

# Texas Tech University Faculty Senate

1997-1998:03

November 5, 1997 Minutes #183

## Report of Senate Committee "C" Regarding the Regents Committee on Admissions Standards

The Faculty Senate supports the efforts of the Board of Regents to improve the quality of students who attends Texas Tech. The Report of the Regents' Committee on Admission Standards contains many good ideas which we urge the Administration to implement. In general, the Senate supports the efforts to raise our graduation rate by increasing the enrollment of superior students (via scholarships and intensive recruitment) and by increasing the retention rate. With regard to specific proposals, the Faculty Senate makes the following recommendations:

(Only Recommendations passed by Faculty Senate are included)

6. The Faculty Senate supports the Regents' recommendation for greater number of scholarships. Given the very small number of applications with SAT scores of 1500 or above, the Senate recommends that the \$5000 scholarships be offered to students with SAT scores of 1400 or better and that \$4000 scholarships be offered to students with SAT scores from 1300-1399.
8. The Faculty Senate supports the recommendation that applicants for admission by transfer who would be transferring fewer than 24 hours of college course work must meet the same standards for admission as "new freshman from high school" in addition to having at least a 2.00 cumulative GPA in their college courses.

The Faculty Senate recommends that the Administration consider raising the admission standards for transfer students. In light of the 48% six-year graduation rate for transfer students (who entered in Fall 1991), and in light of the fact that (in 1995-96) 42% of the total new undergraduates admitted to Tech came via transfer, consideration should be given requiring students to have a GPA higher than 2.00. For assured admission, the University of Texas at Austin, for example, requires transfer students who are Texas residents to have at least a 3.00 GPA **and** they must have completed 30 hours of transferable credit. Student with 54 hours of transferable credit must have at least 2.50 GPA in order to be considered for admission.

10. The Faculty Senate is opposed to use of the "18<sup>th</sup> facto" ("any other consideration the institution considers necessary to accomplish the institution's stated mission"). This part of H.B. 588 should not be used as an "end-around" the regular admissions standards. Since there is no absolute cut-off for admission to Texas Tech, i.e., since any student may admitted

provisionally, the Senate believes there is no justification for having such an open-ended exception to the regular admissions procedures.

11. The Faculty Senate rejects the goal of achieving 50% rejection rate in the next five years. The quality of the university is measured by the quality of the students it accepts (and enrolls), not the quantity of the students it rejects. High school students who are certain to be rejected for admission should not be encouraged to apply just so the university's rejection rate can be artificially inflated.
12. Assured admission should continue to be granted only to students who were in the top 10% of their high school graduating class. Assured admission should not be extended to students in the top 25% of their high school graduating class.
13. The Faculty Senate is opposed to setting an enrollment cap of 3520 for "new freshman from high school." Choosing the enrollment figure for Fall 1996 as the limit for future enrollment is arbitrary.