

**Texas Tech University
Faculty Senate Meeting
Meeting #276
February 13, 2008**

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, February 13, 2008 in the Senate Room in the Student Union Building, with President Gene Wilde presiding. Hamed, Kvashny, Davis, Anderson, Boros, Grair, Held, Iyer, Jeter, Kimball, Koch, Niwayama, Roeger, Tacon, Wong, Ritchey, Agnello, Klinker, Giesselmann, Mengel, Dillon, Laughlin, James, River, Durham, Gelber, Mann, Mayer, Reed, Syma, Wilson, Williams, Warner and Wilde. Senators excused were: Maushak, Colwell, Lauderdale, Oliver, Paschall, Peoples, Alvarado, and Sheets. Senators unexcused were: Johnson, Carlson, Rainger, Bremer, Hashemi, Mann, Sobolewski, Binkley, Skerik and Shacklette.

- I. Call to Order – Gene Wilde, 3:16 p.m.
- II. Recognition of Guests: Provost Marcy, Vice Provost Liz Hall Burns, Maggie Kylie, Trent Barnes (Daily Toreador), Ron Nail, Magdalena Toda, Kathy Nordstrom
- III. Approval of Minutes, Meeting #275, January 9, 2008. The minutes were approved
- IV. Speakers: **Kent Hance, Chancellor**
 - Mr. Hance expressed thanks to the Senate for the opportunity to be here.
 - Mr. Hance expressed an interest in increasing research funding, to be increased substantially over the next ten-twelve years. This year's funding from the federal government was up. TTU received over \$100 million in the last ten years from earmarks. Mr. Hance feels that we are making steps in the right direction with regard to research.
 - Scholarships: Impact scholarships are new scholarships designed to help TTU attract the best scholars. In 2001, it cost \$7500 per year to attend TTU (room and board included). That figure is now at \$18,000. More scholarships are necessary to attract and retain students.
 - Sources for raises for faculty and staff come from either students or the state.
 - Last year, we did not have a full funding of the base level of formula funding.
 - Mr. Hance asked the Senate to consider personally recruiting students with high academic achievements. Mr. Hance suggested that phone calls from faculty and administrators have significant impact on students' decisions to attend TTU.
 - Our endowment is down this year due to the trends of the stock market.
 - In the Big 12, we were third last year in our investment return. In money raised from the private sector, we were second to UT-Austin.
 - Mr. Hance discussed the Advisory Committee (12-15 members) and Search Committee (7 members) to be appointed for the search for the new president. Mr. Hance expressed appreciation to Dr. Whitmore for his service.
 - On the goal of getting to 40K by 2020, there are some problems to consider: with the cost of education consistently rising, students are leaving. As standards have increased, students are completing degrees faster. Thus, we are graduating more students than we are bringing in. We need to bring in more students. Our junior college student enrollment has dropped significantly.

Questions

 - Senator Held: are you planning to put a faculty member on the presidential search committee? Mr. Hance replied that there will be two: Vivian Allen and another faculty
 - Senator Held: is the second faculty a Horn Professor? Mr. Hance replied that it is a Horn Professor.

Martha Smithey, President's Council on Gender Equity

- The charge of the Council: established three years ago to advise the President on matters related to gender issues at TTU and make recommendations for changes to ensure an equitable and inclusive environment for all members of the university community. (This is also available on the handout distributed by Dr. Smithey at the meeting).
- Subcommittee on Employment Issues: The current project assigned to this committee is a review of faculty salaries.
- Subcommittee on Family Issues: The current projects assigned are: survey on flexible workspace, need for childcare facilities, launching virtual women's resource center.
- Subcommittee on Climate: The current project assigned is working on a survey of workplace experiences.
- The Council compiles an annual report at the end of each academic year and reports to the President.
- Dr. Smithey's purpose here today is to establish a conduit between this Council and the Senate. Dr. Smithey encouraged all faculty to consider the Council on Gender Equity as an informational source.

Questions:

- Senator Wong: is the Council gathering any data on race relations or race representation on campus? Dr. Smithey replied that the Council could do a better job of this.
- Senator Syma: is the Annual Report internal? Dr. Smithey: this is a glitch in the web page. This should be available to view by any faculty or staff.

V.

Old Business:
Committee Reports

Study Committee C-OP revisions

- Senator Warner: it is possible that some language was inadvertently omitted from the draft OP. A copy of an old draft (11/29) was provided to the Senators because it contains that language.
- Senator Held made a motion for a friendly amendment to the draft received via email from Patty. That amendment would read: This includes, but is not limited to, the tenure policy, the grievance policy, and other OPs in categories 32 and 70. This would be inserted after the first sentence under Policy/Procedure. Another amendment, to be added to the very end of the draft, would read: “..before they are finalized and implemented.”
- Senator Held argues that unless we include language that mentions the tenure policy, the proposed OP could be interpreted to leave out the tenure policy.
- Senator Wilde called for discussion on the proposed friendly amendment.
- Senator Warner: is the intent to look at OPs or Regent's Rules?
- Senator Held: The Regent's Rules are not important to Senator Held except for the one that pertains to tenure.
- The motion to adopt the OP with the revision was passed by the Senate.
- Senator Warner: at the last Senate meeting, it was suggested that the Senate appoint an ad-hoc committee to reviews OPs as they are being revised. Study Committee C brings this to the Senate again for consideration.
- Senator Held recommended that the Faculty Status and Welfare be responsible for handling the OP revisions. President Wilde made this assignment.

Ombudsman Ad Hoc Committee

- There are a number of applicants for this position.
- There is a target date of the end of the spring semester to have a hire in place.
- President Wilde asked the Senators to again look within their own departments for qualified and interested candidates.

Nomination Committee for Elections

- Senator Agnello reports that there is a full slate with two candidates on the ballot for each office (this was revised immediately following the meeting; Larry Mayer is rotating off the Senate next year and cannot run for office).
- Senator Davis asked if Senators can vote online for the candidates. That option is available to Senators who will not be present at the March meeting.
- The Senate accepted the slate of candidates

Childcare Liaison Committee:

- Kathy Nordstrom (Staff Senate President) reported that the resolution passed by both the staff and student senates basically calls for the administration to hire a childcare liaison: this person would be able to work with any student, staff, or faculty member in need of childcare. This person would provide information without recommendations. This person would also provide information on financing childcare. This person would be able to report on care for special needs children and adult daycare.
- President Wilde asked whether this service was duplicating any services already offered by the community? Magdalena Toda replied that such a service does not already exist.
- Senator Iyer: what is an adult daycare center? Kathy Nordstrom: a center specializing in caring for adults needing supervision or specialized care. A motion to consider this resolution was made and seconded.
- The motion passed.

VI.

New Business:

- Study Committee B to study OP 74:08
- Bike Lanes: a request was made to look at adding bike lanes between TTU and the HSC
- Resolution for President Whitmore: Senator Wong moved to consider this resolution. No discussion. The motion passed.
- Resolution for Bobby Knight: Senator Jeter moved to consider this resolution. Senator Iyer pointed out some grammatical errors. No more discussion. The motion passed.

VII.

Announcements:

- The NCAA self study is available for faculty to review
- From the Chronicle: Harvard announced that faculty research publications will be available to utilize without pay.
- A Memo from Janet May concerning benefit coverage was distributed via email.
- Fall Break: due to scheduling, it is now only possible to have a one day fall break for the Fall 2008 semester. The committee recommended to the President that it is not possible to have a fall break this fall, however in 2009-2010, a two day break should be considered.
 - Senator Held: to give the appearance that this university is scheduling a fall break to accommodate a football schedule while on probation is not a good idea.
 - President Wilde: this issue will come to the Senate for discussion again; this is just an announcement.
 - Senator Iyer asked if a two day fall break will mean that the length of the final exams will be further reduced?
 - President Wilde: No. The reduced exam time was because the original fall break was adopted too late to start the school year early enough to avoid such an issue.
 - Senator Held: what is the possibility that Dr. Whitmore will ignore the committee's recommendation and go ahead with a Fall 2008 break? President Held: not much.
- Professor Watch List: President Wilde will meet with the individuals involved with this organization later this week.
 - Senator Iyer: YCT is NOT listed as an official student organization, but is using the double T logo on its website
 - Senator Agnello expressed appreciation for the public comments made by President Wilde and Provost Marcy on this issue. She continued that this could be a serious concern for untenured faculty.
 - Senator Hamed: is it legal for students to tape professors without their knowledge? Provost Marcy responded that he would have to check with legal counsel.
 - Senator Koch: professors who record their own lectures and post them online for student use would have a clear record of what they've said in class.
 - Senator Held: it would be advisable to find out whether this organization can use the TTU logo, and whether students can record their professors.
 - Provost Marcy: there is no conceivable impact on a tenure decision by either making the list or not making the list.
 - Senator Mayer: how do faculty make the list? President Wilde: there are some loosely described policies for list submissions on the YCT website.
 - Senator Koch: there are already several websites like this: Pick a Prof, Rate Your Professor, etc.
- Chancellor's request for Senators to call students: President Wilde will get more specifics from the Chancellor's office and will bring the issue back to the Senate at the March meeting.

VIII.

Adjournment 4:34