

**Texas Tech University
Faculty Senate Meeting
Meeting #279
May 7, 2008**

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, May 7, 2008 in the Senate Room in the Student Union Building, with President Gene Wilde presiding.

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

- I. Call to Order – Gene Wilde, 3:21 p.m.

- II. Recognition of Guests: Provost Marcy, Senior Vice Provost Liz Hall Burns, Vice Provost Valerie Paton, Dr. Mary Jane Hurst, Ron Nail, Kay Rhodes, Bobbie Latham, Byron Anderson, Ray Moran, Janet May, Nathaniel Haddox, VP Tom Anderes, Ron Seaquist, and newly elected 2008-2009 Senators were introduced to the Faculty Senate and they were: Stephen Cox, Bob Blake, Bill Pasewark, Comfort Pratt, Matt Santa, Julian Spallholz, Charles Crews, Alex Ortiz, Gopal Lakhani, Elizabeth Sharp, Richard Meek and Michael Helm.

- III. Approval of Minutes, Meeting #278, April 16, 2008. The minutes were approved

- IV. Speakers: **Provost Marcy**
 - The handout distributed to Senators summarizes where the SACS accreditation currently stands.
 - Prior to the beginning of the Spring semester, Provost Marcy, with Vice Provost Paton, put together a plan to address the accreditation issues.
 - It was discovered that TTU has a lot of data supporting the fact that we are consistently and continuously assessing what our students are learning.
 - The draft report is in its third iteration. That report has been sent to three consultants who will review and submit comments.
 - On September 5th, the third monitoring report will be sent to SACS. Later that month, a visiting team from SACS will visit the campus.
 - Provost Marcy thinks the faculty has addressed the accreditation issues in an outstanding way thus far.
 - There will be a summit on Wednesday, May the 14th, that will provide an opportunity to evaluate, in depth, everything that's been done to date.
 - Provost Marcy feels that TTU is in very good shape and has worked very hard to meet the requirements assigned to us.
 - All of the CAOs from Texas are very anxious to get our documents. We are likely to get a lot of good public relations out of the way we responded to our SACS probation.
 - Questions:
 - Senator Gelber: do you know who will be in the new office?
 - Provost Marcy: Valerie Paton and some accompanying staff.

- Speaker: **Kay Rhodes**
 - Kay Rhodes is giving an update on the ConnecTech project.
 - Their office is in the process of replacing the TechSis system with the Banner system.
 - She has distributed a handout to provide Senators with a detailed timeline. Many items, including Raiderlink, have already gone live.
 - The new system is moving away from using social security numbers to identify personnel.
 - On May 19th, the new procurement system will be going live. This will be used for Departments and Colleges to submit their encumbrances for FY 09.
 - Admissions is the first student module going live: this will be for applicants for Fall 09.
 - Finance will be going live in September.
 - Faculty will continue to use the current system through Fall 08.

- Bobbie Latham reported on some of the Banner training that has been completed. All of the student information and data will be converted at the end of August 08. That will allow the Colleges to start using the degree audit system in Banner.
- Questions:
 - Senator Geisselmann: Can PIs on a research project log on to the project and look at it?
 - Byron Anderson: Any functionality that you currently have, you will still have under Banner by putting in your new set of codes. As the PI, you should be able to sign on and look at your balances.

V.

Old Business:

Committee Reports

Ombudsman Screening Committee:

- In the process of screening and contacting candidates.

Efficiency Task Force:

- This committee met again last week and discussed all of the different ways that workload is defined in statute by the Coordinating Board. The idea is to look at how we might better capture the full range of activities undertaken by faculty outside of classroom teaching.

VI.

Announcements:

- There is a reception immediately following this meeting.
- President Wilde summarized some of the accomplishments of this year's Senate: completion of the second year of administrator evaluations; coming closer to having an Ombudsman; two faculty were added, at the Senate's request, to the search committee for the next President.
- President Wilde thanked Office Coordinator Patty Gisch, Vice President Nancy Reed, Parliamentarian Jennifer Spurrier, and Secretary Genevieve Durham.
- President Wilde passed the gavel to the incoming President Sandy River, who is the first Senate President from the TTU Libraries.
- President River: is there any additional business?
- Senator Iyer: are we discussing Fall Break at this meeting?
- Senator Wilde: we discussed this at the last meeting and voted to recommend the fall break, with some revisions, to the task force.
- Senator Iyer: will there be any changes to the 2.5 hour final exam time?
- Senator Wilde: no.

VII.

Adjournment 3:50 p.m.