

Annual Report 2002-2003

Discussion Highlights- for full version see **Faculty Senate minutes for that meeting.**

#226, September 11, 2002

Invited Guests: David Schmidly, president of Texas Tech University, was introduced by President Blum. President Schmidly congratulated President Blum on his position as President of the Faculty Senate and expressed that the TTU administration is looking forward to working with President Blum and the entire Faculty Senate in the coming year. President Schmidly stated that TTU has a lot of exciting things, and some real challenges, in front of it that the administration and the Faculty Senate will have to work closely together to address. See minutes for more.

Senator Steinhart said that it has come to his attention that three faculty members in the Department of Chemical Engineering have filed claims with the US EEOC and that these faculty members have received letters of determination indicating that the university has been found in violation of nondiscrimination provisions of the Civil Rights Act and asked the president what the university is doing to respond to these letters of determination. See minutes for more.

Senator Lucas asked if we have a slush fund containing between 6 and 12 million dollars that was set up eight or nine years ago to give faculty merit pay raises when the state doesn't have money.

Senator Lee asked what determines at what level we set tuition for the students. **President Schmidly** replied that there are some limits, it can grow a certain amount but it is capped at the top by the state and that there will be a real discussion in Austin this spring, particularly if there is going to be a dramatic funding cut for higher education, about removing the cap and allowing each board of Regents to set tuition.

Senator Held commented that we are elected to represent a different constituency and are supposed to be presenting the needs of the faculty to the administration and we appear to be dancing around this topic of raises.

Senator Spallholz discussed attendance in his class and commented that many times students do not perform well because they do not come to class, and maybe if the students paid higher tuition more of them they would come to class.

President Blum asked for one more question, at which point **President Schmidly** commented that he would be happy to come back if any of these topics prompt further discussion.

Senator Stinespring commented that President Schmidly mentioned issues related to tenure and post-tenure review in his presentation and asked what these issues are.

Old Business: No old business

New Business: No new business

#227, October 11, 2002

Invited Guests. President Blum introduced Dr. William Marcy, Provost of Texas Tech University. **Provost Marcy opened his comments by stating that the Faculty Senate will remain in its current location**

in McClellan Hall. The provost reported that President Schmidly has agreed that language stating that he will provide a written response if he disagrees with the outcome of a grievance hearing will be reinserted into the OP. Provost Marcy went on to discuss the possibility of establishing a position for a faculty ombudsman.

Senator Spallholz asked what kinds of issues the ombudsman would handle. **Provost Marcy** replied that the individual would handle any conflict: faculty to faculty conflict, groups of faculty that are having difficulty with each other, and faculty to administrator conflict.

Senator Dolter commented that the current TTU ombudsman facilitates grievances between students and faculty and asked if this function would continue to reside with that office. **Provost Marcy** replied that it would: the student side of grievance issues would not change.

Senator Roberts asked what effect the move to 12 month funding would have on summer school and inquired about the status of summer 2003.

Senator Spallholz asked if the provost anticipates that faculty will have 12-month appointments in the future to go along with the 12-month budget.

Senator Steinhart asked if the provost knows if the annual reviews of administrators specified under OP 30.15 have been routinely performed over the last 5 years and if these could be provided to the Faculty Senate.

Senator Floyd asked if the provost, or anyone in attendance, could answers questions related to the gender-bias task force or committee that was established last fall.

Senator Lucas asked if there is a cap on our growth in order to protect the faculty to student ratio, which is a component of the evaluation for Tier I status, and since the amount of research funding is another component of obtaining Tier I status is there any talk about hiring a professional grant writer.

Senator Steinhart commented that Provost Marcy might want to look into the possibility of hiring someone to assist with manuscript preparation, and added that on the question of gender equity the TTU Gender Equity Committee might want to examine the research by Marion Mason at Berkley on the impact of child bearing and child rearing.

Senator Held asked if the presence or absence of grant money would cause the provost to veto a dossier that had been approved all the way up.

Senator Bradley asked if the provost is conceptualizing a single model for summer school that would apply to everyone.

Senator James asked if the open faculty positions have been approved.

Senator Held asked if start-up money is HEAF money.

Senator Williams asked if we have new information on the hiring of TA's and adjuncts. For Provost Marcy replies see full minutes.

Old Business: No old business.

New Business: No new business:

#228, November 13, 2002

Invited Guests. President Blum introduced our invited guest, Professor Robert Baker, Faculty Athletic Representative (FAR). Professor Baker mentioned that the job description for the position states that the Faculty Athletic Representative must give an annual report to the Faculty Senate.

Old Business:

Senator Held brought up old business from October and November 2001. He submitted to the Faculty Senate copies of OP 32.31 and OP32.32 pertaining to post-tenure review and read a copy of the cover letter accompanying the submission.

New Business:

President Blum mentioned that the Faculty Senate has received some calls regarding the progress of the ombudsman position. He stated that he has discussed these questions with Provost Marcy.

Senator Floyd asked if it has been decided not to fill the position formally held by Manuel Escamilla, Special Assistant to the President for Diversity, and will part of the funding for the ombudsman come from this position.

Senator Stinespring raised two issues that he feels are two symbols of disregard for faculty dignity and welfare: parking in the Flint Street garage and dining facilities on campus.

Senator Held asked if we could invite the Vice President for Facilities Planning to update us on parking.

Senator Lucas asked if Max was asked about overbooking in the area reserved lots and the location of secondary parking spots when area a reserved lot is full. **President Blum** replied that he did discuss both of these issues with Max.

President Blum asked if he could get together with Senator Dolter about the Student Union.

Senator Steinhart commented that he mentioned at an AAPU meeting that he would be raising some questions for Vice President Gilbert when she visits the Faculty Senate and this has caused some response that the Faculty Senate might want to look into.

Senator Marks asked if there would be some opportunity for follow-up to the prepared questions submitted to Vice President Gilbert.

Senator Lucas asked Senator Steinhart if the funds he is concerned about are funds in an account that was not supposed to roll over, or other funds that were supposed to be used. **Senator Steinhart** responded that he had reason to believe that sweeping of accounts began taking place as early as May and was not at all part of the annual rollover.

#229, December 11, 2002

Invited Guests. President Blum introduced Linda Gilbert, Vice President for Fiscal Affairs. President Blum explained that Dr. Gilbert would answer the questions that were provided to her in advance and the Senators would have an opportunity to ask her follow-up questions. See minutes for full report.

Question #1: Were you aware of OP 77.04 regarding cancellation of registration for non-payment of tuition before you made the changes in payment procedures for Spring 2002? 1.1 If so, why did

you choose to ignore the University's operation procedures at that time? 1.2 Have you sought to change the OP in question to conform to your new practice or bring your practice into conformity with the OP?

Question #2: Do other state universities in Texas (or the Big 12) collect tuition before the delivery of service on the first day of class? 2.1 Did you seek the advice of University council regarding the legality of collecting fees in advance of delivery of service? 2.2 What is being done to bring Texas Tech collection practices in line with state law?

Question #3: Did you seek the advice of the staff of the Office of Student Business Services before making the decision to change the tuition collection practices? 3.1 Did objections to the new practices lead to the termination or demotion of any employees of the Office of Student Services?

Question #4: Were you aware that the promotional use of free tee-shirts or sweat shirts was administered in such a manner as to discriminate against students receiving financial aid?

Question #5: Were you aware that delays in payment of financial aid under the new payment system required students to take out emergency loans and pay a service charge in order to stay enrolled, while under the old system they would have been able to make payment as late as the 12th class day before they could be de-registered.

Senator Held thanked Vice President Gilbert on behalf of the Budget Study Committee for clarifying so many positions for us and requested that Dr. Gilbert pass along to the development office this problem with HEAF money. **President Blum** also extended his thanks to Vice President Gilbert.

Old Business:

The first item of old business related to post-tenure review, specifically OP 32.21. **President Blum** explained that the OP has been in committee twice for rewording. He stated that he wanted to get a motion to suspend the rules to consider these amendments to the OP without sending it back to committee. A motion to this effect was made by **Senator Floyd** and seconded by **Senator Steinhart**. The motion was approved unanimously. **Senator Howe** made a motion to accept the changes to Op 32.31. **Senator Steinhart** seconded the motion. **Senator Held** explained that the section that is new is on the next to last page and this paragraph details the echelon of appeal; the first appeal is to the Provost, then to the Tenure Advisory Committee and ultimately the President. **Senator Watts** pointed out that there is a typographical error on the fourth line from the bottom; the sentence should read finding instead of fining. The motion to accept the amendment to OP 32.21 with corrections was approved unanimously.

President Blum read an email message from Marc Giaccardo, President of the TTU chapter of AAAUP, requesting that the Faculty Senate work with the Provost's office to ensure that both the original language agreed to last year by President Schmidly is returned to Op 32.05, which deals with faculty grievances, and a non retaliation clause is added to the OP, and both changes appear in the next publication of the OP.

New business:

President Blum stated that he has asked Chancellor Smith to speak to the Faculty Senate at the January 15th meeting and that Chancellor Smith said he would be happy to speak to us on the 15th if he is back from Austin. President Blum said that he discussed the Presidential Search Committee with the Chancellor and he stated that the committee would be constructed and run much the same as the last

one; 20 people with representatives of the Staff Senate, Faculty Senate, Student Government, Board of Regent, etc. The Chancellor stated that some issues have not been resolved; the role of the Board of Regents, if a search firm will be used, etc. President Blum mentioned that the OP simply states that the Chancellor selects the President, and there is nothing in the OP that obligates him to use a search committee. He stated however that Chancellor Smith has assured him that he is going to establish a search committee. **Senator Floyd** asked what the Chancellor said concerning the timetable, both for appointing a search committee and wrapping up the search process. President Blum replied that Chancellor Smith said that the search committee would be selected sometime in January or February and he expects the search process to be completed by the fall.

#230, January 8, 2003

Invited Guest. President Blum introduced our invited guest, Dr. David Smith, Chancellor of the TTU System. The Chancellor then gave a short presentation that focused on two topics: the legislature and the presidential search. Dr. Smith stated that this legislative session would be a difficult one given the report out of the Comptrollers office that projects a 9.9 billion-dollar deficit for the next biennium. See minutes for full presentation.

Senator Held commented that in a number of his speeches, the Chancellor has mentioned shifting the priorities of the University more toward academics than athletics, and asked how successful the Chancellor feels he has been in this area.

Old Business.

President Blum mentioned that the Budget Study Committee would meet after the Faculty Senate Meeting to discuss the faculty grievance policy. There were no other items of old business.

New Business.

President Blum introduced Gary Elbow who discussed SACS reaffirmation process. Dr. Elbow mentioned that the reaffirmation study is due in the spring of 2005, and that the process is completely different from what it was 10 years ago when we last went through what was then called reaccreditation. He said that in the old days we did a great big self-study and there was a large steering committee with a lot of specific task committees under it.

President Blum discussed the Ad Hoc Committee on the relocation of the Honors College. He stated that the Faculty Senate Office would be moving. President Blum said that he, Patty, Nancy and Charlotte went over and looked at the proposed space and he has a meeting with the Provost next week to discuss the proposed move. President Blum mentioned that something we might be concerned with, as faculty, is the proposal to move everyone out of McClellan Hall and the Honors College into it. He asked Provost Marcy if this is a done deal that is going to happen no matter what we say. **Provost Marcy** replied that he is not in a decision-making role regarding where the Honors College goes or does not go. He went on to say that he believes it is a done deal and we should use this as a bargaining chip to get our offices configured and enhanced so that they meet our needs beyond what our current expectations are.

Senator Floyd asked where the new space is located. **President Blum** replied that the one they looked at yesterday is on the third floor of the east wing of the Administration Building. **Senator Floyd** asked who made the decision that we are moving out and where we will finally be located. **President Blum** replied that this decision came out of the President's office. **Senator Howe** commented that there is some appropriateness in being located in the Administration Building. He stated that years ago when he was

President of the Faculty Senate it was promised that the Faculty Senate would be considered for Administration Building space, so in some ways this is going back to an earlier time.

President Blum reported that we need three people for the Nomination Committee.

President Blum reported that there are two items that did not make it on the agenda because they just happened very recently. President Blum then introduced Dr. Neal Pearson, retired professor of Political Science at TTU, who made some comments related to Byron Abernathy, a former professor at TTU who recently passed away. A summary of Dr. Pearson's comments is included as an attachment to these minutes.

Senator Marks then read a resolution requesting the support of the Faculty Senate for the Texas Tech University's College of Visual and Performing Arts and Department of theatre and Dance production of "Angels in America, Part One: Millennium Approaches." A copy of this resolution is also included as an attachment to these minutes. President Blum mentioned procedurally that he needed a motion and a second to discuss the resolution. **Senator Marks** made a motion to this effect, and **Senator Steinhart** seconded. A vigorous discussion of the resolution ensued with comments by **Senators Held, Watts, Floyd, Lucas, Howe and Frailey**. **Senator Held** then offered a friendly amendment to the resolution that stressed the aspect of academic freedom. Senator Held's proposed amendment would replace the final paragraph of the resolution with "Therefore be it resolved that that the Faculty Senate fully supports the principals of academic freedom and artistic freedom and supports the" Senator Marks replied that he was happy to accept the friendly amendment. Additional discussion of the resolution followed, with comments by **Senators Frailey, Held, and Floyd**. **President Blum** called for a vote to suspend discussion on the resolution. The vote was unanimous. President Blum then called for a vote to accept the amended resolution presented by Senator Marks. All Senators voted in the affirmative, with the exception of **Senator Dukes** who voted no and **Senator Howe** who abstained.

#231, February 12, 2003

Invited Guest. President Blum introduced our invited guest, Dr. Donald Haragan, Interim President of TTU. President Haragan began his comments by stating that he will make a commitment to the Senate: which is to always listen to what we have to say and always respond. He went on to say that when he does not respond in the way we want he will always tell us why.

Old Business. There was no old business.

New Business:

President Blum announced that the Faculty Welfare and Status Committee would evaluate procedures in Op.30.15 concerning review of department chairs and report at the next Faculty Senate meeting. **Senator Mann** asked if in principal input from faculty is relevant and important to the procedure. **President Blum** replied that the OP doesn't state anything to that effect; it simply says that department chairs will be evaluated annually and they may use attachment A, which is part of the OP. **Senator Mann** followed up by stating that he wants to know if the administration considers faculty input to be important. **Provost Marcy** responded that as a matter a principal every department chair deserves a written evaluation every year and input from faculty, alumni, students and all the stakeholders is important.

Senator Spallholz asked about the output: what happens to these evaluations once they are completed? **Provost Marcy** replied that the deans use these evaluations to make the decision on whether or not a department chairs continues in the position, and there have been a few chairs replaced as a result of

these evaluations. **President Blum** commented that we would have the committee look at what the deans are doing in the way of evaluations, which will help us determine in the OP is being followed.

Senator Steinhart introduced the candidates for President, Vice President and Secretary of the Faculty Senate on behalf of the Nominating Committee. The nominee for President is Nancy Reed, nominees for Vice President are Alon Kvashny and Brent Shriver, and the nominees for Secretary are John Howe and Brian Quinn. President Blum mentioned that some information on each of the candidates will be included in the next mailing of the minutes, and the election will take place at the March 12th Faculty Senate Meeting.

President Blum mentioned that there is an Enrollment Management resolution attached to the minutes from the last Faculty Senate Meeting. **Senator Steinhart** introduced the resolution on behalf of the AAUP. **The resolution reads “Whereas: Increasing student enrollment without adequate funding to maintain sufficient full-time faculty will adversely affect the quality of teaching, research, and service to our students and community, Therefore be it resolved that: The Faculty Senate urges the administration to reconsider its plans for increasing student enrollment.”** Senator Held seconded the resolution. **Senators Held, Howe, Harter, Floyd and Spallholz** made comments or statements in support of the resolution, as did **Student Government Association President Kelli Stumbo**. **Senator Steinhart** expressed concern that if we cap enrollment we might hurt ourselves because it could result in the loss of formula funds. **Senator Mann** proposed a friendly amendment to impose the cap unless there are resources to support the enrollment. **Senator Steinhart** responded that he thinks this is already addressed in the resolution. **Senator Steinhart** called for the question. The resolution passed.

Senator Dunham introduced a resolution on behalf of the AAUP supporting the rights of Dr. Dini, Associate Professor of Biology, to set criteria for writing letters of recommendations for students. **The resolution reads “We, The Faculty Senate of Texas Tech University, affirm our support for Dr. Michael Dini and his right to set policies regarding letters of recommendation. A letter of recommendation from a faculty member for a student is a privilege not a right, and any faculty member may refuse to provide one if she/he believes that the student has failed to demonstrate either academic competency on the basis of reasonable criteria (that is, criteria that are generally accepted as reasonable by the majority of the academic community), personal integrity, or classroom deportment. Furthermore, we also believe that Dr. Dini retains the right to state general criteria refusing to recommend a student and we commend his integrity for clearly stating the circumstances under which he would not be able in good conscience to write a recommendation letter.”** Senator Johnson seconded the resolution. **Senator Howe** commented that the language of the resolution is much improved over what he heard before, and is not technically a resolution of support for the exact content of Dr. Dini’s web site, but rather a resolution of support for the right of faculty members to set professional criteria for letters of recommendation. **Senator Held** proposed **a friendly amendment to the resolution that would delete the portion of the resolution contained within the parenthesis (that is, criteria that are generally accepted as reasonable by the majority of the academic community).** **Senator Steinhart** seconded the amendment. **Senator Dunham** accepted the friendly amendment. **Senator Held** expressed his appreciation for the support that the administration has given to Dr. Dini. **Senator Floyd** joined him in this, and stressed that the resolution is really about academic freedom. **Student Government President Kelli Stumbo** also expressed support for the resolution. **Senator Kvashny** called for the question on the amended resolution. The amended resolution passed.

Jason Lester from the Graduate Student Senate addressed the Faculty Senate to discuss the fact that the GSS would like the administration to make the athletic fee optional for graduate students and to express the support of the GSS for the enrollment cap resolution passed by the Faculty Senate. **Senator**

Held made a motion for the Faculty Senate to support the Graduate Student Senate in its attempt to make the athletic fee optional for graduate students. **Senator Marks** seconded the motion. **Senator Howe** called for the question. The motion passed.

#232, March 12, 2003

Invited Guests. President Blum pointed out that Max Hinojosa, Vice President of Operations, is on the agenda as one of our invited speakers. Unfortunately, Max was unable to attend today's meeting. President Blum stated that Max's presentation has been rescheduled for the May meeting. President Blum then introduced Dr. Elizabeth Teagan, Director of the TTU Advising Center and McNair Scholars Program.

Old Business:

President Blum discussed the report from the Faculty Status and Welfare Committee regarding its review of how OP30.15 is being implemented. This OP deals with the annual review of administrators. He mentioned that this report was supplied in written form prior to the start of the meeting.

Senator Held reported that the Budget Study committee has completed its evaluation of the current version of OP 32.05, which concerns faculty grievance procedures, and is satisfied that the language that they requested relating to retaliation and the President's decision has been inserted into the OP. He then read these changes. The first phrase is under Section 1: Policy and Procedures and states "A faculty member may present a grievance without retaliation." The second phrase is under part D of Section 4: Grievance Committee Hearing and reads "If the President's decision differs from that recommended by the Grievance Committee the written reasons for such difference will be provided to the grievant and the committee."

New Business:

President Blum recognized Senator Lee who distributed ballots for the Faculty Senate elections. He also mentioned that Senator Howe had removed his name from consideration for Secretary. President Blum then introduced the candidates and gave them the opportunity to make a brief statement. He also mentioned that each candidate provided a 75 word personal statement and these are attached to the agenda. The candidate for President was Nancy Reid, the candidates for Vice President were Alon Kvashny and Brent Shriver, and the candidate for Secretary was Brian Quinn. Once the voting was completed, the nomination committee collected and tallied the votes. The results of the voting were as follows: President elect is Nancy Reed, Vice President elect is Brent Shriver and Secretary elect is Brian Quinn.

Senator Lucas brought up an email that his Associate Department Chair had received from Sandy Martinez concerning sweeping of the graduate tuition fund accounts. **Vice Provost Hall** explained that what has been happening is that graduate tuition accounts have been undergoing evaluation and that they have been frozen for evaluation, not swept.

Senator Lucas commented that in the spring two years ago at the last Faculty Senate meeting Chancellor Montford talked about a fund that Senator Held had asked about that involved local monies. The Senator reported that Chancellor Montford stated at this time that he had taken over this fund for some of his purposes.

#233, February 12, 2003

Invited Guest: President Blum introduced our invited guest, Dr. Donald Haragan, Interim President of TTU. President Haragan began his comments by stating that he will make a commitment to the Senate: which is to always listen to what we have to say and always respond. He went on to say that when he does not respond in the way we want he will always tell us why. The President stated that he has a great deal of respect for the Faculty Senate and what we do, and he appreciates it. See minutes for full report.

Old Business:

There was no old business.

New Business:

President Blum announced that the **Faculty Welfare and Status Committee** would evaluate procedures in Op.30.15 concerning review of department chairs and report at the next Faculty Senate meeting.

Senator Mann asked if in principal input from faculty is relevant and important to the procedure.

President Blum replied that the OP doesn't state anything to that effect; it simply says that department chairs will be evaluated annually and they may use attachment A, which is part of the OP. **Senator Mann** followed up by stating that he wants to know if the administration considers faculty input to be important.

Provost Marcy responded that as a matter a principal every department chair deserves a written evaluation every year and input from faculty, alumni, students and all the stakeholders is important.

Senator Spallholz asked about the output: what happens to these evaluations once they are completed?

Provost Marcy replied that the deans use these evaluations to make the decision on whether or not a department chairs continues in the position, and there have been a few chairs replaced as a result of these evaluations. **President Blum** commented that we would have the committee look at what the deans are doing in the way of evaluations, which will help us determine in the OP is being followed.

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Senator Dunham introduced a resolution on behalf of the AAUP supporting the rights of Dr. Dini, Associate Professor of Biology, to set criteria for writing letters of recommendations for students. The resolution reads “We, The Faculty Senate of Texas Tech University, affirm our support for Dr. Michael Dini and his right to set policies regarding letters of recommendation. A letter of recommendation from a faculty member for a student is a privilege not a right, and any faculty member may refuse to provide one if she/he believes that the student has failed to demonstrate either academic competency on the basis of reasonable criteria (that is, criteria that are generally accepted as reasonable by the majority of the academic community), personal integrity, or classroom deportment. Furthermore, we also believe that Dr. Dini retains the right to state general criteria refusing to recommend a student and we commend his integrity for clearly stating the circumstances under which he would not be able in good conscience to write a recommendation letter.” **Senator Johnson** seconded the resolution. **Senator Howe** commented that the language of the resolution is much improved over what he heard before, and is not technically a resolution of support for the exact content of Dr. Dini’s web site, but rather a resolution of support for the right of faculty members to set professional criteria for letters of recommendation. **Senator Held** proposed a friendly amendment to the resolution that would delete the portion of the resolution contained within the parenthesis (that is, criteria that are generally accepted as reasonable by the majority of the academic community). **Senator Steinhart** seconded the amendment. **Senator Dunham** accepted the friendly amendment. **Senator Held** expressed his appreciation for the support that the administration has given to Dr. Dini. **Senator Floyd** joined him in this, and stressed that the resolution is really about academic freedom. **Student Government President Kelli Stumbo** also expressed support for the resolution. **Senator Kvashny** called for the question on the amended resolution. The amended resolution passed.

Jason Lester from the Graduate Student Senate addressed the Faculty Senate to discuss the fact that the GSS would like the administration to make the athletic fee optional for graduate students and to express the support of the GSS for the enrollment cap resolution passed by the Faculty Senate. **Senator Held** made a motion for the Faculty Senate to support the Graduate Student Senate in its attempt to make the athletic fee optional for graduate students. **Senator Marks** seconded the motion. **Senator Howe** called for the question. The motion passed.

#234, May 14, 2003

Invited Guests. President Blum introduced Dr. Donald Haragan, Interim President of TTU. Dr. Haragan discussed the status of the presidential search. Dr. Haragan reported that the presidential search has made some very good progress. He stated that when he assumed the position of Interim President he was willing to serve until January if necessary because he was not confident that someone could be in place by the beginning of the academic year. See minutes for full report.

President Blum then introduced **Max Hinojosa**, Vice President of Operations. Mr. Hinojosa then briefly discussed the organizational structure of TTU Operations. First he introduced Cherie King, his Executive Administrative Assistant, and explained that she is responsible for overseeing his schedule.

Senator Stinespring brought up a health and safety issue related to the Flint Avenue Parking Garage. The Senator pointed out that a large sidewalk that was built for the dormitories aims student’s right at the outlet to the parking garage, which creates a very hazardous situation. **Mr. Hinojosa** stated that this problem is under evaluation and he hopes to have the situation resolved by the end of the summer.

Senator Held asked if TTU is planning to build additional garages. **Mr. Hinojosa** responded that they would like to do so but the bonds needed to support the construction cannot be issued until TTU reduces its debt load, which will probably take two to three years.

Senator Dolter raised an issue related to the R11 lot. The senator stated that there may be a problem with the park and pay system in this lot in the fall. He pointed out that many of the activities in the School of Music will start at 7:00 and the park and pay system goes off at 8:00, and asked if it is possible to push the 8:00 hour back to 7:00.

Old Business:

President Blum discussed the report from the Faculty Status and Welfare Committee which details proposed changes to section D of OP30.15. President Blum explained that he reviewed the OPs from all of the Big 12 schools and most were just as vague as ours. He commented that the only OP that appeared to have any teeth was the one from Texas A&M. He explained that the second paragraph of the proposed changes are from this OP. President Blum went on to explain that proposed changes to the current OP 30.15 appear in italics. The wording proposed by the committee for section D is as follows, with changes in bold italics:

“These individuals serve ***with the approval of the faculty, dean Provost and President*** in their administrative capacities without tenure and at the discretion of the immediate supervisor. Each associate/assistant dean, department or area chairperson will be reviewed ***annually by tenure and tenure-track faculty within the college/department.*** The Administrator Evaluation Form (Attachment A), ***or an equivalent form produced by the college/department and approved by the Provost’s office, shall*** be used. ***Additional confidential*** input from faculty, administrators, and others as appropriate ***may also be considered.***

This evaluation will also include a poll of the faculty on whether the associate/assistant dean, department or area chairperson should continue in office with the results transmitted to the dean. The dean shall consider the results of the review, faculty vote, and other factors in determining the status of the administrator. The dean’s decision regarding the incumbent’s tenure will be communicated by the dean to the faculty.”

New Business:

President Blum recognized Senator Lucas who asked if there are some issues that should be worked on, or agreed upon, by the various Senates. He suggested that a representative of each body should attend the other meetings. **Senator Held** responded that he is the Faculty Senate liaison to the Student Senate, but he has always attended the meetings at the request of the Student Senate. He added that the Student Senate knows that they have a conduit to get to us anytime they need to. **Maurice Welch** added that the three groups have met together on certain occasions in the past to address specific issues that affected all three bodies.

President Blum then introduced **Dr. Donna Bacchi** who gave some history on changes to the smoking policy detailed in Op 60.15. Dr. Bacchi explained that she and several members of Tobacco Free Tech met with President Schmidly in 2002 to discuss the current policy and additional changes that needed to be made. She explained that other than posting signs explaining the current policy little has been done since then.

Kelly Stumbo then discussed the position of the Student Senate on the smoking policy. She stated that the student Senate feels a distance of 12 feet from the building is acceptable for the smoking receptacles

and that the receptacles should be concreted to the ground so they can't be moved closer to the building by smokers during inclement weather.

Senator Lucas asked if there is a store in the new Student Union that is designated to sell tobacco products. **Ms Stumbo** responded that currently the Sam's Store is planning to sell tobacco products.

President Blum presented three issues that need to be explored by the Faculty Senate when we resume in the fall. The first was an issue brought to his attention by Senator Watts, which concerned changing email servers in the middle of the semester. He suggested that we make it clear that we would like to have notification in advance when these changes are going to be made, and explore having these kinds of changes made at a more convenient time. The second issue, which was brought to President Blum's attention by Gary Elbow, was that the evacuation policy needs to be evaluated. Currently, TTU has no OP for evacuation procedures. The third issue, also brought up by Gary Elbow, is that the policy on freedom of speech needs to be evaluated. Currently, there is an OP on what is expected of visiting speakers, but none on what is expected of students and faculty.

