

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2017 #345

Senators present were: Cox, Sharma, Zook, Zugay, Barenberg, Canas, Cargile Cook, Couch, Grair, Forbis, Held, Legacey, Mayer, McCheney, Morales, Ramkumar, Rice, Rider, Singh, Still, Thacker, Wilde, Fleischman, Matteson, Richman, Siwatu, Fedler, Ghebrab, Hernandez, Nejat, Zuo, Blum, Kalenkoski, Whiting, Metze, Cassidy, McEniry, Bucy, Gring, Keene, Ankrum, Brookes, Meek, Hays and Stetson.

Senators absent were: Boren, Verble, Brittsan, Adams, Calkins, Ireland, Kaye, Lavigne, Mosher, Surluiga, Arnett, Dass, Crews, Hodes, Gilliam, Ivey, Henry, Hidalgo, Litsey, Langford and CM Smith.

- **Call to order – Dr. Gene Wilde, Faculty Senate President - 3:17pm**
- **Approval of minutes, Meeting #345**
 - Motion to accept the minutes – Senator Richman
 - Second – Senator Fleischman
 - Minutes approved unanimously
- **Introduction of Guests:**
 - **Guests were:** Dr. Guy Loneragan-Interim Vice President for Research and guest speaker, from the VPR Office-Pat Delucia, Vice Provost Rob Stewart, Staff Senate, Liz Inskip-Paulk, Faculty Ombudsperson- Jean Scott, IRB liaison Andy King and Parliamentarian Gary Elbow
- **Speakers**
 - Guy Loneragan, Interim Vice President for Research
 - Last FY was best year TTU has had
 - 166 million in total research expenditures
 - 55 million in restricted research expenditures
 - In the strategic planning process currently
 - Current process is long term in nature
 - Previously was more for short term planning
 - Long term plan
 - State level metric for state research and Carnegie Research one classification
 - An opportunity to grow research expenditures
 - Growth modeling for research expenditures
 - Achieve by centenary
 - Included in the list of top research universities
 - 143 universities counted in the list
 - We are ranked 49th in endowment assets
 - 65th in national academy memberships
 - 57th I faculty awards
 - 46th in doctoral degrees awarded
 - 61st in post docs
 - 82nd in national merit scholars

- We do quite well compared to aspirational universities
- Challenge of aspirational goal
 - Need to grow federal research expenditures
 - Currently 20% of research expenditures are federal
 - Need to raise the total to 50%
 - Current Federal research expenditures
 - Largely remained flat
- Department of Education grants are seeing promising growth
- 1/3 of federal expenditures are received from sub-awards from other universities partnering with us
- Need to get to \$47 million in federal STEM research expenditures
 - Aspirational goal
- Individual PI lead proposals are the pillar of research programs at TTU
 - Continue to celebrate the PI's
- Need to pursue larger programmatic programs
 - How can the institution help do the work to help the scientists involved in the large programs
 - Case studies of what the institution has to prepare for in terms of going after large federal programs/awards
- Also need to encourage scholarship in Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
- Pat Delucia survey for barriers in faculty research proposal preparation
- 279 respondents (25%) response
 - Most is balancing research, teaching and service
 - Research burden to administer has grown to a point of becoming a barrier
 - Address the IRB process
- Plans for the future
 - VPR search
 - 18 month plans
 - Structure of various offices within OVPR
 - Get rid of superfluous programs
 - Began the research park
 - Providing faculty to participate in entrepreneurial activity
- Improve collaborations across the TTU system
- Involvement of arts and humanities in healthcare

Question Senator Held:

What state is the OVPR search in?

Answer Guy Loneragan, Interim Vice President for Research:

That is a very good question; it is a question that I do not have an answer to, since I am not a member of the committee

Question Senator Held:

Who is on the search committee?

Answer Guy Loneragan, Interim Vice President for Research:

That is a good question; Dean Sacco is the chair of that committee

Question Senator Held:

How many are on the committee... My main concern is so much of decision making at this university happens from the top down. I noticed on the fourth and fifth line is faculty morale. Morale would be greatly improved if faculty were involved more in these undertakings. Would like to see candidates give presentations to the faculty, at least Horn professors. I understand that it may not be possible...

Answer Guy Loneragan, Interim Vice President for Research:

My understanding is that it would proceed the way it did last time. Where the three faculty members came to campus and they met with faculty, they met with the Horn professors. Search committee was composed of faculty; expectation is the same function as before. My expectation is yours as well. In terms of strategic planning, Darrel James and Offerman have been leading it. They have held many meetings around campus with as many groups as possible.

Comment Senator Held:

I have not seen an interim anybody do as much work as you have.

Comment Senator Richman:

An expression of gratitude for helping to remove some of the IRB structural barriers.

Answer Guy Loneragan, Interim Vice President for Research:

That has been mostly Kelly and Scott's initiative under the freedom Alice young has given them, so I will pass along your comments to them if I may. I know there are many other things we can improve.

Comment Andy King:

I am here to serve as the IRB liaison, please feel free to contact me with any issues or questions you may have.

Question Vice President Ramkumar:

Can you share your presentation with the Faculty Senate?

Answer Guy Loneragan, Interim Vice President for Research:

I want to add 2016 data, so it may take a few weeks, but I will send it on.

- **Old Business: Review of Committees**
 - Third Year Review-Update Only-Academic Programs-Ramkumar, Chair
 - This is an update
 - Salient points have come up in the committee
 - Committee did decide to create a standalone OP for third year review
 - There will be one additional level of evaluation
 - Propose adding a peer evaluation after the chairperson has given their evaluation
 - Criteria will be set by the department

- Has to sync with the college level
- Within the college but outside the department
- So that way there is an understanding of the candidate field of expertise
- Help eliminate bias
- Strongly having two levels of evaluation at the top level
 - The voting should be two parts
 - Are they making good progress
 - Should they have a terminal contract
- Recommend that the chairperson and concerned faculty discuss the outside peer
- Hope to have a draft OP in April
 - So that it can be passed by the end of Senate Session

Question Senator Ankrum:

In VPA the four different departments are very different in terms of what is needed for tenure. I am wondering how something like that would work in a college like mine with so much diversity.

Answer Vice President Ramkumar

Each department will have standardized criteria, so each department can discuss among the tenured faculty the criteria for use as a guideline. The committee was unanimous in the need for an outside assessment. Burden on department to determine the method of evaluation used by outside reviewers

Question Senator Mayer:

It seems to me that the reason for a third year review is so the department can help mentor their assistant professor. It sounds like what we are doing here is instituting a mini tenure review for third year. Is this something we want to do?

Answer Vice President Ramkumar:

The purpose here is to be helpful. Provide some yardstick for performance, to understand what is needed to improve. The intention is to help advance through third year with consistency. At some point, there is a need to have requirements.

Question Senator Unknown:

So would the college committee be that same for both third year and tenure review?

Answer Vice President Ramkumar:

We will put a recommendation that the committee be constituted in consultation with the department committee and the chair. The committee need not be the same, but it could be as the college committee.

- **Child Care Committee, Update Only, Richard Meek**
 - An all campus committee has been formed
 - Worked with Bright Horizons to develop child care plan
 - Conducted a survey into feasibility
 - Bright Horizons declined to provide the service since it could not be made cost feasible
 - A number of RFP are being sent out, for organizations around the nation to see if anyone would like to assist us

- We have a timeline,
 - 1/27 RFP goes out
 - 3/10 deadline for RFP's
 - 3/16 RFP review
 - 5/17 Report provided to Regents meeting
- Administrators evaluation committee
 - Senator Morales

Question Senator Siwatu:

Answer Senator Morales:

- **New Business:**
 - Nominations committee will begin looking for nominations for faculty senate offices
- **Liaison Reports:**
 - Information for the International Affairs Council, Mayukh Dass, IAC Rep.
 - No report out of the country
- **Announcements:**
 - The provost search committee will meet Monday to begin screening applicants
 - Search firm has made initial contacts and narrowed candidates for airport interviews
 - Lori Gutierrez – is scheduling a time for senate to meet the candidate for on campus interviews
 - No knowledge of the composition of VPR search committee
 - Passed resolution on not allowing concealed carry at commencement
 - Concealed carry is not allowed at commencement after passing through the official channels
 - In the past worked with administration to work on a need based suspension of tenure period
 - Some discussion about suspension for lack of lab space / lab facilities
 - Will be passed to Faculty Status and Welfare for discussion

Comment Senator Held:

Since OP's are meant to not be discipline specific, I would be against codifying something like that into an OP.

Question Senator Held:

Has there been any claw back of departmental funding...Has there been any indication from the legislative session about this?

- **Adjournment:**

