his concern about the increase in the general use fee (GUF) and the burden on students, but agreed with the decision to use some of the money to increase the salaries of Teaching Assistants as a means to attract better quality TA's. He also agreed that the funds used for the Teaching Technology Center for multimedia teaching and presentations training and for the University Writing Center are benefits to the students. His major concern about the future increases of the GUF is the product(s) to the students.

Other issues being examined by the Student Senate are:

- bicycle safety on campus (due to the increased number used)
- student involvement with retention
- providing volunteers for the Breedlove Dehydration Facility
- the SA officers council meeting for the Big 12 to be held at TTU this year.

IV. REPORTS FROM UNIVERSITY COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

Provost Council

President Coulter explained the priority list for improvements on the TTU campus as:

- \$5.5 million for the Library
- \$6.0 million for a Animal Science wing to the Goddard Building
- \$15 million for the English/Philosophy building
- \$3.5 million for the Art/Architecture building improvements
- \$4 million Livermore Lab renovation
- \$5.7 million for Agriculture Sciences renovation

Other issues are concerns about reestablishing the TTH 7:30 am classes. A "straw" vote of the attending senators showed 10 approved and 13 opposed to the 7:30 classes. This issue along with general class scheduling problems was referred to Study Committee C.

Senator Goebel raised a question regarding past discussions on the development of a parking facility. No one was available to respond to the question and discussion postponed pending a report from the administration.

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Senator Barr reported that a new OP is being developed on the keeping of transcripts of all faculty at each Deans office. Three other principal topics were discussed:

- Creation of a new class after the 12th day is a problem with the Coordinating Board since they will not recognize the class nor pay for the instruction of that class.
- TTU is participating in an instructional university exchange program.
- A change in the course catalog allowing PE credit for 90 to 120 days of military service.

No action was taken on any of the three issues.

GRADUATE COUNCIL

Senator Durland provided a written report, which is on file in the Senate office. An added issue raised was the report on GRE scores being reported. The concern was that the average was included only on domestic students. Senator Elbow commented that in the past the report did not include international students because the GRE was not a good indicator of verbal skills for those students and would bias the results. This practice is common for many other schools.

RESEARCH COUNCIL

Secretary Fedler provided a written report which is on file at the Senate office. The main issues raised were:

- the need for all faculty to submit their Conflict of Interest Policy forms by 1 November 1995
- changes to the Intellectual Property Policy which goes before the Board of Regents in November.

UNIVERSITY CENTER BOARD

Vice-President Westfall submitted a written report with two issues. The first was the conversion of the UC Courtyard Cafe to the Raider Rock Cafe which has received complaints from faculty about the "less healthy" menu items, but students have shown their approval by increasing business. The second issue was a proposed raise of the University Center fee from \$20 to \$30. Tom Shubert will speak to the Senate on the issue in the Spring.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Some committees are not meeting due to time conflicts of members. President Coulter asked that the committees set a time for maximum attendance and if people need to be reassigned, then provide the information to the Faculty Senate Office for reassignments.

A question was raised concerning the fate of former Senator Oliver Hensley's motion that was presented in his absence by Senator Fedler at the May 5, 1995 Senate meeting and tabled at that time. Senator Held moved to removed the tabled motion for discussion.

Former Senator Oliver Hensley was available to explain his motion on shared governance based on comments from Provost Haragan. President Coulter extended to him the privilege of addressing the Senate and explained that Hensley was an invited guest of the Senate for this purpose. Hensley's main point was that Provost Haragan should have referred faculty issues to the Faculty Senate Faculty Performance Study Committee (FBSC) rather than create his own committee for faculty issues. The Planning, Assessment & Total Quality Task Force, created by the Provost, paralleled the goals of the FPSC and therefore was unnecessary. It now has a new name (Faculty Forum) and a focus, but concerns were raised and that it

short circuits the roll of the Senate. A question was raised about approval of the guidelines submitted to the Senate by the FPSC. Past president Barr said that these guidelines and the fall report were approved as submitted and are on file at the Senate office. Since these items were independent of the motion that had been tabled at the May 5th meeting, President Coulter asked Dr. Held to clarify his motion to determine if the intent was to address the tabled motion and remove it from the table for consideration. If so, that motion would not be subject to debate. Senator Held indicated that would be his motion, but it failed for lack of a second.

Senator Howe made a motion to have the Faculty Forum keep the Faculty Senate informed of all issues under consideration, especially those that could result in direct action by the administration. Howe's motion passed.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Senator Nathan moved that the Faculty Forum Group (FF) change their name to eliminate the Faculty part so people will not confuse the group with the Faculty Senate. After much discussion and being told the subtitle to Faculty Forum was "Campus Conversation", the motion was passed. In conjunction with the motion, President Coulter indicated that Study Committee B was given a charge to work with issues presented by the Faculty Forum.

Senator Nathan, Speaking for eight other Senators from Arts and Science, presented a resolution, which is on file at the Senate office, that the OPP Manual and other documents be revised to read:

"Texas Tech University will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, Vietnam Era or Special Disabled Veteran Status."

Since this was not an agenda item the issue was referred to Study Committee C. However, a straw vote was allowed for referral to that committee and the indication was for overwhelming support.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Senate adjourned at 4:40 p.m.