

Minutes #172 - Faculty Senate
October 9, 1996

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday October 9 , 1996 at 3:15 p.m. in the Faculty Senate Room of the University Center with John Howe, President, presiding. Senators present were Bremer, Casadonte, Coombs Couch, Coulter, DeBell, Dornier, Dowell, Dunham, Dunne, Durland, Floyd, Fox, George, P. Goebel, Held, Hensley, Hufford, Liman, Mann, Meek, Miller, Morrow, Myers, Olivarez, Opp, Rainger, Reckner, River, Robert, Sarkar, Schaller, Stinespring, Stout, L. Thompson, V. Thompson, Tock, Urban, and Whisnant. Senator Corbett is on leave this semester. Senators Elbow, Fedler, Fortney, Jackson, and Nguyen were absent because of University business. Senators Herring, Khan, Lan and Welton were absent with prior notification. Senator Ulrich Goebel was absent.

I. President Howe called the meeting to order at 3:20 p.m. and recognized the following guests: Donald R. Haragan, President; John Burns, Interim Provost; Virginia Sowell, Associate Provost; David Schmidly, Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies; Sharen Hart, Office of Development; Katsuko Makino, a visiting professor from Japan; Kristin Ketcham, Internal Vice President, Student Association; Matt Henry, Lubbock Avalanche-Journal; and Kriski Rieken, University Daily.

II. Minutes of the September 11, 1996 meeting were approved as distributed.

III. Remarks from Invited Guests

Texas Tech University President, Dr. Donald R. Haragan addressed the Senate on current issues facing Texas Tech University and higher education. President Haragan indicated his willingness to listen to the concerns of the Senate and respond to any questions that the Senate might have in the future. The new administration is committed to increasing the endowed funds at TTU from the current level of \$130 million to a goal of \$500 million with a capital campaign that is currently in the silent phase of development. Proceeds from the endowed funds will be used primarily to enhance faculty salaries and to provide chairs, professorships, and scholarships. In response to former Senate President Coulter's letter in May 1996, President Haragan indicated that all Senate members serving on University Committees and Councils should have voting privileges. Additionally, an open line of communication between the President's office and the Senate is encouraged. Regarding the insurance reserve funds of about \$7 million, the Board of Regents approved the use of the reserve for an endowment to provide scholarships for full-time TTU students of full-time faculty and staff at Texas Tech University and the Health Sciences Center, based on academic merit, as well as need. An oversight committee of faculty and staff will be established.

Issues facing TTU and higher education in general include: performance based funding versus formula based funding, post-tenure review process, competition in educational services from the private sector, and the shifting cost of higher education from the taxpayer to the student. Other topics addressed included a synopsis of facilities slated for renovations and priorities for construction of new space.

Dr. David J. Schmidly, Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, introduced himself to the Senate and summarized the current state of graduate education at TTU. This university offers 91 Master degree programs and 50 Ph.D. programs. Currently about 3,700 graduate students attend TTU, a slight decline since 1993. More than half of the graduate student population is from Texas but TTU has only 4% of the graduate students in the state. Critical issues for the graduate program include improving the efficiency of the admissions process, improved marketing of graduate education, attention to the quality of academic and student life for graduate students, improving the public's image of graduate education in general and striving for student diversity.

IV. Announcements

Newly Elected Senators - President Howe introduced Ron Rainger as the new Arts and Sciences Senator and Sue Couch as the new Senator filling the vacant at-large position. Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Service on University Committees The following individuals have been selected by the Agenda Committee and have agreed to serve on the Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Service on University Committees: Ron Rainger (Arts and Sciences), Chairman, Terence Ahern (Education), Sue Couch (Human Sciences), Ray Desrosier (Engineering), Ernest Fish (Agriculture), Paul Goebel (Business Administration), Sandra River (Library), and Virginia Sowell (Administration). Senate Web Page and E-mail - Contact the faculty Senate officers with suggestions for the web page.

Senate Forum on Tenure - In response to a recommendation from Senate Study Committee "A" (see "Report from Study Committee A" dated May 1,1996), Senator Elbow will organize a university-wide symposium on tenure to be held late this semester. Contact Senator Elbow if you have ideas for the symposium.

V. Reports from Councils and Committees

Committee on Committees - Senator Dunne filed a report nominating the following individuals for service: Artists and Speakers Committee, Richard Meek, Arts and Sciences; Library Committee, Clyde Martin, Arts and Sciences; Personal Safety and Awareness, Sydney Cravens, Arts and Sciences; and University Discipline Committee, Robert Ricketts, Business Administration and Mike Bobo, Arts and Science (alternate member). Complete report is on file in Senate office.

Faculty Status and Welfare Committee - Senator Dunham presented a final report entitled "Recommendations for the Structure of the Committee to Administer and Oversee the Employee Benefit Fund Scholarship."(see attached report) The Senate voted to adopt the recommendations which will be forwarded to President Haragan's office. The report is also on file in the Senate office.

Senate Study Committee B - Senator George reported that the committee had convened once to discuss the issue of commercial advertising displays in the coliseum during graduation ceremonies. Carolyn Aliamus representing the City of Lubbock will address committee members at the next meeting to discuss the City's perspective on the issue. The committee will look toward the future to examine the issue of advertising in the new arena. A straw poll of the Senate indicated that all senators present, with one exception, agreed that commencement ceremonies should be kept as free from obnoxious advertising as possible.

General Education Committee - President Howe filed a written report on the October 7, 1996 meeting of the General Education Committee which is on file in the Senate office. The main topics covered in the meeting included: Course approvals for the multicultural requirement, the technology component of the general education requirements, and drafting a letter of response to the Higher Education Coordinating Board on the issue of a uniform state-mandated lower division core curriculum for all public colleges and universities. The General Education Committee is not supportive of such an initiative, as a single core curriculum can not fit the needs of all degree programs.

VI. Old Business

Amendment of Bylaws to Regularize Appointment of Liaisons - The bylaws change proposal to regularize the appointment of Senate liaisons on university committees and councils that was introduced at the September 1996 Senate meeting was voted on. Approval of the bylaws revisions failed for lack of a two-thirds majority affirmative vote. The issue will be referred back to the Agenda Committee to examine further options. The Senate expressed its consensus that in the future votes on changing the bylaws should be conducted by mail ballot.

Approval of Faculty Senate Liaisons on University Councils and Committees - President Howe presented a list of Senate liaisons that was recommended by the Agenda Committee. Liaisons include: Provost Council, John Howe; Academic Council, Gary Elbow; Development Council, Jim Reckner; Graduate Council, Leslie Thompson; Research Council, Clifford Fedler; University Center Advisory Board, Leslie Thompson; Teaching, Learning and Technology, Don Durland; General Education Committee, John Howe; International Affairs Council, Ulrich Goebel; Gloria Lyerla Library Memorial Fund, Ed George; Affirmative Action, Andy Herring; Intellectual Property Rights Committee, Uzi Mann; Recruitment, Admissions and Retention Committee, Arturo Olivarez. An appointment to the Student Senate is pending.

Bookstore Committee Status - Senator Dunne filed two written reports "Bookstore Committee Meeting Minutes, September 24, 1996" and "Bookstore Report". Both can be found in the Senate office. The Bookstore Advisory Committee has met twice this semester and will meet again Tuesday, November 12, 1996 at 11:00 am in Conference room A at the Housing and Dining Offices. Mr. Bill Boney, Bookstore Manager,

reported that the campus bookstore had sales of over \$4.5 million from July 1, 1995 to June 30, 1996, of which Wallace Bookstores, Inc. paid \$410,000 to the University's general fund. He also reported a desire to correct problems that have been encountered in the past.

VII. New Business

Faculty Input on Administrative Appointments - President Howe has assigned Senate Study Committee A to examine the process by which recent administrative appointments have been made and the disturbing lack of opportunity for faculty input in such matters.

Invitation for Senate to Meet at the New International Cultural Center - Dr. Idris Traylor, Executive Director of the Office of International Affairs, has invited the Senate to hold the December 4, 1996 meeting at the New International Cultural Center. The Senate voted to accept the invitation. The Agenda Committee will inquire about transportation for those who will have difficulties with the change in venue.

Senate Resolution in Support of Dr. Alfonso Scandrett - Senator George proposed the following resolution with Sue Couch, Murray Coulter, Charlotte Dunham, Gary Elbow, Sandra River and Richard Meek as co-sponsors:

Be it resolved that, the Faculty Senate of Texas Tech University express its appreciation to Dr. Alfonso Scandrett for having maintained an open and collaborative relationship with the Faculty Senate, attending Senate meetings and informing the Senate on the status of Texas Tech University athlete academic performance and other relevant matters; for having worked diligently to improve the academic performance of Texas Tech University student athletes, especially in the areas of football and men's basketball; and for the improvement in the graduation rate of Texas Tech University student athletes that occurred during his tenure as Associate Director of Athletics for Student Services.

The Senate voted to endorse the resolution, with one dissenting vote. Copies of the resolution will be sent to Dr. Scandrett, Interim Athletic Director Gerald Myers, Texas Tech University President Donald R. Haragan, and Texas Tech Chancellor John T. Montford.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Senate adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie D. Thompson