Faculty Senate Minutes  
Senate Room in the SUB Matador Room  
November 12, 2014  
Meeting #336

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

I. Call to Order at 3:15 p.m. – Dr. Michael Farmer, Faculty Senate President

II. Recognition of guests: Senior Vice Provost Rob Stewart; Dr. Angela Eaton-IRB, Ben Montecillo from Staff Senate, Deborah Finlayson from Annual Giving, Diane Warner-AAUP, Hayden Hatch and Lauren Shulman from SGA, Faculty Senate Parliamentarian Allison Whitney.

III. Approval of September minutes: Motion: Colette Taylor, Second: Koricich. Minutes approved.

IV. Speakers. Deborah Finlayson, Executive Director of Annual Giving

For 17 years, Raider Ringers have called supporters on behalf of TTU colleges and have raised a total of over $17 million. Last year they raised $1.2 m. Now they announce a new initiative: a faculty and staff program for annual funding to support any campaign. This will allow the giver to select where the donation should go, including a fund for excellence in any department.

Comments:
MF: College of Agriculture faculty have built scholarship funds that support about 50% of students at the 500 to 1500 rate.
Senator Elbow: Development Office has a minimum rate for establishing an endowed scholarship.
DF: You can contribute to an existing scholarship but if you want to create a new scholarship you have to contact Development; the minimum might be 10 K.
MF will send DF’s address and email to senators, along with a list of existing funds.

Hayden Hatch, SGA president. Hayden.hatch@ttu.edu

Goals and activities: 1) polled students about whether they would rather have Fall Break or additional study days before exams. 2) Changed spring break 2016 to 2nd from 3rd week of March.
3) Safety initiatives: a) Location detection for students: create and deploy a mobile app that would pinpoint the location of students walking on campus. b) Lighting on campus: Building Maintenance has opened a twitter that allows students to report issues. 4) Food pantry. 5) Safe ride—because Yellow Cab went out of business, the SGA worked with Citibus, which has been providing a service in the interim. Now there is a new cab company.
6) Student senate supports smoking ban on campus and in city. 7) “It’s on us” – a campaign from the White House that encourages bystander intervention in the case of sexual assault or other issues. He welcomes input. 8) Request for proposals about how to use dining bucks on student ID at several off-campus locations. This would let us keep up with other Big 12 schools.

Senator Held: When you get the results of the poll on fall break, please bring it to FS for consideration.

Senator Ortiz: How are you planning to get students to download and use the Mobile app?
HH: We have been told that TTU will help pay for the app. We are working with an entrepreneur who might be able to combine it with an existing TTU mobile app.

Senator Becker: Does spring break coincide with LISD?
HH: Yes.
Senator Patrick: Uber might be an alternative transportation service. HH agrees.
Senator Morse: Smoking ban—will that be outside?
MF: The students are supporting a Presidential initiative on banning smoking.

Angela.eaton@ttu.edu Handling proposals regarding following guidelines for research that uses human subjects. Large redesign of website with useful resources. Attached to Human Research Protection Program. Expanded staff, run by Donna Peters. Changing submission system in mid-2015. Going to an online Cayuse submission system which allows you to track the progress of your proposal.

Senator Cargile Cook: is there a plan to speed up the turn around time for summer submissions? 
AE: this might have been partly a staff issue.

Unfunded research is a problem, but this can be handled through Cayuse too.

V. Old Business: Review of Committees & Liaison Reports
1) Survey of Tenured Associate Women Leaving Tech Found 20 individuals, have assignments, are working on short script. Looking at salary, child care / home, or Lubbock, or University problems
2) Ad Hoc Committee Update
Ombudsperson Search
Blum: Names are submitted, president is conducting interviews; we hope to announce at next meeting.

Grievance Policy (OP 32.05)
Senator Held: In anticipation of Ombuds, we should revise the Grievance Policy, which has had some problems. The way the Ombuds policy is written, that person won’t have a role in grievance process. The OP stipulates a maximum time of 21 days between incident being grieved occurring and the filing of a grievance. We recommend that this be extended to 120 days. With the extension, the grievant will have enough time to discuss with chain of command and the Ombuds. A panel of faculty peers is appointed and makes a recommendation to the President of the University. If the President disagrees, then s/he has to provide a reason to the committee. This is a protection of due process for faculty. Senator Held requests that you ask colleagues and chairs to read the policy and that you direct comments to him via the email listed on the Faculty Senate website.

OP 74.04 and Revisions on Regent’s Rule 10
Senator Dallas explained that this OP governs rights to intellectual property, distance courses, copyrights and patents. The problem is that Regent’s Rule 10 retains the handling such matters within the Regents Office. However, the regents recently approved moving the Office of Technology and Communication, which oversees these issues, back to the VPR at TT University. There are discussions concerning copyright for distance education and courses that are recorded on video. If faculty develops a class, we want this to be copyrighted by the faculty member. Faculty should have input on how such course materials should be used. Currently Faculty owns copyright and can negotiate use rights with the University. This is TTU’s operating procedure. Regent’s rule will be more general. Other TTU campuses, including HSC, will follow our lead.

A) SACS has placed a moratorium on double-counting grad courses for undergrad course credit in all accelerated Bachelors-to-Masters (150-hour master’s) programs until it has reviewed the practice. Students currently in the programs will continue so their graduation won’t be delayed. However, new programs won’t be approved until this issue is cleared up.
B) Dean Sheridan requests that spring 2015 graduate application reviews be completed ASAP.
C) The Grad School has compiled a list of external fellowships to which students may apply. However, all external graduate fellowship applications must be routed through the graduate school for review before submittal.

Senator Held: This is indicative of heavy-handed managerial style. If GS wants to aid in securing funding, students should be invited to use the resources of Grad School, not forced.
Senator Swingen: Already humanities are penalized because the forms used for grant funding through VPR are not conducive to humanities proposals.
VI. New Business.

1) TCFS (Texas Councils of Faculty Senates) Report – FS President Michael Farmer is vice president of TCFS, which includes representatives from all Universities across TX.

A) Intellectual Property - Patents and copyrights. Copyright act of 1976. Exceptions for faculty are strong and clear. Someone can’t come into your class, take notes, and publish them as their own research. Our lectures are our own intellectual property. When is a course work for hire? If we give our copyright to the U. The feeling is that this is a rare event. Any distance education, filming of classes, etc., should be our own copyright. We have to edit our own material and update it as new research comes out. University gets use rights, but for how long? They are paying 5K for course development (distance) but that should not buy a lot of use. Maybe a full summer salary would buy more use. Political science has a work for hire process. A group of 10 faculty may represent their online force that creates products for the department. Patents: similar strategy. Farmer wants input from senators who have done online courses or have wrestled with copyright or patent issues.

2) TCFS Resolutions. FS President Michael Farmer

In anticipation of upcoming legislature, they passed 4 resolutions. At most, we will vote a support for any of the measures in December and pass this support to the Chancellor, President, Provost, state senator and legislators.

1) TX Educational Opportunity Grant offers 4 – 7 K assistance programs to enter and finish college. These have been cut significantly. Resolve to support increasing funding.

2) Resolution regarding handguns. TCFS proposes to oppose any legislations or initiatives that will overturn the present prohibitions on carrying concealed weapons on University campuses.

3) Resolution regarding Hazelwood Act. Gives rights to vets to attend school for free at TX institutions. At NTU, 10% of students are attending under Hazelwood; the University pays for this, not the legislature. Resolution asks that Legislator fully fund the Hazelwood act. Furthermore, There are some proposals to allow all dependents of military to attend school for free. If not funded by State, this could close Universities.

4) Asks Legislature to increase funding for higher education to 2001 levels. The real-term drop in funding is about 30%.

VII. Announcements

1) TTU Ethics Center wishes to form a focus group that includes representatives from FS. Probably this will consist of a one-time event and will include lunch.

2) Will person working on commercializable property talk to Tim Dallas or Michael Farmer?

VIII. Adjournment. Moved and seconded by Senators Brookes and Koricich. The meeting ended at 4:59 pm.