

**Texas Tech University
Faculty Senate Meeting
Meeting #277
March 12, 2008**

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, March 12, 2008 in the Senate Room in the Student Union Building, with President Gene Wilde presiding.

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

- I. Call to Order – Gene Wilde, 3:22 p.m.
- II. Recognition of Guests: Provost Marcy, Senior Vice Provost Liz Hall Burns, Associate Vice Provost Juan Munoz, Associate Vice Provost Valerie Paton, Maggie Kylie, Trent Barnes (Daily Toreador), Ron Nail, Magdalena Toda, Kathy Nordstrom, Nathaniel Haddox, Rob Shindel, Sheila Curl Hoover, and Marlena Hartz.
- III. Approval of Minutes, Meeting #276, February 13, 2008. The minutes were approved
- IV. Speakers: **Rob Shindel**
 - TTU is receiving a record number of applications and is trying not to lose the personal connection to its students.
 - Would be good to have a faculty member from a prospective student's area of interest make a phone call to that student. Faculty members receive a script to guide the conversation.

Questions

 - President Wilde: how many students would be assigned to a professor? Reply: students are assigned to professors in packets of ten.

Sheila Curl Hoover, Associate Dean of the Library

 - Dean Hoover invites the faculty to meet in the Library in order to understand the services of the 3-D animation lab.
 - Dean Hoover will not discuss serials or serials usage right now; such information will be presented to the Senate at a later date by the University Library Committee.
 - Two animators have been hired by the Library, one from Vancouver, one from Disney Interactive Studios. These animators are available to work with both faculty and students.
 - Students from Lubbock High are coming into use the lab; this is a strong outreach program.
 - There are new machines available for digitization and scanning; these can be used for TTU dissertations.
 - The Library can help with information management; databases of journal articles can be constructed through scanning, rather than photocopying.
 - The Library is working to digitize 100% of course reserve materials so that they can be accessed only through an eRaider account, and can be accessible to only the students in your class.
 - The Library is planning for remote storage by purchasing a warehouse building outside of town.
 - The Library is observing that faculty and students are both actively using and producing information in the Library. There are approximately 6,000 people in the Library every day.
 - The Library is making space in its facility by utilizing more and more electronic journals.
 - Faculty has been utilizing document delivery in unprecedented numbers. The average turn around time for document delivery has declined from seven days to four days this year.

- There were 39 requests last year that took more than 100 days to fill; the Library is examining the problems behind these delays.
- The Library is getting many interlibrary loan requests for materials that the Library actually has electronically. Dean Hoover encourages all faculty to become familiar with the eJournal search feature on the Library's home page.

Questions:

- Senator Held: when is the University Library Committee coming to the Senate to give its report? Reply: there is no date set yet.
- Senator Koch: What is the relationship between eJournals and JSTOR? Reply: JSTOR is a fraction of the eJournal holdings.
- How will the Library decide what gets stored off campus? Reply: the Faculty will decide and make recommendations to the Library.
- Senator Giesselmann: is there a copyright issue in allowing students access to digitized materials? Reply: no. This is purely educational usage.
- Senator Held: what is the target date for making the final decision about which journals will be cancelled? Reply: there is no discussion about canceling journals. There are no cancellations being planned.

V.

Old Business:

Committee Reports

Elections Committee:

- Senator Agnello moved to add one more candidate to the slate: Laurin Mann.
- Senators Agnello and Reed distributed ballots.
- Senator Laurin Mann will be the Secretary, Senator Mengel will be the Vice President, Senator River will be the President

Ombudsman Ad Hoc Committee

- President Wilde asked for Senators to serve on a selection committee. Interested Senators should contact President Wilde by tomorrow (Thursday, 3/13).

Study Committee C

- The Committee has finalized a draft of the OP revision policy. President Wilde has the draft and will be meeting with the Provost and his staff immediately following the Senate meeting today.

Study Committee B

- Senator Jeter: the Committee met last week and discussed the OP dealing with research misconduct, as requested by the AAUP. The Committee would like to make some recommendations for revision to the OP, but will formally present those recommendations at the next meeting.

VI.

New Business:

- The Honors College has requested representation on the Faculty Senate. By the Senate's constitution, they are permitted to hold two seats on the Senate. A separate election will be held for these seats, as the bulk of the voting has already begun.

An article was printed in the AJ regarding a presentation to the Board of Regents (BOR) concerning better monitoring faculty teaching loads as a means of cost effectiveness.

President Wilde assembled an Ad Hoc committee to investigate the data presented to the BOR. That information was sent to all Senators in email format. President Wilde presented the information to the Senate as a Power Point.

Questions:

- Senator Gelber: VPA, singled out on the report as an incredibly unproductive College, was noted in President Wilde's report as ranking highly in workload hours.
- Senator Bremer: will the BOR be looking at cutting back smaller programs? President Wilde: the BOR recognizes the need to maintain a diverse academic program. There was no discussion of abolishing any program.
- Senator Johnson: will the Ad Hoc committee continue its research? If so, will the committee please think about the implications (on research) of telling faculty they need to be in the classroom more? Will we lose grad students? President Wilde: one of the reasons he put together this presentation was to highlight that there were

many subtleties in Mr. Dragoo's report that were not discussed at the BOR meeting; the Dragoo report was a generalization of large numbers.

- Senator Agnello: will the Senate please talk to the AJ about what it is that we do? President Wilde: a reporter from the AJ is here.
- Senator Dilley: it looks like there are some errors in the numbers reported on the Dragoo presentation.
- Senator Iyer: The faculty compensation is decreasing while rate of inflation is increasing. There is data from the Coordinating Board that the faculty salary increase of 2.9% last year was among the lowest increase in the state of Texas.

Motions:

- A motion to suspend the rules was made and was passed.
- Senator Held presented a Resolution Regarding TTU Faculty Workload (See handout).

Discussion:

- Provost Marcy: there is no proposal before the BOR to change the workload policy. The only thing that came out of the meeting was an agreement to establish a committee to look at broad based workload policy.
- Senator Held: there is language in Dragoo's presentation that suggests a proposal is in place.
- Provost Marcy: although such language is used, it does not stipulate a proposal; it is not appropriate to draft a resolution that charges the BOR with considering a proposal when they are not.
- Senator Held: Can Dr. Marcy assure the Senate that there will be no vote by the BOR to raise tuition prior to the May meeting?
- Provost Marcy: his understanding is that there is no such vote on the agenda. A change of workload policy will not be considered on March 29th. The meeting on 3/29 is a response to the request of the SGA request to review the budget.
- Senator Laughlin: on p 22 of the Dragoo report, there is a note that the concerns about faculty workload will factor into the search for the new President.
- Senator Mengel: can the BOR be made aware that the Faculty Senate is concerned with what will happen to our salaries?
- Senator Laughlin: isn't stating the BOR will form a committee an action on the part of the BOR to consider a proposal?
- Senator Davis: how does Provost Marcy suggest that the Senate communicate with the BOR to show that we are concerned?
- Provost Marcy: the Senate might state that it supports the formation of a committee to study the data reported in the Dragoo report. At this point, the Senate can provide an alternative inspection of the data.
- Senator Koch: so, the only thing the BOR has done is receive a report.
- Provost Marcy: yes.
- President Wilde: while the BOR is looking at the university from a different perspective than the faculty, both groups have the best interests of the university at heart.
- Senator Held withdraws his motion to accept a resolution for consideration by the Senate.
- The motion was tabled.
- Senator Iyer: if the Senate wants a positive collaboration from the BOR, we must introduce an action item at the end of President Wilde's critical analysis of the Dragoo report.
- Senator Grair: what is the feeling about the BOR interest in this matter?
- Provost Marcy feels the BOR is interested and that a committee will be formed to analyze workload in the next two weeks.
- Senator Hamed: since the same data was evaluated by two different groups and resulted in two different conclusions, it is important that faculty be represented on this committee.
- Senator Johnson: what would be the best way to approach the BOR?
- Provost Marcy: the Senate could authorize President Wilde to write a letter to the Chairperson of the BOR. The Senate should be as proactive as possible.
- Senator Wong: who is Corky Dragoo?

- Provost Marcy: Exec. Assistant to the Chancellor, takes on a lot of analysis tasks. Several months ago, a group of Horn professors went to the Chancellor and stated that the workload policy does not reflect what the faculty are really doing. That was handed off to Mr. Dragoo.
- Senator Koch: it is important that if we resolve something today, that it be more than just asking the President to write a letter; the resolution should include a statement from the Senate.
- Senator Iyer: there numerous errors in Mr. Dragoo's report that lead to the suggestion of a particular agenda behind the report.
- Senator Wong: a major concern is that some faculty duties cannot be put into data sets as they do not have numeric value.
- Provost Marcy: the greatest opportunity here is to educate the BOR about what the faculty really do. There is a great gap between people working in the university on a daily basis and the body of people making decisions about the university's operation.
- Senator Ritchey: what is most troubling about this report is that Dragoo is housed in the Chancellor's office.
- Provost Marcy suggested that this issue would not have emerged if the chain of command had been followed correctly, meaning that Deans or Administrators would have better handled the Horn Professors' request for a review of workload policy. The Horn Professors bypassed the chain of command recommended by Provost Marcy by going straight to the Chancellor.
- Senator Koch submitted a resolution to the Senate. This reads as follows: Therefore be it resolved that the Faculty Senate, meeting on this 12th day of March 2008:
 - Fully endorse the Regents' initiative to review TTU faculty workload;
 - Request that the Provost facilitate collaborative representation of the Faculty Senate on the task force;
 - Offer in good faith the Faculty Senate's preliminary analysis of faculty workload (attached);
 - That the collaboration proceed with the goal of completing a comprehensive analysis of faculty workload, including but not limited to, courses taught, scholarly output funded and published, services rendered, and work units administered.
- Question: are we going to collaborate or serve on the task force?
- Provost Marcy: the wording should read "serve"
- Senator Lauderdale: can we insert a statement about being concerned about what was initially presented to the BOR in the Dragoo report?
- President Wilde recommended that he bring this up in the letter.
- Senator Mayer: workload is not just an internal matter. There is a nationwide competitiveness between universities. Workload changes have a major effect on our ability to recruit faculty.
- The question was called and the motion was approved.
- Senator Held: his proposal was not intended to be adversarial.

VII.

Announcements:

- The AAUP has requested that the Senate look at an additional OP. Senator Wilde passed this to Senator River.
- Senators received a copy of a letter sent by the Provost's office regarding SACS.
- The Fall Break committee is meeting after Spring Break to recommend to the President a two day fall break on a Monday and Tuesday in October to be put into place for 2009-2010. This also balances out the Wed-Fri days off during the Thanksgiving week. This item will come before the Senate again.

VIII.

Adjournment 4:59