

**Texas Tech University  
Faculty Senate Meeting  
Meeting # 246  
November 10, 2004**

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, November 10, 2004 in the Escondido Theatre in the Student Union building with President Gene Wilde presiding. Senators present were: Brooks, Doerfert, Johnson, Perry, Wilde, Kahera, Carr, D'Amico, Drager, Dunham, Grass, Hart, Held, Howe, Jeter, Miller, Myles, Rahnama, Schaller, Smucker, Toda, Troyansky, Wenthe, Hein, Jones, Mercer, Sherif, Collins, Jackson, Lakhani, Masten, Sinzinger, Blum, Reifman, Camp, Soonpaa, Kreidler, Spurrier, Whitfield, Chamber, Reeves, Watts, Lucas, Meek, Wilson, Donahue, Ellis, Marbley, Morse, Smith, Tacon and Tombs. Senator excused were: Cejda, Letchford, Halsey, Garner and Baker. Senators unexcused were: Loudon, Nathan, Duemer, Olivarez, Gustafson, Gelber, Bixby and Spallholz.

**I. Call to Order.** President Gene Wilde called Meeting #246 to order at 3:17 November 10, 2004 in the Escondido Room of the Student Union Building.

**II. Recognition of Guests in Attendance.** President Wilde recognized guests included: Dr. William Marcy, Provost; Dr. Liz Hall, Vice-Provost; Dr. Jim Brink, Vice-Provost; Ron Seacrist, Chief of Police, Texas Tech University System; Cathy Duran, Chief Academic Integrity Officer, Katherine from the University Daily.

**III. Approval of Minutes.** Motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by **Senator Reifman**, seconded by **Senator Wilson**, and passed. [0:48 – 7:10]

**IV. Invited Guest: Cathy Duran, Assistant Academic Dean, Business Administration [8:03 — 51:39]**

The report began by addressing the circulated handout that had the entire report of the first task force for Academic Integrity including a draft memo from the Academic Integrity Implementation Task Force a project initially instigated by students, a formal suggestion from SGA. One of the first tasks was to “clarify and make more concise and complete the definition of scholastic dishonesty.” They expanded the definition and got it into the appropriate publications and it became a part of the new student code of conduct. An attempt was made to address discrepancies between the code of conduct in the catalog and various OP’s. “The grade appeals procedure..... is clearly not designed for looking at cases of academic dishonesty.” “The biggest problem in the procedures was to try to figure out a way to integrate the Student Affairs portion of disciplinary due process and those kinds of things with the academic process of the professor in the classroom, the grading and what kind of grading outcome should be once due process has been done.” The University of Texas procedure is proposed by the Academic Integrity Implementation Task Force to apply to Texas Tech University. A further proposal by the original task force is the appointment of a Chief Academic Integrity Officer for Texas Tech University, a concept which has been approved by the Provost. A Student Affairs initiative has produced an Integrity Values brochure which has the new definitions in it but a lot of the old confusing procedures. Considerable work remains to define procedure.

Lengthy discussion ensued regarding the keeping of records regarding “patterns of behavior,” as this may be a function of the Academic Integrity Officer, and to what extent a faculty member may or should have access to a student’s prior history in determining consequence; and many other aspects of student dishonesty or cheating. Vice-Provost Brink commented that “what we do intend is for there to be a central repository of information about consequences that have already been meted out...” “I think the definitions that Dr. Duran talked about would give the faculty member some guidance”...regarding “the consequences that he or she thinks are judicious of a violation of academic integrity.” [40:53]

Dr. Duran welcomes additional communication at [c.duran@ba.ttu.edu](mailto:c.duran@ba.ttu.edu).

President Wilde expressed appreciation for Catherine Duran having made arrangements for her 3:30 class to allow her to make this presentation. President Wilde assigned the proposal to Senate Study Committee B to explore, and reminded the Senate that “this does include academic dishonesty or lack of integrity by faculty as well.”

**Invited Guest: Ron Seacrist, Chief of Police, Texas Tech University System [51:38 — 59:49]**

“A law enforcement agency sitting in an academic community is like a round peg in a square hole. Our objective is to create a safe environment. Unfortunately a lot of times the people we recruit into our jobs in law enforcement don’t understand the needs of this environment. So what I look for are officers that understand this is not a municipal police agency. The expectation is that we, as a part of this institution, are a service to you, to the students, to the staff, everyone. And, that whatever service we can provide, we should be providing whether it is within the scope of law enforcement or whether it is outside of that scope. My philosophy is that we not only provide a law enforcement function for this institution, but we also provide what I’ll call a corporate security function. I believe that when those real police problems exist, car burglaries or whatever they may be, that we’re expected to respond and provide the service that should be provided during that time. But when those situations are not occurring we have to assume a role of corporate security philosophy that provides a level of service....This being an academic community I strongly believe that we are part of the social education of the students. A lot of the students we know come here right from home, never having slept in other beds except their own. So, my goal is to not create an environment where those students come here and go away with some criminal record for some stupid little thing that none of us would ever have done at eighteen or nineteen years of age....”My goal is to present a flexible service that we are available not just for police issues, but for any of the service issues that we might have the ability to provide service level to you....” Several questions ensued regarding morale, recruiting and retention, budget, and staffing

#### **V. Old Business [59:51]**

Senator Troyansky’s Committee report from Faculty Welfare and Status Committee. Regarding the tenure probationary period there is some need for flexibility, and some uniformity across campus as to what constitutes “unusual circumstances.” Language tends to give a lot of authority to chairs and deans. Discussion ensued. **Senator Camp** moved to send subject back to committee, have them work through the issues talked about here and make another recommendation. The motion was seconded by **Senator Carr** with the request it be submitted in writing, and passed. [1:15:53]

President Wilde reported briefly on Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity and a scheduled meeting with President’s Chief of Staff and the Chancellor’s attorneys.. [1:16:25]

President Wilde reported Study Committee A, looking at administrator evaluation, Op 30.15, is not making much progress currently, so it will be assigned to Study Committee C to hopefully make some quicker advances. Discussion ensued regarding faculty feedback, suitability of document or form, and methods of effecting assessment. [1:17:38 — 1:33:27]

#### **VI. New Business [1:33:45]**

None appearing.

#### **VII. Announcements: [1:34:00]**

President Wilde spoke to President Whitmore regarding the lack of a faculty dining area. He had a discussion with Vice-President Shonrock who indicated there might be an area in the Student Center that they might partition off as a faculty lounge.

There will be in January the beginning of a traffic flow study outside the University Center to see how many cars where and where there needs to be parking. So there will be more discussions and studies of parking structures.

President Wilde will meet with student body president and Staff Senate president next week regarding the Fall break. Vice-Provost Brink announced that they continue to meet with students regarding this issue.

Sue Couch is looking for comments on the SACS Quality Assurance Plan. Email Patty Gisch if you are interested in being on that ad hoc committee by Monday of next week.

#### **VIII. Adjournment:** Meeting was declared adjourned at 4:56 p.m.