

**TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
MINUTES #196 - FACULTY SENATE
MARCH 10, 1999**

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, March 10, 1999 in the Senate Room in the University Center with Tim Floyd, president, presiding. Senators present were Herring, Misra, Thorvilson, Loudon, Shin, Dornier, Held, Lodhi, Newcomb, McComb, G. Perez, Reed, Robert, Rylander, Stein, Stinespring, Stombler, Whitlark, Bremer, White, Hartmeister, Ponticell, Burkett, Hoover, Khan, Spallholz, Cochran, Boylan, Crawford, Farley, Lan, Meaney, Olivarez, Pigott, Becker and Trost. Senators Dunham, A. Perez, Reckner, Sarkar were absent because of University business. Senator Couch was out ill. Senators Baker, Borst, Drager, Hartwell, Tuman, Boal, Gomez, Liman, Oler, and Thompson were absent from the meeting. Parliamentarian Brian McGee was present at the meeting.

I. Call To Order was announced by President Timothy W. Floyd at 3:20 p.m.

II. Recognition of Guests – John Burns, Provost; Elizabeth Hall, Assistant Provost; Kara Altenbaumer, Avalanche Journal.

III. Approval of Minutes #195

The minutes of the meeting of February 10, 1999, were approved as distributed.

IV. Election of Senate Officers for 1999-2000

Senator Olivárez presented the slate of officers from the nominating committee. Those were: Robert McComb for President; Charlotte Dunham, Alberto Pérez, Genaro Pérez, Ronald Pigott, and Nancy Reed for Vice-President; John (Jack) Becker for Secretary.

Nominations from the floor were called. At that time, Senator Held nominated Senator Reed as a Presidential candidate. Accordingly, Senator Reed withdrew her nomination as Vice-President to run as a write-in candidate for President.

President Floyd appointed the members of the nominating committee to act as the tellers committee for the purpose of counting the ballots. These were Senators Olivárez, Meaney, and Stinespring.

A second ballot for President was called because even though the write-in candidate was indicated, no check marks followed either name on a number of ballots. The second ballot cast indicated Senator Reed as the President-elect.

For Vice-President, no candidate received a simple majority. A second ballot was cast to break the tie for second place between Senator Pigott and Senator G. Pérez with Senator Pigott winning second place. Senator Dunham was in first place. On the third ballot, Senator Dunham was elected Vice-President.

Senator Becker was elected Secretary with no opposition.

According to the Senate By-laws, their term of office begins following commencement on May 16, 1999.

V. Presentation:

Maurice Welch, Copy Tech Manager, addressed the Senate about the assorted services available. He introduced Hope Calvillo, supervisor of Copy Tech - West Hall and Rocky Scarbrough, supervisor of Copy Tech - Engineering Center. Mr. Welch went on to point out that currently, Copy Tech prepares about one-third of all course packets for the campus. He distributed two handouts which listed the assorted printing services available, including pick-up/delivery throughout the campus. There are two locations, one in West Hall and one in the Engineering Center. Both are open 8 - 5 p.m. weekdays with longer hours the first two weeks of each term. Mr. Welch did mention that soon the location in West Hall will move temporarily to a triple-wide trailer just outside of West Hall during its renovation.

In response to questions about copyright clearance, Mr. Welch commented that most course packets are compiled by professors rather than taken directly from books so there is no difficulty. Copy Tech can, however, go through a copyright clearing house if need be.

Prices at Copy Tech are competitive with Joe's Copy Service unless faculty or students choose to make copies in the middle of the night when prices at Joe's are a bit less than those at Copy Tech.

VI. Committee Reports:

Senator Held spoke in behalf of the Budget Study Committee, indicating that repeated attempts by him to contact Vice Chancellor Douglas Mann concerning the campus parking crisis had yielded no response to date. Considering that the Senate voted last October to conduct a campus-wide referendum before any plan goes to the Board of Regents, Senator Held expressed grave concern about time running out.

President Floyd added that just today he had received a voice mail response from Vice Chancellor Mann indicating that he is ready to meet with the Senate to present a Master Plan parking proposal.

After some discussion, the Senate voted to allow the Budget Study Committee to meet with Mr. Mann and report back to the full Senate at the next meeting which is on April 14. Senator Held assured everyone that such a meeting would be open to all senators and would be held in the Senate Room. The Board of Regents will meet May 12-13 and the Senate has its May meeting scheduled for the 5th.

Senator Stinespring presented three resolutions from the Faculty Status & Welfare Committee:

First Resolution -- In recognition of the large-group open forum conducted January 21, 1999, of the faculties of the School of Music, and Departments of Art, and Theatre and Dance, with Assistant Provost Liz Hall to discuss the proposed College of Fine Arts, the Senate commends the effort of the university administration and the university trustees to approve the formation of such a college within the university. The Faculty Senate urges that matters relating to approval by

the Texas Higher Education coordinating Board of a college of fine arts at Texas Tech University and the funding necessary to establish an appropriate administrative structure for that college be expedited. Passed unanimously.

Second Resolution -- The Faculty Senate recommends that the separate evaluation of faculty for Graduate Faculty status be eliminated and replaced with an endorsement on the Post Tenure Review and Tenure/Promotion evaluations. Appeals and other matters related to Graduate Faculty status shall be conducted through the channels established for Post Tenure Review. Following a lengthy discussion, Senator G. Pérez moved to table the resolution in order to hear from a member of the Graduate School. **The motion to table indefinitely until someone from the Graduate School addresses the Senate carried by a majority.**

Third Resolution: The Faculty Senate recommends that fringe benefits be extended to domestic partners of faculty members. Funding for these fringe benefits shall be provided from non-state funds, as is the case with other public institutions offering this incentive for the productivity and retention of their faculties. Domestic relationship status can be determined by affidavit or documentation of shared domestic responsibilities. It is the belief of the Senate that the same rationale for providing fringe benefits for the spouses and dependent children of faculty members applies to domestic partners. The Faculty Senate has already gone on record opposing discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender. **After considerable discussion, the resolution passed: 22 in favor; 9 against.**

In addition to these resolutions, the Committee also presented two items for “information only.” Does the Senate wish further deliberation on the issue of collegiality as a criterion for faculty evaluations? Senator Dornier pointed out that the law does state that collegiality can be included in the tenure/promotion process. Senator Held pointed out that while there is a legal precedent, in a recent AAUP meeting, Provost Burns indicated that the University did not support it as an issue for tenure and promotion. The Senate did, after further discussion, ask the Faculty Status & Welfare Committee to examine the issue and report back.

In regard to ad hoc retroactive changes in tenure/promotion standards relative to extra-mural funding and other evidences of research and publication, the discussion which followed brought up issues of Research Tier I status conflicting with heavy teaching loads and minimal travel funds available to attend conferences. It was, however, decided to hear from Study Committee C which is examining the issue of teaching workloads and Research I status before asking Status & Welfare to pursue this topic.

Other committee reports were briefly presented. Vice President Ponticell reported on the Academic Council which has presented a draft of the 2000-2001 school calendar. It calls for four Saturday classes in the first summer session and five Saturday classes in the second summer session. Commencement is August 12. Faculty are to be on duty August 14 for the fall term; December commencement is on the 16th. In January, faculty are on duty on the 8th; 12 May is commencement. These changes are required to keep the contact hours compatible with SACs requirements due to Federal holidays and the student request for

additional study days prior to final exams. Any comments or observations should be directed to Vice Provost Brink.

Senator Boylan, speaking in behalf of Study Committee A, commented that they are working with a Student Senate sub-committee to revise the class evaluation form. Study Committee A hopes to have a prototype for the Faculty Senate soon.

Senator Loudon reported that nothing new about the Graduate Faculty Status issue was presented at the last Graduate Council meeting.

Senate Robert stated that Study Committee B expects to have a report on the bookstore at the May meeting.

VII. New Business -- Senator Herring reported on the Committee on Committees and announced that there are still some nominations needed for various councils and committees. The updated list of nominees as distributed was approved.

VIII. Announcements -- President Floyd mentioned the President's Congressional Intern Program applications for Fall '99. These appointments are for a full semester, resulting in 6 credit hours. There is a \$4,000.00 stipend to assist the applicant while living in Washington. Interns are placed with those members of congress who are dealing with issues or policy areas about which the interns express interest in the applications.

IX. There being no further business before the Senate, adjournment was announced by President Floyd at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy B. Reed
Secretary, 1998-1999