

**Texas Tech University
Faculty Senate Meeting
Meeting #280
Sept. 10, 2008**

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, September 10, 2008 in the Senate Room in the Student Union Building, with President Sandy River presiding.

Senators present were: Susan Opp, Cindy Rugeley, Nancy Reed, Kelly Fox, Kathryn Barnes-Burroughs, Robert Ritchey, Stephen Cox, Todd Anderson, Curtis Peoples, Marina Oliver, Bob Blake, Stephanie Harter, Christina Ashby-Martin, Charles Crews, Robert McComb, Martha Smithy, Richard Meek, Comfort Pratt, Freedomia Paschall, Joseph Claudet, Glenn Hill, Phillip Johnson, Alex Ortiz, Shane Blum, Julian Spallholz, Christopher Smith, Malinda Colwell, Michael Sobolewski, Melanie Hart, Bill Gelber, Matthew Santa, Lih-Ing Roeger, Nancy Soonpaa, Gene Wilde, Susan Tomlinson, Jerry Koch, Randall Jeter, Michael Helm, Lewis Held, Barbara Weinlich, Michael Giesselmann, Lance Drager, Gopal Lakhani, Brian Rex, Masha Rahnama, Bret Hendricks, Richard Rosen, Jim Williams, Ran Iyer, Magdalena Toda, Kim Boal, Safei Hamed, Sandy River, Susan Mengel, and Laurin Mann. Excused Senators were: Bill Pasewark, Jake Syma, Diane Warner, and Mitzi Lauderdale. Unexecused were: Kris Wilson, Michael Farmer, Aliza Wong, Ron Rainger, Anna Tacon, Timothy Matis, Elizabeth Sharp, Renee Skerik, and Ben Shacklette.

- I. Call to Order--Sandy River, 3:22 p.m.
- II. Recognition of Guests: Brian Quinn (Library), Vicki West (Director of Institutional Research and Information Management), Mary Jane Hurst, (Faculty Assistant to the President) Associate Vice Provost Valerie Paton, Associate Vice Provost Gary Elbow, Interim Senior Vice Provost Rob Stewart, Staff Ombudsman Nathaniel Haddox, Amanda Schaefer (Career Services), University President Guy Bailey.
- III. Introduction of new Faculty Senate officers and new Faculty Senators.
 - New Faculty Senate Officers: President: Sandy River; Vice President: Susan Mengel; Parliamentarian: Mary Frances Agnello; Secretary: Laurin Mann. Sandy announced that Patty Gish is still in hospital.
 - This Fall Semester there are 33 new Senators, counting two new Senators from the Honors College.
- IV. Approval of Minutes, Meeting # 279, May 7, 2008. The approval of the Minutes was postponed until the Oct. Senate meeting.
- V. Speaker: President Guy Bailey. President River asked the Senate for an Agenda Adjustment, since the President would not be able to attend the meeting until later in the afternoon. Approved.
- VI. Speaker: **Vicki West, Institutional Research**
 - The Faculty Workload Reporting System is now online. See the URL (<http://techdata.irs.ttu.edu/workload>) and link on the Institutional Research Home page.
 - Chairs are currently inputting information, so faculty can go to the site and see their own workload.
 - Changes can be made to the Reports up to Sept. 19 (the twentieth class day), so faculty members are encouraged to check the site and report any errors to their Chairs.
 - One issue that is not yet worked out is that combined and piggyback courses still currently appear as two courses instead of one.
 - Another issue: The Faculty Workload Reporting System only records course-based workloads.

VII. Old Business:

Faculty Ombudsman

- Senator Wilde expressed concern that the Provost's office is not acting on the Ombudsman recommendation.
- President River stated that the Provost is sitting on the recommendation because he is not sure that the Senate decided on a part-time Ombudsman, which is what the current job description states. Senator Wilde made a motion that the Senate recommend the Ombudsman position be carried forward as a part-time position. Motion was carried.
- * President River said she will speak to Interim Provost Weiner about this.

OP on OP's

- An OP was drafted and sent to the Provost to ask that the Faculty Senate be informed of all changes to existing OP's. President River was informed by Dr. Marcy in August that the OP was awaiting the signature of the Interim Provost.

Administrator Evaluation Survey

- The results of last spring's Administrator Evaluations are now available. However, these results were published on the website only if there was adequate participation.
- Only 16 departments provided a sufficient number of responses for the data to be published.
- We must try to get faculty to participate in the evaluation process.
- Written comments were included in the surveys, but were not part of the published information. We do not know at this time whether those comments were sent on to the administrators involved.
- Senator Wilde stated that two criteria were used to decide whether the data was valid: 1) a minimum 10-15% participation rate, and 2) a minimum number of respondents.
- Senator Held asked whether the Efficiencies Task Force had ceased meeting. President River stated that President Bailey has said that the Task Force would be reconstituted, but that it may have a new charge.

VIII. New Business:

Resolutions

- Vice President Mengel read aloud the Resolution of Appreciation for Dr. William Marcy. Senator Drager moved to accept the Resolution. The Resolution was passed.
- Vice President Mengel read the Resolution of Welcome and Support for President Guy Bailey. Senator Jeter moved to accept the resolution. Discussion ensued. The resolution with amendment was voted on, and accepted.
- Vice President Mengel read the Resolution Regarding the Selection of a New Provost. Katherine Barnes-Burroughs made a motion to accept the resolution. Discussion followed: Senator Boal requested that at least two faculty members be on the Provost Search Committee. Senator Spallholz stated that the President of the Faculty Senate should be on the Provost Search Committee. At this time, the University President had arrived at the meeting. A motion was made and passed to table the Resolution Regarding the Selection of a New Provost until after Dr. Bailey had addressed the Senate.

Speaker: Guy Bailey, University President

- President Bailey outlined his plans for the Provost Search Committee. He expects that it will be made up of: Chair Michael Shonrock, 5-6 members of the university faculty, one member of the community, one Regent; and will contain men, women, and people representing the diversity of the university community and the broad range of academic disciplines offered by the university.
- Timetable: If all goes as planned, President Bailey expects that the Search committee will meet next week; the position advertisement will be posted by the end of September; applications will be in by the end of October; interviews will be held in November; candidates will be brought to campus in early December, before exams; someone will be hired by

- January 1.
- President Bailey assured the members of the Faculty Senate that once the Search Committee has a short list of finalists for the position, those names will be made public and the individuals involved will be brought to campus.
 - In response to his call for questions/comments, President Bailey added that the University President and Provost must have complete confidence in each other. He stated that the type of person that he looks for in a Provost is: someone who has had a long career in academics as well as administration; a creative, innovative, flexible person; someone with an understanding of the broad range of disciplines on the campus; and a person with a reputation for integrity and honesty.
 - President Bailey added that he expects a good pool of candidates. He plans to use a Search Consultant.
 - In response to questions about the Efficiency Task Force, President Bailey stated that the former Task Force would be reformulated into a new Task Force with a new name and a new focus on dramatically enhancing the university's revenue.
 - President Bailey outlined a few approaches that he sees the Task Force utilizing:
 - 1) Looking more closely at the State Funding Formula, and finding ways to use it to enhance our resources.
 - 2) Looking at the system of budgets and allocations: making sure that these are aligned with revenue-producers.
 - 3) Creating transparency in the budget process, so it is clear who gets what revenue, and why.
 - 4) Taking a look at elements that eat up our resources, and asking ourselves if there are other agencies that can do some of that work better and cheaper.
 - President Bailey went on to state that resources always lag growth, but that we can ameliorate the problems created by that trend with both research and tuition dollars. Dr. Bailey later mentioned that although the federal and state governments are against tuition increases, tuition at the university will probably raise modestly in the next few years.
 - On the subject of growth in student numbers, President Bailey stressed that sheer growth should not be our goal. The university must plan our growth correctly. We must particularly recruit more graduate students. The best way to increase enrollment is through retention. We must recruit good students, and then we must help them to be successful.
 - Dr. Bailey stressed that university admission standards will not be lowered in order to increase student numbers. The increase will come from a concentration on growing our number of graduate students, natural population growth, and better retention.
 - Dr. Bailey stated that the growth in student numbers will have to be supported by increased numbers of faculty. Our biggest issues at present are research and office facilities. Perhaps dorm and classroom space can be outsourced.
 - **VP for Research:** President Bailey announced that the Search for this position will be run basically in the same way as the Provost Search, and will most likely happen in mid-January.
 - **Coordinating Board:** The University may be named a National Research University at the next legislative session. (Documents were distributed with criteria for decision-making). Although Tech has given out a good number of doctoral degrees, our research has not kept up with some other schools. We need to build more grad programs. We garner a number of faculty awards, but we could do better.
 - President Bailey assured the Faculty Senate that he will always keep us apprised of his actions as University President. He also wants to hear our ideas. He plans to teach classes occasionally and to continue to publish in his area, Social Linguistics.
 - Under questioning, Dr. Bailey assured the Senate that state formula funding cannot be used to support either athletics or tuition.
 - President Bailey also informed the Senate that because of an increased number of degree programs, the university may get 5.2 million dollars in Incentive Funding from the State.

VIII. New Business, cont.

Resolutions

Following Dr. Bailey's remarks, there was no interest in resuming discussion of the Resolution Regarding the Selection a New Provost. Faculty Senate President River will email Dr. Bailey with regards to Senate representation on the Search Committee.

Committees

- Senate President River put out a call for volunteers for two Ad Hoc Committees. Interested Senators should contact her.
- A Senate representative is needed for the new Core Curriculum Committee. Please contact President River, if interested.

IX. Announcements

- Please get information on the upcoming Job Fair out to students. Faculty members are invited to a "Network Luncheon" to meet the company recruiters.
- Next Wednesday at 3:30pm, Senators are invited to an informational meeting on the upcoming SACS visit.

Other

- Senator Held asked what is being done to help faculty deal with the Banner implementation. President River said she will look into the matter.

X. Adjournment: 5:04 p.m.