Texas Tech University Faculty Senate
Meeting # 297, May 5, 2010

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, May 5, 2010 in the Matador Room of the Student Union Building, with Faculty Senate President Richard Meek presiding.

Senators in attendance were: Farmer, Cox, Drager, Fallwell, Hart, Harter, Koch, McFadden, Boal, Pasewark, Ritchey, Crews, Hendricks, Janisch, Pratt, Danwich, Lakhani, Mengel, Blum, Fowler, Lauderdale, Kelleher, Soonpaa, Oliver, River, Chambers, Gelber, Tate, Heinz, Meek, Price, Spallholz, Watson and Warner. Senators excused were: Mosher, Colwell, Santa, CM Smith, Schmidt, Giesselmann, Helm, Weinlich, Rahnama, Toda, Matis, Wong and Sharp. Senators unexcused were: Johnson, Hill, Rex, Anderson, Boros, Iyer, McComb, Roeger, Tacon, Davis, Laughlin, Paschall, Peoples, Skerik, Ajlouni, Louden and Syma.

I. Call to Order:
Richard Meek, Faculty Senate President, called the meeting to order at 3:17 PM and thanked President Bailey for providing the refreshments being served.

II. Recognition of Guests:
Faculty Senate President Meek recognized Rob Stewart of the Provost’s Office. Other guests were newly elected Faculty Senators Stephen Bayne, Wendy Ross, Robert Perl, James T. Davis, Cristina Bradatan, Barbara McArthur, Kathrin Dodds, Rich Rice, Alon Kvashny, Louis Mills, Jennifer Moore-Kucera, MAK Lodhi, Donell Callender, Carrye Syma, Glen Biglaiser, Ali Duffy, Lynn Whitfield, Arthur Durband, Lewis Held, Dave Stodden, Daniel Nathan, Bruce Wood, Michael Borshuk, Dorothy Chansky and Sam Bradley.

III. Approval of Minutes:
President Meek called for any corrections or changes to the minutes of the past Faculty Senate meeting. Hearing none he asked for a motion for approval of the minutes of Meeting #296 of the Faculty. Senator Pratt made a motion to accept the minutes of the meeting and the minutes were accepted as written by voice acclamation.

IV. Speaker: Introduction of President Guy Bailey:
President Meek then introduced President Guy Bailey who was present to do a Year End Review of the University’s activities.

Texas Tech University President Guy Bailey began speaking generally about the, Responsibility Center Management program upon which TTU has embarked and then turned to recent Texas Legislative activities affecting TTU. A year ago, President Bailey said, TTU did not do well with the last legislative session but had two unique opportunities that emerged from the last session; HB 51 and a way for one or more Texas universities mentioned to reach for and obtain National Research University Status. Funded by the TRIP program, the State provided matching money, 50 millions in State funds to be matched from university private donors. TTU raised private money in excess of 24 million dollars, way more than other Texas university.

The second opportunity from the past Legislative session was a pathway to National Research University status. ENRUF, a University Research Fund was established, to offset the Texas PUF Fund. ENRUF was formed with about $500 million of State funds as an endowment for research. TTU and UT Houston may be able to move into the ENRUF very soon. ENRF for TTU would mean about 13 million more research dollars/yr. Criteria for entry to ENRUF are; 45 million dollars in restricted research funding, (non-State funds; one of the 4 of 6 criteria to be
met) a University Endowment of 400 million dollars, Phi Beta Kappa or NRL library status both obtained by TTU; awarding of 200 PhD degrees, /yr, (TTU is close) and the other criteria are to be determined by the Coordinating Board. These criteria are yet to be defined precisely but broadly include; quality faculty and students, and a quality Graduate program. These criteria were discussed by President Bailey as they apply to TTU. President Bailey said that TTU is well on its way to becoming eligible for ENRUF funding and becoming a designated National Research University.

The other opportunity President Bailey addressed is how to try to enhance the amount of State Formula funding, presently 6.3% of the State Higher Education budget, increasing TTU’s share to 8%. The chosen route is to increase the number of student credit hours at the graduate school level. This will also help protect TTU if budget cuts occur across the State in Higher Education. If 8% of the State Formula funding were to be achieved it would add an additional 28 million dollars to TTU. The 8% is the the institutions goal, focusing on MS and Doctoral student enrolment. Total weighted student credit hours with this focus grew by 125,000 SCH the last academic year.

The last issue President Bailey addressed was the announced closing of PrinTECH. It had been determined that about 60% of printing was being outsourced by PrinTECH. Additionally, the space is needed for teaching and research as TTU grows. People that are affected will be offered employment on campus or additional training. The proposed closing of PrinTECH is to focus on core university activities.

President Bailey then took questions:

Lewis Held: If the President’s office had done feasibility study on the closing of PrinTech? Answer. A TTU review found we could outsource about 60% of the printing and it would be more cost effective. Already PrinTECH was outsourcing some of its own work.

Responsibility Center Management: What happens to programs that do not meet RCM criteria? Answer. Universities have to subsidize instructional areas already; RCM will make that accounting process more clearly. Many areas will be positive and will be generating revenue. Central administration will be working with the Colleges to implement RCM. At TTU, the RCM program will be different because of the way the State funds higher education. RCM will phase in over time.

RCM: Concern was stated that other universities moved into RCM too quickly. Answer: President Bailey said Jon Strauss was very helpful in developing RCM and TTU will phase in over 2-3 years. The 2011 Fall semester will be the first real implementation period.

When does the State change the formula funding? The State tweaks the formula funding a dollar here or there every 4-6 years.

What was the PUF worth? (Discussion with Provost) answer: Maybe 24 billion in endowments. UT and TX A&M split 2/3 vs. 1/3. Senator Lewis estimated distribution of maybe $500 million/yr from the PUF endowment.

Are there going to be enough faculties for all the doctoral students? Answer: TTU’s priority is to hire more faculty, do a catch-up on salary for faculty and recruit more students.

What about the problem of Colleges holding on to their own courses for RCM credit? Answer: Statistics was used by President Bailey as an example of a course that could be repeatedly taught by many departments. TTU is working on that problem it won’t happen.
In response to a question about political representation for funding, President Bailey said that our representatives have their finger prints on the ENRUF.

President Bailey ended by saying it’s an exciting time with challenges and if you have ideas sends them along.

President Meek then recognized and thanked all the newly elected Faculty Senators for 2010-2011 year in attendance at the meeting.

V. Old Business: Study Committee A, Sandy River chair spoke on OP

32.01. members of Study Committee A met with Sr Vice Provost Rob Stewart last week for an update on the draft OP 32.01. Dr. Stewart did not have a draft to show us, but since then he has let us know that a draft has been circulated to the provost and his staff and the vice-president for research. He told us that the provost office had accepted our proposed revisions, including making the tenure revocation/termination section a separate OP. Drs. Smith and Eighmy have made suggestions that Dr. Stewart will incorporate. Dr. Stewart added that in addressing the draft OP said it was now much easier to follow then prior to the summer of 2008. And he would keep FS President Meek inform to the progress.

VI. New Business: President Meek spoke to the problem of overpayment of salary to graduate students now having been paid and now being asked to return overpaid funds. President Meek noted procurement cards were no longer use and this had become a purchasing problem.

VII. Liaison Reports: Senator Patricia Watson, liaison for the Distributed Learning Council- reported on service and online training if you are teaching any distance education courses. It’s a lengthy process to get an online program accredited through the state Coordinating Board. There is also an effort to get lectures captured for multi-media/online use. The person signed up for the class is actually the person getting credit for doing the work.

Drager comments: Thumbs down on the online training program. The process is happening too rapidly.

President Meek asked people to look at the Liaison list or check with Patty Gisch for service on any of these Committees. With no other New Business President Meek looked to pass the gavel.

Recognition was made by President Meek for the year’s service to Vice-President Jerry Koch, Julian Spallholz for serving as Secretary, Gene Wilde as Parliamentarian and Past-President Sandy River for all of her varied Committee Service and for agreeing to be Parliamentarian next year. President Meek then recognized Tim Matis incoming Vice President and Michael Farmer as incoming Secretary. Vice-president Jerry Koch then recognized outgoing and…… incoming President Meek for his past and continuing service to the Faculty Senate and presented him with an award.

X. Adjournment: President Meek asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was and the #297 meeting of the Faculty Senate adjourned at 4:10 PM for the summer recess.

Respectfully submitted by Julian Spallholz
Faculty Senate Secretary 2009-2010.