Report Bookstore Advisory Committee, Callendar, 1-18-12, #311

Senator Donell Callender gave a report of the Bookstore Advisory Committee. The report focused on State of Texas House Bill 33, which amends the Education Code. [The bill was signed into law on June 17, 2011, and went into effect Sept. 1, 2011]. Specifically the bill requires each institution of higher education for each course and each term to disseminate a list of required and recommended textbooks that specifies, to the extent practicable, each textbook's retail price, author, published, most recent copyright date, and International Standard Book Number, if any.

Further, House Bill 33 requires textbook publishers that provide information regarding a textbook or supplemental material to a faculty member or other person in charge of selecting course materials at an institution of higher education to provide written information relating to textbook prices, copyright dates for the current and three preceding textbook editions, and substantial revisions made since the most recent preceding edition, and alternative formats available.

President Daniel Nathan asked whether this information had to be provided to the Barnes & Noble at Texas Tech. Discussion ensued. Senator Callender indicated that Barnes & Noble won the campus bookstore contract in a bidding process. She further indicated that any concerns regarding this or any issue regarding Barnes & Noble at Texas Tech be directed to Shelley Barba, of the Bookstore Advisory Committee, at shelley.barba@ttu.edu. Questions also can be directed to bookstore manager Cole Johnson [store telephone number is (806) 742-3816].

There was discussion on the floor regarding when the information must be disseminated. According to H.B. 33, this information shall be provided, "... as soon as practicable after the institution has compiled the schedule and list but not later than the 30th day before the first day that classes are conducted for the semester or other academic term ...". House Bill 33 will be posted on the Faculty Senate webpage: http://www.depts.ttu.edu/senate/