

**Texas Tech University
Faculty Senate Meeting
Meeting #274
December 12, 2007**

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, December 12, 2007 in the Senate Room in the Student Union Building, with President Gene Wilde presiding.

Senators present were: Hamed, Johnson, Wilson, Anderson, Boros, Carlson, Held, Jeter, Koch, Roeger, Tacon, Wong, Agnello, Klinker, Mengel, Sobolewski, Colwell, Lauderdale, Dillon, Laughlin, Vaughn, River, Paschall, Peoples, Durham, Gelber, Mayer, Reed, Shacklette, Warner, Williams, Syma and Wilde. Senators excused were: Kvashny, Binkley, Davis, Maushak, U. Mann, Alvarado and Giesselmann. Senators unexcused were: Iyer, Kimball, Niwayama, Rainger, Hashemi, Oliver, L. Mann and Skerik.

I. Call to Order. President Gene Wilde called Meeting #274 to order at 3:26 PM, December 12, 2007.

President Wilde recognized the following guests: Invited guests were Provost William Marcy, Vice Provost Liz Burns, Vice Provost Jim Brink, Staff Ombudsman Nathanael Haddox, & Staff Senate President-Elect Ron Nail

II. Approval of Minutes. Minutes of Meeting #273 brought forward for approval by President Wilde. Minutes approved.

III. Speaker: Provost Marcy

Organizing Distance Education Activities under a College:

- Last March, the Enrollment Management Task Force reported to the Board of Regents about growing TTU to a 40K headcount. A primary recommendation of this committee was enhancing distance education.
- Some long standing concerns with distance ed: highly distributed in nature, many different models of compensation for faculty, some offerings were outdated.
- The division of distance ed has historically been self supporting, meaning they do not receive university funding for their services. This limits what the unit is able to do, since it is not a college, nor an academic unit. If it becomes a college, it becomes eligible for state funding.
- A primary motivation is to change the financial model of distance ed to one that parallels a college structure in order to benefit the college.
- Currently, the distance ed activities existing in various departments and programs do not report through any single office. Another goal of forming a college is to centralize distance ed and streamline its operation.
- Increasing our number of distance ed students would also mean we would keep the headcount on TTU campus down.
- Questions:
 1. Senator Held: what percentage of current student credit hours currently come from distance ed? Dr. Marcy: approximately 5-10%.
 2. Senator Mayer: does distance ed include correspondence courses? Dr. Marcy: the distance ed in discussion is either delivered face to face or via two way interactive television, or via WebCT instruction.
 3. Senator Mayer: if we can't, with the existing infrastructure, get to the 40K number, why don't we just limit our numbers? Dr. Marcy: the number set for us by the Coordinating Board was 37,500 by 2015.
 4. Senator Hamed: what about supplementary policies that would get us to that number by 2020; example: the tri-semester idea, pushing more study abroad, interconnecting with other universities? Dr. Marcy: Regarding the trimester: one idea is to have a trimester system in which faculty were paid their current nine month salary for teaching any two out of three trimesters. For faculty who wanted to teach all three trimesters, they would receive 13.5 months' salary. (Senators applauded).
 5. Senator Mengel: Is TTU including international distance in the current proposed model? Dr. Marcy: there is little to no incentive to push for international distance education, as international students are not counted in formula funding and must secure their own funding.
 6. Senator Shacklette: How does the K-16 initiative fit into the 40K number? Dr. Marcy: the issue of college readiness is being addresses, in addition to the state mandated admission of students who have completed the advanced curriculum. Only the students who are in higher education would count.
 7. Senator Held: How much extra cost is incurred in setting up an extra college for distance education? Dr. Marcy: approx. \$960K over the next five years. It will generate significantly more revenue as the growth takes place.
 8. Senator Klinker: Will that college be responsible for training faculty to do distance ed? Dr. Marcy: a large number of faculty have already acquired those skills. The big deficit right now is production capacity. The TLTC would not change in its role in terms of how it helps faculty do things.

9. President Wilde: who owns the intellectual property generated through curricular issues? Dr. Marcy: the university does not own that property. Faculty are the owners of intellectual property that they generate and deliver.
10. Senator Hamed: Will the TLTC remain a separate unit from the College of Distance Ed? Dr. Marcy: Yes.

Growth of enrollment to 40K:

- Accommodating 40K students would require \$500 million in new construction.
- Dr. Marcy will be making a presentation at next BOR meeting on a process to plan everything that's involved in growing to 40K. Some of the aspects are:
 1. Which academic programs are likely to grow, which could grow, and which may decline over time? How would, in 2020, would student credit hours be proportioned across departments?
 2. How will it be possible to get to \$100 million in research funding while growing the university?
 3. If First Year students continue to stay on campus, two-three more residence halls would be required.
- Dr. Marcy has asked Deans to begin making assessments within their Colleges and forwarding that information.
- Dr. Marcy hopes to have this plan completed by Fall 2008.
- Questions:
 1. Senator Held: to what extent will our tuition increase affect enrollment growth? Dr. Marcy: as we raise tuition and fees, we'll see enrollment go down.

SACS:

The Chronicle of Higher Education reported that TTU has been put on probation but our accreditation has been continued for good cause. We have not met one item on principles for accreditation: assessment of outcomes for general education curriculum. The plan to address this issue was presented last week; SACS said the plan was good, but there was no data to support the plan. Probationary status will last until September 2008, when SACS will review the data we submit from the plan put into place.

IV. Old Business

1. Faculty Status and Welfare Committee: nothing new to report at this time.
2. Study Committee C: OPs and OP Revisions:
 Senator Warner announced that Committee C has developed a proposed OP on OP revisions. The significant components are:
 - The Faculty Senate will be notified whenever the wording of any OP is being revised, including, but not limited to those OPs dealing with tenure, grievance, and others in OPs 32 and 70.
 - Notifications of OP revisions should be presented to Senators with enough time for consideration and deliberation.
 - If an OP is up for revision in summer term, the Senate will be notified with enough time to convene an ad hoc committee to deliberate.

A motion was made to recommend this OP to the Provost for revision. The motion passed.

3. Study Committee A:
 Senator Peoples reported that Committee A drafted a resolution concerning Faculty Exit Interviews.
 - The Committee raised the question of implementing a questionnaire in place of an actual interview. This would help to centralize the process of Exit Interviews with the goal being to increase faculty participation in Exit Interviews.
 - Senator Koch stated that a questionnaire is an intermediate step, as it is not actually an interview.
 - Liz Hall stated that the Provost's Office would love to have the response rate improve.
 - The Committee questioned whether the newly created Ombudsman's office could handle the Exit Interviews.
 - Senator Held asked President Wilde how he felt about the inclusion of admission of Exit Interviews in the duties of the Ombudsman's office.
 - Senator Held moved that the Ombudsman be charged with administration of Faculty Exit Interviews. The motion passed.

The Senate approved the adoption of the report by Study Committee A.

4. Ad Hoc Committee on Administrator Evaluations:
 Senator River met with Dr. Marcy to discuss the proposed revisions that Senate recommended. Senator River also met with Mary Elkin in IR. She has made the changes to the instrument. Mary Elkin anticipates having something for the Committee to look at before the holiday break. There will still be two waves of surveys; Mary

Elkin responded that lumping everyone together makes for such a long list that prospective survey takers would be discouraged and not complete the surveys.

5. Ombudsman Committee:

Pres. Wilde announced that a position announcement for the Ombudsman has been drafted.

- Individuals interested in serving on a Search Committee should contact Gene Wilde at gene.wilde@ttu.edu or the Faculty Senate Office.
- Senator Held: can the finalists make a presentation to the Senate? President Wilde replied that no procedure is currently in place.
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6. Fall Break:

Mason Moses, the Student Senate President, met with Pres. Wilde. Pres. Wilde then met with Pres. Whitmore. Pres. Whitmore will look at this issue immediately after the conclusion of the semester.

V. New Business

Pres. Wilde met with Chancellor on Monday concerning teaching quality with the forecast growth. Pres. Wilde asked Senators to think about serving on a committee to visit this issue.

VI. Announcements

- Child Care Committee has been meeting; the Senate currently has no representative on this committee. The Committee will be presenting a resolution concerning Childcare to the Senate in the Spring semester concerning quality of care on TTU campus.
- Pres. Wilde has arranged to bring the Chancellor in to speak to the Senate in the early part of the spring. He also brought up to the Chancellor that the Regents and the Faculty Senate are rather mystifying to each other. The Chancellor has suggested a Faculty Senate reception for the Regents. Jim Brink pointed out that Commencement begins only two hours after the closure of the May Regents' meeting, so perhaps a reception is not a good idea for that meeting.
- Mary Jane Hurst has tickets to distribute for the Paul Taylor Dance Company.

VII. Adjournment: the meeting adjourned at 4:40.

** Note –the audio recording from this meeting is available.