The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, February 13, 2002 in the Senate Room in the University Center with President Giaccardo presiding. Senators present were Elam, Kvashny, Byerly, Dolter, Donahue, Harter, Howe, James, Lee, Lucas, Marks, Meek, Reed, Reeves, Roberts, Weinberg, Dukes, Hein, Johnson, Murray, Lakhani, Mann, Blum, Shriver, Phelan, Marshall, Quinn, Bradley, Carr, Curry, Hsiang, Marbely, Steinhart and Willis-Aarnio. Senators excused Buelinckx, Hoo, Iber, Schaller, Lewis, Iber and Russ. Senators unexcused Blanton, Kuriyama, Williams, Yang, Thomas, Norville, Reeder, Zhang and Cooper.

I. Call to Order: at 3:19 p.m.

II. Recognition of Guests: Provost John Burns; Vice Provost Jim Brink; Assistant Provost Liz Hall; Gary Elbow, Parliamentarian, Dr. Gary Wiggins, Vice President of Information Technology; Dr. Max Hinojosa, Vice President for Operations; Gail Wolfe, Director of Traffic and Parking; Eric Crouch, Manager Traffic and Parking Operations; Lawrence Welch, Staff Senate President-elect; and April from the University Daily. Christy Meriwether, Assistant Director Customer Service/Performance arrived later to make her report.

III. The minutes for Meeting #221 were accepted with the following changes: Brent Shriver, David Weinberg, and Ed Steinhart should have been listed as present. Motion made by Senator Marks and seconded by Senator Howe.

IV. Invited Guests:
Gary Wiggins, Vice President of Information Technology, discussed the issue of how the TTU web presence is presented to the rest of the world on the Internet. He stated it is a marketing and system administration issue. Gary Wiggins presented the following resolution to The Faculty Senate. Whereas the presence of Texas Tech University on the Internet has become increasingly more important and is now the university’s front door to the world; Whereas the university is best served by having its presence on the Internet under its internal direction and by having its presence on the Internet easily locatable by prospective faculty, students, and others in the general public; Whereas the URL www.texastech.edu at present is a resource of the Texas Tech system and not Texas Tech University; Be it resolved: (1) The URL www.texastech.edu should be a URL for Texas Tech University; (2) That system web pages could more appropriately deal with issues of the system and simply link the university’s site rather than trying to duplicate the university’s content.

Senator Meek asked if both TTU and Texas Tech websites would come to the TTU Home Page and Dr. Wiggins said that it would. Senator Mann asked who owns the rights to Texastech.com? Dr. Wiggins responded that the athletics department did. Senator Reeves asked why the Senate was getting involved in this situation. Dr. Wiggins said that because there is lively discussion regarding this issue, and it is a big enough issue, it is important to get consensus on it. Senator Reeves made a motion and Senator Carr seconded it. Senator Lee asked what was the discussion that Dr. Wiggins referred to? Dr. Wiggins stated that the issue revolves around the brand name of Texas Tech, the university and the system both want the name. The system would argue that the university and the system are really just one big entity and it makes sense to run everything through the system. Senator Mann asked what would happen with the Health Sciences Center. Senator Roberts wanted to know if it was approved when would the change take place. Gary Wiggins answered in a day or two. Senator Howe inquired about who owns ttu.com and Dr. Wiggins stated he did not know. Senator Steinhart wanted to know what would happen to ttu.edu. Gary Wiggins responded that it would get redirected to the same place as texastech.edu. Senator Byerly asked if texastech.edu was clear about what it was supposed to be and he was informed that it was recently changed to make it clearer. Senator Marks stated that he did not understand why we had two websites and that it seemed one website would clear things up. Senator Meeks wanted to know if texastech.com linked to the
Texas Tech website and Gary Wiggins believed it did. Senator Steinhart called the question and the motion passed unanimously.

Max Hinojosa, Vice President for Operations, provided an organizational overview of his department and highlighted some of the key activities that his office is responsible for. He also described the 5-year parking plan. One of the plan recommendations revolved around creating area-reserved parking vs. reserved parking. This has been implemented and it has worked fairly well so far. Another plan recommendation was to charge visitors who visit the campus at night for parking. He also discussed some of the changes being made to parking lots and some of the plans regarding parking garage construction.

As it stands, parking next year will be $400 for a reserved spot and $250 for an area-reserved spot in a parking garage. The surface parking will go up to $375 for reserved parking and $130 for area reserved. These prices are for faculty and staff. Senator Carr stated that due to the difference in faculty and staff salaries that the increase would have a more adverse effect on staff. Dr. Hinojosa stated that there have been discussions regarding waivers for parking fees for some individuals. Senator Bradley noted that parking fees have increased dramatically and the correlation between salaries and parking fees is out of balance. Senator Lucas explained that Texas Tech is striving to be a tier 1 university and one of the criteria for tier 1 is the ratio of students to faculty. As we try to add on more students we have not made appropriations for faculty, and as this ratio goes down, it hurts our tier 1 responsibilities. He also wanted to know why area reserve was overbooking and if there would be nighttime parking fees for faculty. Dr. Hinojosa stated there would not be an additional fee for faculty for parking at night. Senator Donahue made the point that charging to park in the theatre lots would not be looked on favorably and Dr. Hinojosa promised they would discuss that issue. Senator Marshall inquired about the forecast for increases in 2004 and 2005 and was told by Dr. Hinojosa that no actual figures were available at this time. Senator Held stated that 17% overbooking was quoted, but how much more was really going to occur? Max Hinojosa replied that they do lot counts but they do not always work. They have had difficulty in the law parking lot, for example. When this occurs, they attempt to tell people where to go if their lot is full.

Christy Meriwether, Chairperson for the Childcare Center, was in attendance to give an update on the progress of the center. She discussed a late July meeting she had with Chancellor Montford and Mike Ellicott. During this meeting, she presented her plan and they decided to see how other universities outsource their childcare service. Therefore, they visited the University of Oklahoma in September and Iowa State in November and learned how the outsourcing process operates. Now, they want to create a RFP/RFQ committee to develop an outline of what they want for the center. She stated that it took Iowa State 6 to 8 months to go through the RFP process. Senator Jim Reeves and President Marc Giaccardo stated they were willing to be on the committee to represent the Senate, however, their terms are up at the end of this semester and we were looking for other volunteers for the committee. Ms. Meriwether noted that they are using the Community Design Studio to help design the studio at a cost of $3,500. The projected cost of this project is $3-4 million.

Senator Steinhart asked if the forecasted cost would be better if the university runs it or if an outside firm runs it. Ms. Meriwether replied it looked better for an outside firm to do it. Senator Harter inquired if the staff at the center would receive employee benefits and Ms. Meriwether replied yes they would through the outside corporation. Senator Steinhart wondered if they would receive competitive salary and benefits. Christy Meriwether believed they would be comparable to the Human Development salaries with good benefits. Senator Howe wanted to know how this center would compare to the Child Development Center. Christy Meriwether replied that it would not replace it. President Giaccardo noted that these plans started nearly three years ago. Now, we are looking at about eight months for the RFP and another two to three years for the entire process. He wondered how this compared to Iowa State’s timeline. Ms. Meriwether said it was hard to say because they have three different centers that are all at different ages. Senator Dolter inquired about the state of current enrollment in the center versus the growth of the university. Ms. Meriwether stated that they are looking at locations that would allow growth and the current plans are to build a building that could house 200 children. Senator Reeves asked any senators who were interested in serving on this committee should see him after the meeting because his term is over in May.

V. Old Business:
Committee C – Course Evaluations. They will examine how the new teacher evaluation forms will be presented on the Internet. One issue they will explore is the reporting of students’ expected grade versus their actual grade.

Committee A – Service Learning. The committee will meet with Andrew Shoppe and attempt to define service learning and how it will affect the faculty at Texas Tech.

Senator Blum stated that he attended an all-day workshop on service learning presented by Edward Zlotskowski. He also distributed a brochure from the workshop, which addressed service-learning issues. Senator Blum stated that he would work with Committee A to cover some of the questions that came out of the workshop. Senator Shriver wanted to thank Provost Burns for setting up the workshop and felt that it was very informative.

President Giaccardo reported on the Grievance Policy. He will be meeting with the president tomorrow to present an executive summary of the policy. To date, two or three areas that were passed previously were accepted except for the statement at the top about the written reasons. He will continue to convey the recommendation of the Senate. Senator Steinhart reported that at today’s AAUP meeting they endorsed the executive summary and wanted President Giaccardo to urge President Schmidly that he reinstate the policy.

Senator Lucas inquired about the state of the online student information committee and President Giaccardo stated that the report would be given during the April meeting. Senator Lakhani asked about the Provost search report and was informed that it would fall under announcements. Senator Steinhart wanted to note the absence of Lynda Gilbert who has been asked to the past two senate meetings.

VI. New Businesses:
A report was given by Senator Reeves concerning the Nomination Committee. There nominations were
President – Senator Shane Blum; Vice President – Senator David Marshall and Senator Nancy Reed; Secretary – Senator Peggy Willis-Aarnio and Senator Brent Shriver

VII. Announcement:
Senator Shriver gave a report on the Provost Search Committee. He stated they began with 34 applicants and narrowed it down to 11. Then, they conducted phone interviews and from that picked seven semifinalists. After one applicant withdrew his application they were left with six. They are:
Daniel Acosta, Jr., Ph.D., Dean, College of Pharmacy, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH
Viola E. Florez-Tighe, Ed.D., Dean, College of Education, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
William M. Marcy, Ph.D., Dean, College of Engineering, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX
Gordon L. Nelson, Ph.D., Dean, College of Science and the Liberal Arts, Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne, FL
Kyle Perkins, Ph.D., Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL.
Marlene I. Strathe, Ph.D., Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO

After contacting their references, the committee is holding a meeting today to narrow the pool to 3-5 unranked finalists. Senator Shriver noted that Michael Heintze has been a tremendous help to the committee.

No further announcements were made.

VII. Adjournment at 4:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Shane C. Blum
Secretary, Faculty Senate