

**TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
MINUTES #192 - FACULTY SENATE
NOVEMBER 11, 1998**

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, November 11, 1998 in the Senate Room of the University Center with Timothy W. Floyd, president, presiding. Senators present were Herring, Loudon, Shin, Baker, Borst, Dornier, Drager, Dunham, Hartwell, Held, Lodhi, Newcomb, McComb, A. Perez, G. Perez, Reed, Robert, Stein, Stinespring, Stompler, Tuman, Whitlark, Bremer, White, Gomez, Ponticell, Burkett, Sarkar, Thompson, Hoover, Khan, Spallholz, Boylan, Crawford, Farley, Meaney, Olivarez, Pigott, Becker and Brian McGee, parliamentarian. Senators Hartmeister, Boal, Liman were absent because of University business. Senator Trost was absent with prior notice and Senator Couch was absent because of illness. Senators Misra, Thorvilson, Reckner, Rylander, Oler, Cochran, Lan, Peek, was absent from the meeting.

I. **Call To Order** was announced by President Timothy W. Floyd at 3:18 p.m.

II. **Recognition of Guests** – President Timothy Floyd recognized the following guests: Jim Brink, Vice Provost; Kara Altenbaumer, Avalanche Journal; Gail Wolfe, Traffic and Parking; Gene West, VP of Operations; Douglas Birdsall, Associate Dean of the University Libraries; Bill McCaughan, Vice Provost and Executive Director of Continuing Education; Don Staley, Professor Landscape Architecture; Landscape Architecture students Jen Pritchard, Amber Rothwell and Rocio Martinez.

III. **Approval of Minutes #191.**

The minutes from the meeting of October 14, 1998 were approved with the following exception. The remarks made by Professor Daniel Nathan in his last clause were misunderstood and therefore are corrected to state that the Education wing did have reason to be where it is now projected on the Master Plan which is to say in the R-6 parking lot.

IV. **Presentations:**

Dr. Douglas Birdsall, Associate Dean of the University Libraries, addressed the Senate concerning the \$17.4 million renovation currently taking place in the main library. Most of the interior space is being affected by this project which began in 1996. The interior is being redesigned to fit the "International Style" of architecture as it was originally planned.

The basement area is now open and houses government documents, maps, current periodicals, microformat materials, and 31 PC stations. The service area will go back to the main floor in 1999 and in the spring of '99, the TLTC is expected to open with new facilities on the main floor. The 5th stack level is scheduled to open in the summer of 1999 with compact shelving units and carpeting. Levels 2 and 3 are scheduled to be completed in April of 2000. Those floors will house Reserve, a library classroom, study areas, group study rooms, and administrative areas.

New carpeting is being installed throughout the stack areas. There will also be new elevators installed. There will be a mezzanine level added in the main reference area on the south side to provide offices for subject librarians.

Dr. Birdsall also commented that the decision was made not to close the library even for a single day during the projected three years of construction and renovation in order to have as little inconvenience to the users as possible.

Dr. Bill McCaughan, Vice Provost and Executive Director of Continuing Education, addressed the Senate concerning the activities of the Distance Learning Council. He began by mentioning that recent action of the Coordinating Board has deregulated "distance learning" geographically, making it possible for any institution to offer a program anywhere in the state via technology without a concurrence process. The Distance Learning Council is now in the process of drafting operating policies and procedures which will be distributed on 12 November in order to develop OP guidelines. There will also be prepared a faculty handbook for the distance learning process to help develop courses. By next September a state-wide program called "Techsan 2000" will be developed to offer a broad band network throughout the entire state for transparent interface connections.

At the moment, the most popular name for our tele-campus is "Texas Tech University -- World Campus."

Dr. McCaughan asked the assistance of any senators who are interested in these projects to sponsor a forum in order to ask questions and to be informed about distance learning.

A number of issues have yet to be resolved, he conceded, such as faculty work load credit for "distance learning" courses as well as compensation for developing such courses. The issue of "intellectual property rights" is also being researched.

Professor Don Staley, Department of Landscape Architecture, addressed the Senate about the temporary closing of a portion of 15th Street between Boston and Detroit on the campus. Three of his students presented the project design. The street will be closed for four days, from November 17th to the 20th, in order to test peoples' behavior patterns in light of proposals in the Master Plan for a pedestrian mall through the inner core of the campus. In association with this project, there will be mock-ups of a temporary pond with a fountain, a garden area, an outdoor cafe, a wind sculpture competition, and displays of the conceptual design information. The results will be written up and made available in booklet form.

Dr. James E. Brink, Vice Provost, discussed the NCAA Self Study project currently underway. This is a standard self-study for certification purposes which occurs routinely every five years. It consists of a steering committee with four sub-committees which deal with governance, fiscal integrity, commitment to equity, and academic integrity. Students, faculty, and staff form the membership on all the committees.

The preliminary report will be made available on the university web page. Public *fora* will then be announced in the early spring so that everyone can have an opportunity to make recommendations. The final report is due to the NCAA by middle spring and an on-site inspection team is expected in June.

Senator Newcomb asked if graduation rates are to be included in this report and Dr. Brink said that they certainly were.

V. Unfinished Business:

Senator Lewis Held spoke in behalf of the Budget Study Committee. He read a portion of a letter he had received from Mr. Gene West, Vice-president for Operations, dated October 22, 1998. The paragraph is as follows: "I told you and the Faculty Senate that no Parking Fees would be used for the Arena Parking Garage and that was not true. At the time I was under the impression that all funds for the Arena Parking Garage was [sic] coming from the General Use Fee and donations. Subsequent to the Faculty Senate meeting [of 14 October] I have found that \$1,000,000 of the \$4,200,000 cost to construct the Arena Parking Garage will come from Parking Fees."

Mr. West, who was present at today's meeting, added that the scheduled 15% increase in parking fees for next year will help with these costs. He indicated that the increase will be requested at the meeting of the Board of Regents on 13 November. The new rate schedule will need to be published in January.

VI. New Business:

Senator John Stinespring presented a report from the Faculty Status and Welfare Committee. While he stated that no action was expected now, he did hope that everyone would consider the issues at hand which include the proposal for a Fine Arts College for which no moneys are yet allocated and a proposal for the reassessment of the need for Graduate Faculty Status in light of the Post Tenure Review process.

In connection with the issue of Graduate Faculty status, Senator Held distributed a memorandum from Provost John M. Burns confirming that SACs accreditation does not require Graduate Faculty Status but does require that institutions demonstrate a high level of faculty competence in teaching and scholarship for those involved in programs at the master's and doctoral levels.

President Floyd commented that the Graduate Council is expected to discuss this issue at their next meeting on 3 December and that Dean David Schmidly will make a recommendation to the Senate.

VII. Announcements:

President Floyd advised the senators that the Agenda Committee will meet on 30 November and asked that all information for inclusion on the agenda for the December meeting be made available at that time.

The Office of Student Affairs has asked for a representative from the Senate to serve on the new "Student Conduct" task force.

Senator Tuman asked that, at some future date, the Senate would discuss the issue of collegiality as part of the tenure review procedures. President Floyd agreed to refer the issue to an appropriate study committee.

VIII. Adjournment -- the meeting was adjourned by President Floyd at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy B. Reed
Secretary 1998-1999