

Faculty Senate Minutes
Senate Room in the SUB Matador Room
December 10, 2014
Meeting #337

Senators present were: Senators present were: Cox, Farmer, Buelinckx, Canas, Cargile Cook, Elbow, Grair, Held, Juan, Milam, Morgan, Nite, Rahamamoghadam, Skidmore, Smith, Swingen, Arnett, Ritchey, Koricich, Patrick, Bayne, Dallas, Ghebrab, Morse, Soliman, Blum, Gilliam, Metze, Becker, Cassidy, Hidalgo, Weiner, Ortiz, Peaslee, Brookes, Meek, Ankrum and Tate. Senators excused were: Brashears, Chris Taylor, Pongratz, Batra, Carter, Hawkins, Hom, Morales, Qualin, Ramkumar, Shi, Surluiga, Richman, Colette Taylor, Matis, Caswell, McGinley, Spallholz, Yuan, Cochran, James, Heinz, Donahue, Lastrapes and McKoin.

- I. **Call to Order** at 3:18 p.m. – Dr. Michael Farmer, Faculty Senate President
- II. **Recognition of guests:** Provost Lawrence Schovanec, Senior Vice Provost Rob Stewart; Ben Montecillo from Staff Senate, TTU Public Art Manager-Emily Wilkinson, Faculty Ombudsperson Jean Scott, Former Faculty Senate Presidents Daniel Nathan and Aliza Wong, Ricky Sherfield-Cross/Cultural Academic Advancement staffer, Faculty Senate Parliamentarian Allison Whitney.
- III. **Approval of September minutes, Meeting #336:** Moved by Senator Ankrum, seconded by Senator Morgan, approved unanimously.
- IV. **Speakers.**

Emily Wilkinson, Public Art Manager for Facilities Planning and Construction

The Public Art Project was added to the Regents' Rules in 1998, with Debbie Montford serving as a catalyst. It applies to all TTU campuses. While there were several sculptures on campus prior to the program, the first acquisition on the Lubbock campus was 2002. Since then 5 – 10 works have been added each year. By 2007, *Public Art Review* ranked TTU's collection among top 10.

The University Public Art Committee consists of 20 people including Michael Molina; faculty, staff, and students, from the University and HSC; community representatives; and artists.

Selection process is rigorous and each project is tailored to the users of the building. The President appoints a project representative who works with the building managers to determine the kind of art they want. Calls for entries are published in art forums around the world, giving parameters including type, size and budget. Usually 20 – 40 entries. They send resumes and images, references. Budget is all-inclusive, so the artist has to hire engineers, etc. Two to three finalists are selected to come talk to the committee and see the site. Often they create a model, which becomes property of TTU PAC. The committee makes final recommendation after which it is taken to President and Chancellor.

Currently there are 104 objects (from the 1% funds) with a value of \$8,057,320.

Those who would like a booklet of the entire collection to date, contact:

Emily.wilkinson@ttu.edu

Discussion:

Senator Becker: what will the PAC do if the rate of construction slows?

EW: interpretation and maintenance.

Senator Tate: Does any of the 1% budget go to maintenance and conservation?

EW: No, and they all need cleaning yearly. We produce a maintenance budget each year and ask the University for support.

Jean Pearson Scott, New Faculty Ombudsperson

Professor Scott has been the chair of the Department of Human Development and Family Studies since Sept. 2011. She will start as the first TTU Faculty Ombudsperson on January 1, 2015. She says that she looks forward to being able to shape the position. She will advocate for equitable and fair process and policies and will consider how existing policies and procedures are operating to consider proposals for revision.

Her initial activities will include undertaking training from an International Ombudsman organization, visiting with support units across campus that are involved with conflict resolution, attending Faculty Senate and other meetings of administrators as invited. She reports that she has already gotten lots of emails that say how pleased faculty and administrators are to have an ombuds.

For now she will use her existing office, HS506. In the future will probably have another office. She asks that we let our colleagues know.

Discussion:

Guest Danny Nathan: How will the new position imbricate with the grievance procedures?

MF: We are updating the grievance policy to allow time for consultation of ombuds.

New OP states that Ombuds can't get involved in grievance procedures or tenure disputes.

V. Old Business: Review of Committees & Liaison Reports

OP 32.05, Faculty Grievance Procedures - Ad Hoc Committee

Senator Held reported that while the Faculty Senate suggested extending the period of time for filing a grievance from 21 to 120 days, SV Provost Stewart proposed only 40 days. Held is concerned that this may not be enough, especially over the summer.

Stewart: with respect to summer, commencement ends the clock and on-duty date starts it again.

Senator Metze: Requests that FS see the revised policy.

Held: We are waiting for feedback from Provost Schovanek and/or President Nellis before we bring the policy back to the Faculty Senate.

Senator Ankrum: If necessary the process will be suspended over off-duty time. A second issue is that if the incident involved Title IX or "TX whistleblower," these stipulate that someone is not supposed to contact the person who caused the incident in the first place. So we need a disclaimer that would alert the complainant that they should not follow this grievance policy but to deal with those procedures.

OP 74.02 and Revisions on Regent's Rule 10

FS President Farmer and Senator Dallas reported that a University Committee is working on intellectual property issues, commercialization, and online courses and they hope to get something to the Regents by February or March. MF reports that Vice Chancellor Huffaker will write a Regent's Rule that is general enough to allow individual campuses to manage the issue as they see fit.

Committee on funded research needs more members. It is trying to make funded research work more smoothly.

Update on Women Leaving Tech

FS President Farmer: We have found that some respondents are offered higher wages but that is not the reason they left.

Texas Council of Faculty Senates (TCFS) Resolutions

1) Resolution to support TCFS resolution regarding Texas Education Opportunity Grant (T.E.O.G.) which asks the 84th TX Legislature to restore funding for Higher Education by 25%. This would result in Texas higher education at 2010 levels. Senator Brooks moved to discuss the resolution, seconded by Senator Peaslee.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

2) Resolution to support TCFS resolution regarding Hazelwood act, an unfunded mandate that provides funding to those honorably discharged from military service.

Motion to discuss: senator Gilliam, seconded by Senator Swingen.

Vote: approved unanimously.

VI. New Business:

Clarification of TTU policies regarding handguns on campus. FS President Farmer notes that the TCFS is also preparing a resolution that would affirm the current rights of Universities in Texas to establish and abide by their own regulations regarding carrying handguns on campuses. He thinks it is crucially important that TTU have a local policy and will ask the President for clarification on University's policy about handguns. We may have to invite the chief of Campus Police to the January meeting to tell us about the local policy

OP 70.17 Overtime. Section 6 says,

No employee, whether or not subject to FLSA, may conduct Texas Tech University business at any location other than the employee's regular or assigned temporary place of employment unless the employee is traveling or has received prior written authorization from the chancellor or the president to perform work elsewhere. In no event shall an employee's personal residence be deemed that employee's regular or assigned temporary place of employment or duty point without the written approval of the chancellor or the president.

Many faculty members work at home or at a place other than their offices. This section also does not take into account the development and teaching of online courses. The section requires revision.

Honorary degree for Timothy Cole

Guest and former FS President Aliza Wong requests that the FS create a committee to vet the legality of the process, or to write a resolution to create a resolution supporting the bestowal of an Honorary Doctorate for Timothy Cole. She suggests that it would be best to collaborate with SGA and staff senate. Gary Elbow volunteered to write a letter of nomination.

Guest Ricky Sherfield, Director of the African American Center on campus reports that over 100 students came to hear Cory Sessions, brother of Cole, and that students want to know how to be part of the change in criminal justice. The SGA Diversity Committee has agreed to draft a resolution supporting the awarding of an honorary degree.

Guest Professor Arnold Loewy, the George R. Killam Jr Chair of Criminal Law, advised us on the legal issues. While a posthumous degree may be given to a student who has almost completed work, an honorary degree is usually awarded to live individuals. However, in theory it should be possible. If we can do it we should do so.

VII. Announcements:

Administrator evaluations

Senator Weiner reports that we should have results of administrator's evals in mid-January. The response rates were around 30%.

VIII. Adjournment:

Senator Gilliam moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Senator Ankrum. The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.