

Annual Report 2006-2007

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

#262, September 6, 2006

Invited Guests: Dr. Jim Brink

Dr. Brink updated the faculty on the Advising Task Force with the appointment of Senior Administrator for Academic Advising DaNay Phelps as the chair. See minutes for more.

Speaker: Dr. Liz Hall

Dr. Hall thanked all faculty for a smooth start to the semester; 90 of the 91 new faculty that were hired in Fall 2006 came and were entertained in an orientation at the start of the Fall semester.

Old Business

Ad Hoc Committee on Child Care

Senator Alvarado will determine who is currently on this committee and will report back to the faculty senate.

Electronic Elections

Senator Wilde reported out of the four different software packages, one is superior and there is unanimous consensus. The committee will meet on September 27th to decide on package type. Electronic elections will be available to the faculty senate in the Spring 2007.

New Business

Senator Spurrier is the new Chair of the Committee on Committees.

Senator Donahue indicated that there are conflicting reports on learning outcomes and that there is too much paperwork for the assessment of the learning outcomes. President Smith will ask Gil Reeve to a faculty senate meeting to discuss this issue.

Vice President of the Graduate Student Council Zeb Alexander asked if the faculty lounge could be used by graduate students. President Whitmore will be advised on this issue.

#263, October 11, 2006

Invited Guests:

Dr. Gil Reeve, Director for Strategic Planning – see attached appendix to minutes on Strategic Planning and Assessment National issues came from a webcast on September 28th, 2006 . see minutes for more.

Speaker: Dr. John Whitmore, President: Dr. Whitmore reviewed the plans for the year highlights from the Convocation slide show. Financial plans: Raise academic quality by investing in people; raised tuition and fees 4.9% to help with the energy costs; TTU is 5th in the state for tuition costs. See minutes for more.

Old Business:

Ad Hoc Committee on Child Care

Senator Alvarado announced that we are looking for a chair of this committee and asked for volunteers.

Electronic Elections- Senator Wilde

Met with the IT and the software e-ballot was chosen. Working to get funds to implement for the spring elections

Fall Break

Task Force established, no meeting yet. President Smith announced that if you are interested in speaking with the task force, please e-mail him.

Tenure Committee Update: No changes since last update

Intellectual Properties Committee: No changes since last update

New Business:

Outside Consulting

#264, November 8, 2006**Invited Guests:** Gerald Myers – Director of Athletics

Gerald Myers spoke of the great respect he has for faculty and staff at TTU and how the athletic council is involved and is considered a liaison between athletics and the faculty.

Speaker: John Anderson, Associate Director of Athletics:

The athletic department tries to involve faculty, mirror the institutions mission and tries to graduate students with a productive and meaningful education.

Speaker: Sean Duggan - Managing Director of Housing and Residence Life:

Mr. Duggan has 15 years experience at TTU with 5 years as director. There are 18 facilities, 1.7 million sq feet, 5600 students (Fall 2006), 145 staff and 200 student position under this department.

Old Business

Senator Perry spoke of the parking advising committee. There will be a $\leq 3\%$ increase in fees for 2007 and the car clinic is now open to faculty and staff.

Fall Break

Senator Held has been appointed to this committee. Discussions have focused on 1st Friday in October.

Library Committee

This committee has not met yet.

Strategic Planning

Senator Donahue asked that Dr. Reeves be contact to re-clarify comments the faculty sent to him before the last meeting. Dr. Smith will speak to Dr. Reeves about addressing those concerns and will appoint a committee to discuss the issue.

Outside Consulting

Senate Study Committee A had several changes to the policy last session and these changes were handed out. However, Senator Ritchey indicated there are still some concerns with the current policy. President Smith will appoint a committee to discuss this issue.

New Business

New OP 70.40 has been distributed to some departments with required immediate action. It was suggested that the faculty not sign anything until the OP has been reviewed by the President's office. President Smith will update us on this issue.

Senator Agnello discussed the issue of problems with online teaching evaluation and diversity classes. President Smith will appoint a committee to evaluate this issue.

#265, December 13, 2006

Invited Guests: Chancellor Kent Hance

Immediate goals are to become familiar with constituents, students and faculty. Acknowledged PhiBetaKappa accomplishment, indicated he would not sacrifice quality of education by increasing the number of students without increasing the number of faculty. See minutes for more.

Speaker: Dr. Brink – to replace Kay Rhodes as speaker.

Speaker: Dale Ganus; Tom Davis; Kerrie Iseral – Connect Tech is a very ambitious system.

Speaker: Joanna Koliba

Registration Integration proposal – integrate registering for classes and an optional purchasing/reserving books from Barnes and Noble in one site.

Old Business

Fall Break, Senator Smith

Senator Smith has been appointed to this committee and led discussion.

Academic Standing Committee Report, Senator Blum

See www.depts.ttu.edu/officialpublications/catalog/AcademicsProbation.html for approved report

Tenure Committee, President Smith

The committee met this week and is progressing well. There will be another meeting in January and a report to the faculty senate in Feb.

OP 70.4

Ronald Phillips will chair this committee. Senator Blum is on committee and they will meet Monday December 18th.

Committee Reports –

Senator Wilde will meet with Dr. Marcy on January 9th to discuss electronic system.

New Business

Phi Beta Kappa Resolution – Senator Doerfert – made motion, Senator Kвашny – 2nd; vote – yes = all, no= none, unanimously approved.

Senator Held suggested committee appointment for Barnes and Noble discussion

Senator Wilde – Gender and Equity Council met about exit interviews and even though an OP does exist it is not being followed, suggested committee appointment

#266, January 10, 2007

Invited Guest: Provost William Marcy

There are 2 agenda items this spring. 1. To implement methods of evaluating administrators and 2. Reincarnate the library committee. Questions ensued involving the Barnes and Nobel textbook online purchasing of textbooks, line items dollars for the library, status of Banner, reduction of hours to 120, and dean search committees.

Old Business

Committee Reports –

Senator Wilde indicated that the software for faculty elections is available, online, and has been tested.

Ad Hoc Committee on Administrator Evaluation (Senator Held). The OP lists list several items that can be used to evaluate administrators. However, they are very generic. The handout (Appendix 1) lists a smaller set of questions. Questions ensued about what happens to the information following collection, can we add questions, how will data be collected and used from the persons filling out the information, is this anonymous and need to have a more balanced Likert scale.

Fall Break – Senator Held. Discussed with Dr. Borelli having the Thursday classes affected by the fall break follow a MWF schedule

New Business

Senator Mayer noted that the faculty senate meeting in March is during Spring Break

Contact Senator Perry if have any questions involving campus parking

Committee D needs to set up a meeting

Child Care Committee met and constructed a survey to determine needs, may require a budget

Senator Held discussed the issue of capped classes and if they are creating problems. A discussion ensued and all problems should be related to Dr Hall-Burns. Senator Held would like to have this assigned to a committee for further review.

Nominating Committee (Jane Wilson, . Melanie Hart, and Tai Treidler) has met and is soliciting nominations. Vice President Blum spoke about the 3 positions of President, VP, and Secretary. All nominations are due Jan 19th.

#267, February 14, 2007

Invited Guests: Dr. Hall-Burns

Discussed the revisions of the tenure committee procedure. The Regents are reviewing the tenure policy to be approved in May. The goal is to make it more reader friendly and person friendly to understand the tenure process and appeals process. Other suggested changes and rationale for changes have been made to the Faculty Status and Welfare Committee. Now it is up to the faculty senate to provide feedback. Thanked Dr. Marcy for hiring a graduate student for help with the process.

Old Business:

Fall Break – October 12th suggested with modifications to finals. Still has to be approved by Regents

Electronic Elections – officer elections will be paper voting

Nominating Committee – 4 nominees; President – Gene Wilde, VP – Lawrence Mayer and Nancy Reed, Secretary – Genevieve Durham

Committee Reports:

Graduate School Council Committee Liaison Report – Senator Olivarez , graduate school is allowing GRE requirement to be decided by departments; trying to predict power of GRE, placing more of a responsibility of the departments

Campus Parking Committee liaison – Senator Perry – the minutes are on the senate website, there will be an increase in parking of 3% to keep up with the cost. The BA building did not plan for parking so in the future we may see an increase in 40% to pay for parking garage. Another solution may be to make smaller increments over several years. Made suggestion to have Vice Chancellor Ellicot to explain policy. All in favor.

Sub Committee A – Barnes and Noble – Senator Boros - Suggested that the faculty senate not approve proposal and have more discussions. We need to look at other universities policies and procedures.

Academic affairs committee – Senator Wilde – online faculty evaluations and diversity classes – there is a problem with screen 12B. If key is not entered correctly than the evaluation is not administered correctly. Look at institutional research to expand views on evaluations of diversity classes and to re-evaluate how effective are evaluations

Online Evaluation of Administration – all in favor of accepting committee report and moving forward with evaluation

Library Committee - Provost Marcy – Structure of the committee is as follows: co-chaired by F.S. president and Dr. Liz Hall-Burns. In addition, 2 deans, dean of the library (ad-hoc), 6 faculty of equal representation (staggered schedule). Charges include operations budget, acquisitions budget. Recommendations will go to the President Advisory Council then Budget Committee if University is impacted.

Room Capacity – Senator Blum – Tom Keenan in process of preparing report and will present at the march meeting

New Business: None

#268, March 21, 2007

Invited Guest: Eric Crouch, Director of University Parking - Eric Crouch identified that the 48% increase in parking fees is false. A parking garage is planned 4-5 years in the future.

Elections: 2007-2008 Faculty Senate Officers are: President Gene Wilde, Vice President – Nancy Reed, Secretary – Genevieve Durham.

Old Business:

Electronic Elections-Senator Wilde and Patty Gisch - Carlene Kelly with IT will provide coding and we will be able to vote shortly.

Electronic evaluations of administrators – Senator Wilde - postponed until later this week. Open-ended questions will not be confidential so they must be removed. Pres. Whitmore needs to consider questions before we proceed. Senator Malone indicated that there are some financial questions that may not be able to be answered. S. Wilde indicated that you have to answer each question but there is an option out answer.

Child Care Committee – Senator Toda – 2 options for survey- Tech announce and paper copy. Before May 1st, option to survey and repost needs of child care, how needs are satisfied currently.

New Business:

Senator Wilde suggestion of reconsidering faculty ombudsmen. 9 of 12 Big XII schools have them. Only TTU has nothing available to faculty. Cherif Amor will attend informational conference soon. Senator Held indicated that having the ombudsmen salary paid by administration was a conflict of interest.

Board of Regents money – the BOR has not decided if they will develop such a fund but there is no money left to do so.

San Angelo state University – The AJ reported we will be obtaining San Angelo. Chancellor Hance and Senator Duncan had no knowledge of this acquisition.

#269, April 12, 2007

Old Business:

Electronic Elections – Patty Gisch indicated that Carlene is working on how the list will look, this should be completed by the end of next week and the electronic voting forms will be ready by the next meeting

Electronic evaluations of administrators – Senator Wilde – the end of the week summary: 28% faculty, 26% chairs and 58% deans; Senator Lakhani – indicated it is difficult to measure the provost performance and suggested an e-mail once per semester about information and productivity of the Provost office. The Provost agreed. ; Dr. Hall suggested feedback report by faculty on the Provost Council and Academic Council for Senator Lakhani's request

Child Care Committee – Crystal David indicated that there are both electronic and paper surveys available through Tech Announce to assess the needs for faculty, staff and students on the TTU campus. From the surveys, recommendations will be made to the staff and faculty senate

Senator Wilde **Ombudsman committee** – Cherif Amor is currently at a meeting in St. Louis about the faculty ombudsman. Handout is to become familiar with roles of the faculty ombudsman.

Tenure and Promotion – President Smith indicated there is a document dated 4/11/2007 posted on the website. The change record (original wording/ change/rationale for change) is available also;

Action item – all final committee reports are due at the May meeting, please provide copies of the reports

Senator Held requested a vote on the P&T revisions at the May meeting

New Business:

Senator Perry asked if the results from the Academic Dishonesty survey will be available. A suggestion has been made to take surveys away from student affairs to an independent agency. The OP was reworked in the student affairs handbook.

#270, May 9, 2007

Invited Guest: Jon Whitmore, President

University President Jon Whitmore thanked all for the support shown after the VA Tech tragedy. He received messages from VA Tech thanking TTU for its support. See minutes for more.

Old Business:

Administrator evaluations: Senator Wilde reported that evaluations will be reviewed by deans in about two weeks. Libraries' deans will be included next year.

Electronic elections: President Smith then asked all Senators to please recruit for nominations in the 5 University Standing Committees and for the Faculty Senate.

Regents Policies - Tenure and promotion

Senate endorsed the tenure and promotion document. (Kvashny motioned – Held seconded).

Ombudsman report: Ad Hoc Committee on the Faculty Ombudsman submitted a report (attached). Agnello moved to accept report. Seconded by Held but amended to add sunset and to revisit after 1 year, after a person begins serving. Motion passed unanimous.

Committee Reports:

Senator Morse reported for the **Library committee**. She announced that the first meeting was informational in nature.

Senator Wilde reported on **Faculty evaluations**, that it had been reported that some students grouped together to *blackball* a professor. Senator Agnello reported that the committee was looking at the invalidity of the evaluation instrument and would work next year on suggesting other measures to supplement current evaluations.

New Business:

Faculty pay schedule: Janet May, Assistant VP for Human Resources and Max Ahmad, Assistant VP Fin. Inf. Mgt. spoke to the Senate about the Banner Non-Exempt Pay Frequency Options becoming effective January 2009.

Janet May reported on possible pay change for non-exempt employees tied to the new Banner system. She presented a slide show. The possible change impacts non-exempt employees. Potentially this staff group will be paid on the 10th and 25th of the month. This would require semi-monthly pay and time capture. May said that deductions would be split up. Wilson moved to support keeping exempt pay as is (monthly); Morse seconded. Senators moved to keep exempt pay as is.

New Business: none.