

Minutes #176

MINUTES #176 - FACULTY SENATE

FEBRUARY 12, 1997

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, February 12, 1997 at 3:15 p.m. in the Senate Room of the University Center with John Howe, President presiding. Senators present were Bremer, Casadonte, Corbett, Coulter, DeBell, Dornier, Dunham, Dunne, Elbow, Fedler, Fortney, Fox, George, P. Goebel, U. Goebel, Held, Hensley, Hufford, Jackson, Liman, Mann, Miller, Morrow, Myers, Nguyen, Olivarez, Opp, Rainger, Reckner, Reed, River, Robert, Sarkar, Schaller, Stinespring, Stout, L. Thompson, V. Thompson, Tock, Urban, Welton, and Whisnant. Senators Herring and Meek were absent because of University business. Senate Dowell was absent because of jury duty. Senators Coombs, Floyd, Khan and Lan were absent.

I. President Howe called the meeting to order at 3:20 p.m. and recognized the following guests: Donald R. Haragan, President; Virginia Sowell, Associate Provost; John Burns, Interim Provost; Robert M. Sweazy, Associate Vice President for Research; Spike Dykes, Head Football Coach, Intercollegiate Athletics; Clint Ramsey, Academic Counselor, Intercollegiate Athletics; Gerald Myers, Athletic Director; Joe Hornaday, Assistant Athletics Director; Richard Kilwien, Director of Sports Publicity; John Anderson, Counseling Specialist, Intercollegiate Athletics; Ron Pigott, Chair, Engineering Technology; Jack Boyd, Engineering Technology; William P. Dukes, Business Administration-Finance; Sharen Hart, Office of Development; Brandon Loper, student from Architecture; Kristin Ketcham, Student Association; Danny Robbins, Houston Chronicle; Mark Babineck, Associated Press; Christy Everett, student from Journalism; Kristi Rieken and April Castro, University Daily; and Matt Henry, Lubbock Avalanche-Journal.

Professor Clarke Cochran, Political Science, served as Parliamentarian.

II. Minutes of the January 15, 1997 meeting were approved as submitted. President Donald Haragan reported that the revised grievance policy, created by the Committee to Revise the TTU Grievance Procedure and approved by the Senate at its October meeting, will be replacing the old policy in the OP as of February 11, 1997. Haragan also reported that the task force to create guidelines for the insurance pool scholarships will be meeting this month and may have a report completed by March. Relating to the Senate resolution of December 4, 1996 regarding reorganization or closure of academic units, Dr. Haragan agreed with the resolution, suggesting that in future reorganizations, the faculty of the unit should and would be consulted and

the Faculty Senate as appropriate. He also indicated that TTU recruiting offices in Houston and Dallas are now open and are staffed with a full-time development officer and recruiter. The Austin office will be open as of March 1, 1997. The next offices will be opened in El Paso, and, later, in the valley.

As a legislative update, Dr. Haragan indicated that the Bivins

Post-tenure

Review bill has been filed and TTU officials have already provided testimony. Texas Tech Administration is opposed to a five-or six-year review, which the language of the Bivins bill might be construed to endorse, and has indicated that TTU has an annual review that is sufficient with minor enhancements.

Coach Spike Dykes addressed issues relating to academics and the football

team. He indicated that enhancing academics is a goal for the football program. The current five-year graduation rate is 69% which is the second highest rate in the Big 12, and the graduation rate for African-American athletes is 50%, ranking third in the Big 12. He expressed his desire and goal to have a 100% graduation rate. Ultimately the purpose of any athlete coming to Texas Tech should be to obtain a degree and academics are stressed to the recruits and their families. Player class attendance is being monitored. Coach Dykes expressed his appreciation for cooperation that he received from faculty and administrators in recruiting efforts, and the cooperation he received from faculty on academic issues. Coach Dykes answered questions from the floor on a variety of academic/athletic issues. President Howe expressed the Senate's support of the academic goals that Coach Dykes articulated.

IV. Announcements

Absentee Voting for Senate Officers - According to the Bylaws, Senators if

unable to attend the meeting at which the officer voting takes place, are allowed the option of absentee voting. Senators may leave their selections in the Faculty Senate Office no earlier than Wednesday of the week preceding the election and no later than 3:30 p.m. on the Tuesday preceding the meeting at which voting occurs. Thus absentee voting is from Wednesday, March 5, to Tuesday, March 11, 1997 at 3:30 p.m.

Election for New Senators and Committee Representatives - Senators, especially those now leaving office, are encouraged to recruit individuals for service on the senate and committees.

Faculty Club Poll - A poll will circulate to faculty, via campus mail,

to
determine if there is support for the creation of a new faculty club.
Administration is supportive of a faculty club if it is desired by the faculty.

Open Forum for Provost Candidates - President Howe read a letter from Dr.

Bob Ewalt regarding the Provost Search Committee, inviting faculty and students to attend an open forum with the two candidate, Dr. Jane Winer and Dr. John Burns. Dr. Winer's forum will be held Tuesday, February 18, 1997 from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., and Dr. Burn's will be Wednesday, February 19, 1997, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Both forums will be in Human Sciences, room 169.

University Recruitment, Admissions, and Retention Committee - Senator Olivarez presented a written report of the committee's activities thus far. The report is on file in the Senate office and is available on the Senate Web page. The committee will be focusing its main efforts this year on retention.

V. Committee, Council and Liaison Reports

Academic Programs Committee - Senator Paul Goebel reported that the committee will have a report on "plus" or "minus" grading at the next meeting. Senator Welton presented a proposed resolution from the committee on the issue of dual credit courses for both high school and college credit. The resolution read: Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate of Texas Tech University recommends that the administration do whatever possible to effect the repeal of H.B. 1336, or at a minimum effect modification so as to:

- a. require that junior colleges provide special designations on all transcripts for courses classified as "dual credit," as well as,
- b. permit senior colleges and university to establish criteria, such as the

Advanced Placement examinations, that will enable them to assess a student's performance as well as determine the acceptability, and thus, the transferability of a "dual level" course. The resolution passed unanimously. A complete report of the resolution is on file in the Faculty Senate office.

Budget Study Committee - Senator Held thanked the following administrators

for their assistance in obtaining data pertinent to the Budget Study Committee report: John Opperman, Jim Brunjes, Bobby Gleason, John Burns and Donald Haragan. A complete report of the Committee's motions, announcements, and supporting data were available at the meeting and are on file in the Senate Office.

Item #1 - The Committee presented to President Haragan and Chancellor

Montford separate "proclamations" signed by Faculty Senators, thanking both administrators for their efforts to raise faculty salaries.

Item #2 - Committee Findings Regarding Public Reporting of Faculty Salaries. The University Daily reported on 9/3/96 that TTU professors are paid an average salary of \$60,660 per year. In a letter to the editor, Senator Elbow pointed out that figure was erroneous and overstated average faculty salaries. When administrator salaries (Deans and above) and TTUHSC faculty salaries are excluded, and only full-time assistant, associate and full professor salaries are used to calculate faculty salaries, the median salary is only \$47,782. Thus, half of the faculty earn less than the median, and half earn more than the median.

Motion #1 - "Administrators who are not teaching classes should not be paid from Faculty Salary accounts. If, however, these Administrators continue to receive funds from these accounts, then a uniform standard should be applied to Administrators and Faculty in evaluating teaching load credit." Following a discussion, the motion was unanimously tabled.

Motion #2 - Whereas, the Athletic Program of TTU should be self-supporting and, Whereas, Bookstore profits should not be devoted to athletic purposes, therefore: Be it resolved that bookstore profits should be dedicated to academic purposes, including purchasing of books and journals for the Library. The Senate voted to table the motion.

Motion #3 - Whereas, the Athletic Program of TTU should be self-supporting and, Whereas, Student Services Fees should not be devoted to athletic purposes unless absolutely necessary, therefore; Be it resolved that, subsidies to the Athletic Program from Student Services Fees should be decreased in proportion to increased profits generated by Athletics itself or discontinued altogether. The Senate voted unanimously to table the motion.

Motion #4 - Whereas, the Dental HMO at TTU only has two dentists and, Whereas, TTU employees who subscribe to TTU's Dental HMO must travel to other Texas cities for dental surgeries, therefore; Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate requests our Dental HMO be modified so that more Lubbock-area dentists can be recruited to participate. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion #5 - Whereas, subscriptions to important scholarly journals continue to be cut from the TTU Library due to the inability of flat budgets to compensate for inflation, therefore; Be it resolved that, The Faculty Senate requests that the TTU Administration find a means for funding the Library's

journal subscriptions in a way that will match the rate of inflation. Senator River suggested as a friendly amendment that the resolution read "recent budgets" rather than "flat budgets." The Budget Committee accepted the friendly amendment. The Senate unanimously passed the resolution as amended.

Nominating Committee Report - Senator DeBell offered the following slate for the 1997-98 Senate officers: nominees for Senate President - John Stinespring and Edward George; nominees for Senate Vice-president - Arturo Olivarez and Ruth Morrow; nominees for Senate Secretary - Lanie Dornier and Scott Whisnant. The report was unanimously accepted by the Senate. No further nominations were received from the floor.

Senate Agenda Committee - The Agenda Committee recommended that John Howe be appointed as the Faculty Senate Representative on the Graduate Program Review Committee. The Senate voted to accept the recommendation.

V. Old Business

Bookstore Oversight Committee - Senator Dunne reported that the current TTU Bookstore manger is leaving and a new manger will be hired.

VI. New Business

Senate Symposium on TTU and Local K-12 Education - As requested in the recommendations from the 1995-96 Senate Study Committee A, the Senate Agenda Committee is moving forward with a community-wide symposium. The symposium, co-sponsored by the College of Education and the Faculty Senate, will focus on TTU and Local K-12 Education.

VII. Adjournment

The Senate was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie D. Thompson