

Faculty Senate Minutes
May 10, 2017 #349

TO: Members of the Faculty Senate

FROM: Dr. Gene Wilde, Faculty Senate President

RE: **Agenda for meeting #349, May 10, 2017**
Senate Room, meeting starts at 3:15 p.m.

- **Call to order – Dr. Gene Wilde, Faculty Senate President**
- **Approval of minutes, Meeting #348, April 12, 2017 – 3:19pm**
 - Motion to approve – Senator Kay
 - Second Vice President Ramkumar
 - Minutes approved as amended (spelling)
- **Introduction of New Faculty Senators and Guests:**
- **Speakers – 3:20pm**
 - **Lawrence Schovanec-Texas Tech University President – 3:21pm**
 - A brief summary of what has gone on this year
 - Animal science a 2 million dollar gift
 - Strategic planning process ongoing
 - Three theme – engagement, innovation, impact
 - Priorities
 - Promote student success through inclusive access and transformative learning experiences
 - Research
 - Announce 50 endowed professorships, 25 for teaching, 25 for research
 - Announce 100 million initiative for scholarships
 - Have engaged a company to do a needs assessment for childcare
 - Looking for a partner to help build the facility
 -
 - Budget
 - Senate bill eliminated special items and moved to formula
 - House bill more strategic in the items cut
 - Don't want to cut lines
 - Not sure what the reconciliation will be, but some cut is likely
 - Differential tuition
 - College should receive an equal amount in tuition
 - No college should receive less tuition dollars
 - Vice President of Research search is ongoing
 - Presentations will be live streamed
 - Ongoing Dean of Law School search

- Appointed a full time Title IX coordinator
- Search for Office of Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement

Question Senator Held:

What if the state legislature keeps the hiring freeze through next year? What if they cap tuition?

Answer President Schovanec:

Those are two excellent points. We took the stance that we are going to proceed with searches that begin after September 1. If they continue the freeze, we would have to account for that. As for the tuition, a four-year freeze then tied to inflation, then a outcomes based model. The board approved a 2% increase. If we were to lose that money that will affect us. We just do not know yet.

Chief Financial Officer Sloan:

There is no indication of that as of right now.

Question Senator Held:

Could we go back to course fees?

Answer President Schovanec:

How would that help? Differential tuition is more transparent to the student.

Question Senator Fleischman:

I was just going to ask about your focus on PhD programs

Answer President Schovanec:

Right, we had 6045 graduate students. Three or four years ago, we have begun increasing graduate student support. It is important to our research enterprise to grow graduate student enrollment. Quality is important when growing graduate programs. Wants to see them in the top 50 percentile. Grow scholarship, increase external funding, graduate students are essential. We have substantial programs but we have to grow quality.

○ **Noel Sloan-Chief Financial Officer and Vice President for Administration and Finance – 3:43pm**

- Discussion about Employee tuition assistance program
- Overview
 - Program was put in place to assist employees and dependents to attain undergraduate degree
 - Employees get one course per term for free
 - Dependents get \$600.00 per dependent / per term
 - Funding source comes from left over money from self-insured program
 - All changes must be agreed upon by component institutions
 - Not talking about training and development or employee waivers for graduate level courses
- Options for changes given the expansion to the program
 - Adding in a GPA requirement
 - Limited to fall and spring only
 - Attending student pays state required tuition only

- Looking for feedback from the involved parties about what to do

Question Senator Blum:

The endowment isn't growing, does that mean we will have to shrink the program going forward

Answer Chief Financial Officer Sloan:

No, the principle is invested and the same 4.5% returns that is spendable,

Question Senator Blum:

So does that mean that the return is not available, or it he poll of eligible folks growing?

Answer Chief Financial Officer Sloan:

No, it is related to the investment market, there have been up years and down years. The return has not kept pace with the number of qualified participants.

- **Brian Shannon, Faculty Athletic Rep and Kirby Hocutt, Director of Athletics – 3:53pm**
 - Brian Shannon
 - Two issues:
 - Last fall graduation success rate is 81% - credit given to Felicia Martin, Greg Glaus taking Felicia's place
 - Athletes have been given more days off
 - Must be true days off
 - Kirby Hocutt
 - Mission to: educate, serve and grow future champions
 - Education is important and is listed first for a reason
 - Texas Tech does education as well as anyone else in the country
 - Last fall GPA was 3.06 as a department
 - 58 student athletes on the dean's list
 - Hired Johnathan Butros as CFO in Athletics – projecting a balanced budget for sixth consecutive year
 - 4.7 million returned to the university for tuition room and board of student athletes
- **Old Business – Review of Committees:**
 - **OP 32.XX-Third Year Review for Tenure-Track Faculty-Academic – 4:07pm**
 - Report – Vice President Ramkumar
 - This is the collective work of the committee over the past year
 - Review of OP language
 - Clarification of language
 - Voting faculty are encouraged and must be permitted to provide written comments
 - A single ballot question – is the candidate making satisfactory progress toward p&t

Discussion Senator Mosher:

Suggest how the ballots be tallied. The candidate should choose the faculty member who tallies the ballots.

Motion to amend Senator Mosher:

The ballots will be tallied by the p&t chair and in the presence of another faculty member chosen by the candidate.

Second Senator Held

Vote – Motions carries unanimous

Motion to amend Senator Barenberg:

In the department vote and or in case of a negative review of the chair...

Second Senator Held

Discussion Vice President Ramkumar:

The department level takes into account what that means. It is the process within the department.

Senator Barenberg:

We should clarify that the department vote and the chair could go in different directions in terms of who is entitled to an outside review

Proposed amendment:

In the case of a negative outcome at the department level (in the department vote and/or the chairs assessment) a college level peer evaluation process...

Vote – Motion carries unanimous

Comment Senator Fleischman:

Would this apply for someone on a short clock?

President Wilde:

That would be a special case

Vote called to adopt OP as amended - unanimous

- **OP 70.31-Employee Conduct, Corrective Action and Terminations – 4:19pm**
 - Lewis Held-Faculty Status and Welfare
 - Applies to faculty as much as staff
 - Some provisions could run counter to faculty performance of duties
 - Also counters to academic freedom
 - Concern that enforcement could impinge on academic freedom
 - The idea then is to allow 70.31 apply to staff and rework 32.04 to apply to the faculty
 - No vote since it is still a work in progress

Comment Senator Kay:

While I appreciate the sentiment, I would argue that none of these are being enforced as you suggest

Comment Senator Held:

I appreciate your comments and we can talk more about this after the meeting

- **New Business – 4:30pm**
 - OP 69.12-Sick Leave Donation-Lewis Held-Faculty Status and Welfare

Question Senator Fedler:

Can you designate is to a specific employee

Answer Senator Held:

That is part of the rationale to put that in writing

Vote to adopt – unanimous

- OP 10.01-Operating Policy and Procedures-Lewis Held-FS&W

Motion to approve OP as revised and distributed

Vote as presented - unanimous

- OP 34.14-Grading Procedures, including Academic Integrity-Held-FS&W

Comment Senator Kay:

In a number of other institutions if a student failed because of cheating, that course has a different mark. Therefore, when their GPA is calculated that mark is a permanent mark that cannot be changed.

Comment Senator Held:

One of the hallmarks of this country is to not be punished for the same crime twice. So if it is adjudicated then.

Vote to adopt as written – six opposed – motion carried

President Wilde motion to suspend the rules

Motion Senator Meek

Second Senator Barenberg

Vote – unanimous

Reading of the Resolution of Appreciation for Senator Lewis Held / President Wilde

Vote – unanimous

- **Liaison Reports:**
 - Graduate Council

- Continuing forward on academic integrity training

- **Announcements:**

Comment Senator Held:

Thanks for sending out the memo clarifying the differential tuition model. The concern is the continued discussion about equity of funds based on the transition from current funding to differential money. If the administration could provide estimated amounts to allow for the opening of classes for the summer.

- **Installation of New Officers – 4:36**
 - President Wilde – continues
 - Vice President – Litsey
 - Secretary – Barenberg
- **Adjournment**