

Texas Tech University Faculty Senate

2000-2001:04

February 14, 2001 Minutes #213

HEAF Funds Resolution

Study Committee B. On behalf of Study Committee B, Committee Chair Cochran acknowledged Dr. Haeussler's responsiveness to the committee's questions and concerns about the draft version of the intellectual property rights policy noted above. Senator Cochran suggested that his committee will wait to the next iteration of revisions in the draft policy, then will likely submit a resolution to the Senate to be sent to the administration. In the meantime, he urged faculty to continue monitoring the policy revision and implementation process. Senator Lucas inquired as to whether the new policy will be applied retroactively. He was assured that the administration's intent is to implement the new policy in a prospective fashion only.

Also on behalf of Study Committee B, Committee Chair Cochran submitted a resolution expressing concern over the University's allocation of Higher Education Assistance Funds (HEAF) for construction and construction-related expenditures. The resolution read:

WHEREAS the Texas State Legislature created and the voters of Texas approved the Higher Education Assistance Fund (HEAF) in 1984 as a counterpart to the Permanent University Fund (PUF) for the betterment of state institutions of higher education such as Texas Tech University that do not benefit from PUF, and

WHEREAS faculty members at Texas Tech University depend on HEAF funding for purchases of equipment, library materials, and other resources needed to support teaching and research, and

WHEREAS the Texas Tech University administration has allocated more HEAF funds in FY 2001 for building construction and construction-related expenditures than to academic expenditures, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Texas Tech University Faculty Senate that the Senate views with concern the allocations of a majority of HEAF funds for construction and construction-related expenditures and recommends that the University administration give higher priority to academic expenditures.

The resolution passed unanimously. Following adoption, Senator Held asked Provost Burns about ongoing faculty searches. Provost Burns assured that Senate that the university is not in the midst of a hiring freeze, and he shares the Senate's concern in garnering increased funds for the hiring of additional faculty.