

**Texas Tech University
Faculty Senate Meeting
Meeting # 251
April 13, 2005**

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, April 13, 2005 in the Escondido Theatre in the Student Union building with President Gene Wilde presiding. Senators present were: Johnson, Doerfert, Perry, Kahera, Loudon, Held, Jeter, Wenthe, Nathan, Schaller, Troyansky, Howe, Carr, Grass, Miller, Rahnama, Smucker, Toda, Jones, Sherif, Mercer, Halsey, Olivarez, Jackson, Masten, Sinzinger, Lakhani, Letchford, Gustafson, Reifman, Amor, Blum, Soonpaa, Kreidler, Spurrier, Whitfield, Watts, Reeves, Garner, Gelber, Meek, Lucas, Wilson, Spallholz, Tacon, Donahue, Bixby, Morse, Smith and Tombs. Senators excused were: Hein, Chambers, Brooks, Hart, Duemer, Collins, Ellis, Dunham, Camp, Myles, Drager, Marbley and Cejda.

I. Call to Order. President Gene Wilde called Meeting #251 to order at 3:20 April 13, 2005 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; Dr. John Borrelli, Dean, Graduate School; Andrew Vernooy, Dean, Architecture, Chair of Search Committee for Vice President of Research; Megan Lauren, University Daily.

III. Approval of Minutes. Motion to approve the minutes as corrected was made by **Senator Howe**, seconded by **Senator Lakhani**, and passed. [0:43]

IV. Invited Guest: Andrew Vernooy, Dean, Architecture, and Chair of Search Committee for Vice President of Research [1:19 - 7:14]

Dr. Vernooy was invited at the suggestion of **Vice-President Watts** regarding Interdisciplinary Research questions. The Search Committee consists of 18 people, nine representing departments where there is a significant amount of funded research, and nine representing scholars where research is not so often funded. The received applications from almost 90 candidates ranging from people already functioning as VPR's to those just graduated. They have already invited four people to visit campus. Of the four invited two are VPR's and two are Dean's at large engineering programs with significant research funding. He expressed excitement that the candidates are of broad vision, focusing not only on funded research but on the general mission of scholarship at the university. The president, he added, would like to bring in six people. Everyone will have an opportunity to see the candidates as they will be asked to make a forty five minute presentation followed by forty five minutes of question and answer. Interdisciplinary research was a common thread among all the candidates. It appears that one of the best ways to actually grow research and also attract the attention of a variety of agencies is to promote interdisciplinary research. Each candidate made a case for building larger research teams that "cross disciplines that might not normally sit together at the same bench." **Senator Held** asked to be reminded as to just where the VPR sits in the chain of command, "how does he relate to the President, for example." **Vice-Provost Brink** remarked that "the plan is the VPR will report to the Provost."

Dr. John Borrelli, Dean, Graduate School [7:19-46:45]

Dr. Borrelli was invited to address questions regarding the new electronic thesis-dissertation form. The Graduate School is now gone electronic all the way. He has added one new staff member because of the increase in documents. They have been forced to make this change Dr. Borrelli reported that the changeover process has so far gone quite smoothly. There are some reports of difficulty creating *PDF* files; but, for those special cases they are still accepting paper copies that will be put in the library. Announced that IT is going to buy a site license for Adobe. The fees they did have go for microfiche copies to be put in the Southwest Collection for permanent file. All thesis and dissertations will be put on the server to be operated by the library with access through the internet. Total fees for the Masters or PhD will not change but go to upkeep of the server. They still have to send documents to ProQuest the national service. The question of copyright/property rights was rose which occasioned considerable discussion. Dean Borrelli assured that they had visited the lawyer for Intellectual Property Rights at Texas Tech University to see if they were doing anything wrong and were given assurances they were in compliance. Regarding further questioning as to who actually *owns* copyright and copyright of electronic and course materials, who grants permission for publication, how does this affect counseling of degree candidates etc., no definitive answers were forthcoming. There was a statement of concern regarding the caps for graduate seminars expressed in a memo. Dean Borrelli responded that there is a study, an evaluation, regarding the underutilization of some courses.

V. Old Business [46:49-57:28]

Election of officers: **President Wilde** allowed a moment for each candidate to say a few words before the ballot. **Senator Troyansky** commented that he "had every intention of running and making a statement about how we really needed to do something about faculty retention; but something has come up. And, I find myself with an irresistible offer elsewhere. I do hope the Senate will take up that issue; and I'd be happy to talk about both 'push and pull' factors if I have the chance. But for now, I just want to endorse John Howe." [46:58 -51:13] The tally of the ballot was announced as John Howe, President; Richard Meek, Vice-President, and Audra Morse, Secretary [56:50-57:28]

President Wilde reported on the reception to the two Senate resolutions regarding the Texas Tech Athletic Department, the appreciation expressed by Athletic Department. Attention was called to the inclusion of a note in our packet from Buddy Knox, and the intention for a "Town Hall" meeting. **Senator Held** reported that he did attend one of the Town Hall meetings and "specifically raised the issue of turning the campus into what the original master plan called a 'pedestrian friendly campus' which I continue to worry means a vehicle free campus. The master plan called for five parking garages on the perimeter of the university and virtual elimination of all parking spaces within that perimeter..... That is not on the agenda for the near future as we can barely afford a second garage." [51:19- 56:50]

VI. New Business

Announcements [57:40-1:04:05]

President Wilde announced that we have all invited to a reception next Monday evening hosted by the President and his wife. Also that **President Wilde** met last week with the President who looks forward to the budget for the next biennium and will solicit faculty input regarding priorities. **Senator Held** asked for a final statement regarding the number of faculty hired an update. **Vice Provost Hall** stated that they are not done. **President Wilde** noted that **President Whitmore** will address the Senate at the next and may address that issue then. **Senator Reifman** suggested the external review of research portfolio commissioned of Provosts at other universities might be addressed. **Senator Smith** asked for **Vice-Provost Hall** to share information Dr. Marcy had made regarding Tech's exemplary status. **Vice-Provost Hall** reported that two weeks ago state auditors upon completing audits of Texas Tech, Texas A & M, The University of Texas, and University of Houston, "recommended to the legislative budget board that Texas Tech be cited as exemplary for the way in which we plan the tuition increase, collected information about it, the way in which we budgeted the revenue, and the way in which we kept records about how we spent the money."

President Wilde then noted that Patty Gisch, attending the meeting in a wheelchair was "injured in the line of duty."

The meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m.