Meeting Minutes - October 1, 2003

Welcome

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Senators Present: Louisa Arriaga, Suzanne Bowen, Joan Burdine, Lovilla Cochran,
Jana Corzine, Kerri Ford, Eddie Ramirez, Judy Tiner, Doug Crockett, Chance Dragich, Mike Hurlow, Scott Rubino, Bryan Carson, Jeff Foxhoven, Brent Guinn, Scott Hall, Gene Bals, Camille Chen, Maria Fernandez, Patrick Hancock, Judy Hunter, Carolyn Kennedy, Susan Kitten, Sheri Lewis, Pat McConnel, Bill McDonald, Terry Moore, Richard Verrone, Maurice Welch, Everne Williams, Jeff Burns, Nick Chavez, Russell Crosby, Gerald Cunningham, Larry Rocha, Maria Vasquez, Estella Barron, Robin Cooper, Gary A. Johnson, Carol Ann Stanley

Senators Absent: Sandy Gellner, David Naugher, Jeanne Jasper, Guadalupe Luna, Tim Segura

Guests: Lyndon Brinegar, Kent Vineyard, John Barber, Brian Denison, Erich Gruber, Darrell Bateman, Bob Hempel, Dave Gruver, Gloria Hale, Jim Brown, Jennifer Fry, Christy Ryan, Adam Bordeler

Review minutes

August and September were accepted as written. Motion made by Brent Guinn, seconded by Susan Kitten – motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Report for June, July and August were accepted as written. Motion made by Richard Verrone, seconded by Scott Hall – motion passed.

Committees

Bylaws – Judy Tiner – 1st reading of the final draft of Article I. Membership

(Now Reads) –

A Senator has a commitment to attend all meetings. Senators should call the President, President-Elect, or Staff Senate Secretary prior to an absence and follow up in writing within five working days after the
meeting. The subject of the call and documentation is the reason for the absence. Three absences in a Senate term year will be considered excessive. The Secretary will notify the Executive Board of Senators with excessive absences. The Executive Board will notify Senators with three absences in writing and advise them to note the policy regarding additional absences. Senators will be replaced after five absences in a Senate term year.

E. EXPULSION

Expulsion of a Staff Senator/Alternate shall be recommended by the Executive Board and voted on by the full Staff Senate.

(Changed to Read) –

D. ATTENDANCE

A Senator has a commitment to attend all meetings. Senators should contact the President, President-Elect, or Executive Secretary prior to an expected absence and follow up in writing within five working days after the meeting explaining the absence. After three absences in a Senate term year, the Secretary will notify the Executive Board concerning the excessive absences of the Senator. The Executive Board will notify the Senator in writing of his/her absences and advise the Senator to note the policy regarding absences. After five absences in a Senate term year, the Staff Senate Secretary will file a report regarding the Senator to the Executive Board for consideration and recommendation of expulsion from the Senate. After review and acceptance by the Executive Board, the matter will be presented to the Staff Senate for vote at the next scheduled Staff Senate meeting.

E.EXPULSION

Possible expulsion of a Staff Senator/Alternate for matters other than absences will be reviewed by the Grievance Committee. After review of the Grievance Committee’s finding by the Board, the Board may present a call for vote from the Staff Senate to request expulsion of the Senator/Alternate.

Bylaws – Susan Kitten – 2nd reading of proposed change to Article I. H.

(Now Reads) –

Article I. H. Senator/Alternate Ratio:

In the event that the Alternate pool is depleted, the Election Committee shall arrange a special election with the approval of the Executive Board.
In the event that the Alternate pool for an EEO classification is depleted:

- The Election Committee shall arrange a special election with the approval of the Executive Board if the term to be filled is eighteen (18) months or longer.
- The Executive Board can solicit and fill vacated positions after the general election each year, once all alternates have been moved into permanent positions, if the term to be filled is less than eighteen (18) months.

Motion to accept the change as written was made by Richard Verrone and seconded by Mike Hurlow – motion passed.

Communications/PR – Sheri Lewis – committee will meet in the Student Media in room 210 on October 15, 2003 at 10:00am.

Web Site – Jeff Foxhoven – Jeff gave a brief overview of the updated web site located at www.depts.ttu.edu/staffsenate.

Committee on Committees – Caroline Kennedy – passed out a list of the current committees to all attending members.

Executive Board

President ......................... Chance Dragich
President-Elect ...................... Brent Guinn
Secretary ............................... Kerri Ford
Treasurer .............................. Susan Kitten
Past President ...................... Maurice Welch
Crafts & Trade ..................... Mike Hurlow
Clerical ............................... Lovilla Cochran
Executive .............................. Jeff Foxhoven
Professional ........................ Richard Verrone
Service ............................... Russell Crosby
Technical ............................. Carol Ann Stanley
Nominations ......................... Carolyn Kennedy

Bylaws and Constitution
Jana Corzine
Lovilla Cochran
Judy Tiner, Chair
Gary Johnson
Terry Moore
Susan Kitten

Nominations
Scott Rubino
Judy Tiner
Bryan Carson
Carolyn Kennedy, Chair
Gerald Cunningham
Robin Cooper

Elections
Steven Boyer
Louisa Arriaga
Scott Hall
Estella Barron
Guadalupe Luna
Gary Johnson
Maurice Stephenson
Bill McDonald, temp. chair

Grievance
Tomas Olivarez, Chair
Sandy Gellner
Troy Sell
Gene Bals
Russell Crosby
Estella Barron

Communications/Public Relations
Carol Ann Stanley
Maria Fernandez
Sheri Lewis, Chair
Suzanne Bowen
Maria Vasquez
Camille Chen
Barbara White
Carol Woodward
Other Senate Committees (Ad Hoc):

Web Page
Jeff Foxhoven, Chair
Brent Guinn
Bill McDonald

Scholarship
Robin Cooper, Chair
Maria Fernandez
Maria Vasquez
Guadalupe Luna
Everne Williams

COPS
Joan Burdine, Chair
Patrick Hancock
David Naugher
Judy Hunter
Suzanne Bowen

Child Care
Carol Ann Stanley
Maurice Welch

Issues
Shannon Bolt
Nick Chavez
Doug Crockett
Rosa Gallejos
Mary Reigner

Senate Representative to University Committees
Provost Council: Chance Dragich
Strategic Planning: Sheri Lewis
Academic Counsel: Richard Verrone
Sexual Harassment: Tanya So

Chancellor David Smith speaks

• TTU is off to a great start with 28,700 students
• with the legislative decision an increase in tuition will occur, approximately $10
• this increase will have the most effect on students whose family income is between $40,000 and $80,000 (approx. 31% of Tech students)
• more faculty is needed in the classrooms to support the increasing number of students
• received several compliments from parents who attended orientation regarding the beauty of the campus and the friendliness of staff
• still fighting to restore the excellence funding that was vetoed by the governor – may not be successful but haven’t yet given up
• Dr. Whitmore is off to a great start
• new names for the Board of Regents will be released after confirmation
Questions:

• Texas Tomorrow Fund?

Good investment, frozen now – so if you got in early enough good for you.

• Control at the football games?

Will be a group effort consisting of the University Police, grounds and Boren group. Citations will be issued for trespassing if on the field after the game. The goal posts will also be dropped.

• Luxury boxes still available?

Enough boxes have been leased or sold to retire the debt. Three large boxes are still available and six additional small boxes are still not finished.

Wage and Salary Manager Dave Gruver

• hired in 1996 to fix the pay plan

• on original steering committee for the staff senate

• EEO codes are changed after elections are held

• any changes to the pay plan have to receive approval from Elmo Cavin, Executive Vice President HSC, Lynda Gilbert Fiscal Affairs VP and Jim Brunjes, CFO System

• current pay plan includes Lubbock, Amarillo, Odessa, El Paso and Dallas and 22 jails within the system

• plan had to be regionally functional

• conversion of pay plan took 7 years

• conversion tried to put people in groups of similar jobs, experience levels and create a career ladder for the majority of positions

• pay plan is in three parts: students, non-classified and classified

• new rules for departmental exempt/non-exempt status will be coming out in the spring

• chance that minimum wage may increase next year – could increase $1 over a three year period

• people can be paid over the maximum of the pay range – just cannot be hired for more than the maximum
• 41 pay grades condensed to 27
• as long as the department has the money and approval they can hire anywhere within the paygrade
• departments can issue raises to staff up to 10% with VP approval as long as the department can fund the raise
• Jim Brown with personnel will come to a department at any time to discuss issues
• expects feedback from employees about pay plan
• a state employee is not going to make the same amount of money as those in the private sector

President's Report

October 15, 2003 meeting with President Whitmore

Contributions for David Naugher and his family will be used to purchase gift cards for United Supermarkets. This way the family can use them for groceries or gas purchases

Quality Service awards deadline is approaching

Adjourn

motion made by Brent Guinn, seconded by Maurice Welch – motion passed.