

Texas Tech University
Minutes -- # 209 Faculty Senate
October 11, 2000

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, October 11, 2000 in the Senate Room in the University Center with President Charlotte Dunham presiding. Senators present were Elam, Thorvilson, Giaccardo, Buelinckx, Donahue, Drager, Hartwell, Held, Lee, Lodhi, Lucas, Meek, Perez, Reeves, Rylander, Schaller, Tuman, Weinberg, Boal, Hein, Malone, Hartmeister, Thomas, Norville, Blum, Khan, Spallholz, Cochran, Bradley, Cardenas-Garcia, Carr, Cooper, Marbley, Swafford, Becker, Trost.

Senators excused from the meeting were Kieth, Zhang, Smith and Willis-Aarnio.

Senators unexcused were Iber, Lewis, Walker, Murray, Lakhani, Mann, Reeder and Van Cleave.

I. Call to Order was announced by President Charlotte Dunham at 3:20 pm.

II. Recognition of Guests: President David Schmidly, Provost John Burns, Vice Provost Jim Brink, Assistant Provost Liz Hall, and invited speakers Christina Merryweather and Jo Henderson.

III. Approval of Minutes for meeting #208, September 13, 2000, were unanimously approved as amended. Tess Trost and Jack Becker were inadvertently left off the attendance roll last month.

IV. Remarks from Invited Guests:

A. Christina Merryweather, a representative on the advisory committee looking into childcare for TTU and the Health Sciences Center, began by offering special thanks to Senators Marc Giaccardo and Jimmie Reeves for participating on the advisory committee. The committee was charged last October to see if there is a need for centralized child care for the faculty, staff and students at TTU and the HSC. The committee received over 600 requests for a certified childcare facility for TTU and HSC. Some of the concerns for having such a facility were location, cost, retention of employees and the quality of care provided. The committee is in the process of finalizing cost projection estimates for University versus private providers. Ms. Merryweather said that the committee has until the end of October to set forth their findings. At that time, the committee will meet with both Presidents of TTU and the HSC to finalize a proposal. Part of the report asked various departments on campus if they would be able to send students to help in the child care facilities. 15 departments replied favorably. The childcare facility(s) will be situated in a centralized place(s) that is readily accessible to both TTU and the HSC.

B. Jo Henderson provided an overview of Student Health Services (SHS). SHS is located in Thompson Hall on the Tech campus. SHS personnel are employed by the HSC but serve only the students on the Tech Campus. SHS does not provide medical excuses for the students, and the SHS is precluded from releasing medical records. SHS does provide proof a student was seen in the facility. SHS encourages students to contact faculty whenever illness necessitates an absence from class. SHS employs 8 full-time MDs, 2 nurse practitioners, and 12 LVNs. HSC medical students are not involved in providing SHS services. Last year, the SHS provided medical advice and treatment to more than 11,000 students.

SHS office hours are Monday to Friday from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm. Currently, SHS is seeing about 175 to 200 students a day during the current flu season. Ms. Henderson reported that the only fees the students pay for at the SHS facilities are for medical prescriptions and shots. There are no costs for x-rays, lab work or insurance co-pays. The flu vaccine will be available in late November or early December.

V. Committee Reports:

Senator Tuman provided a summary of results from the ad hoc committee that convened over the summer to review and offer recommendations for grievance procedures under O.P. 32.05. The committee's recommendations were forwarded to the Provost's office, and it appears that all made it into the final version of the O.P.

VI. New Business: There was no new business.

VII. Old Business: There was no old business.

VIII. Announcements:

President Dunham announced a faculty governance library is being established in the new Faculty Senate offices located on the second floor of McClellan Hall, room 206.

Senator Held provided a brief summary of the AAUP meeting conducted earlier in the day. On behalf of the AAUP, he voiced concern over unilateral changes made by TTU administration in O.P. 32.32 governing faculty annual reviews. He pointed out the adverse impact these changes will have on the post tenure review process.

IX. Adjournment: Since there was no other business, President Dunham declared the 209th meeting of the Faculty Senate adjourned at 3:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Fred Hartmeister
Secretary, Faculty Senate