



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Staff Senate™

## Meeting Minutes – March 6, 2013

Call to Order: President Hays called meeting to order at 4:05 PM.

Officers Present: Jeff Hays, President  
Christine Self, President Elect  
Tonya Pinkerton, Treasurer

Approval of January/February Minutes: Mike Gunn moved to accept, David Mondt seconded.  
Approved—none opposed.

Treasurer's Report: Dolores Salas moved to accept, Mike Gunn seconded. Approved—none opposed.

Roll Call: 37 senators present for quorum (32).  
Quorum is 2/3 of the filled positions (48).

New Business:

Jeff Hays: Motion to expel three senators due to excessive absences: Loraie Julien, Andrew Bevely, Stephen Howard. Vote: approved. None opposed.

Guest Speaker(s):

Jennifer Hughes, Director of the Office of Planning and Assessment – Road to Reaffirmation

- TTU is seeking reaccreditation with SACS in 2015
- TTU was on probation with SACS in 2007
- 5-year interim report in 2011—TTU passed without any requests for follow-up
- Well-positioned for reaffirmation in 2015
- Staff encouraged to provide any info requested, spread the word about reaffirmation
- March 21—Road to Reaffirmation Kickoff w/ Dr. Belle Whelan from SACS will take place

Patrick Hughes, Associate Vice Provost of Undergraduate Education

- Reasons students leave TTU
  - Customer service
  - Not feeling engaged
- Noel-Levitz has recommended TTU to improve academic advising
- CAAR (Committee for Academic Advising & Retention)
  - Seeks to make student advising experiences consistent across colleges
  - Working on 5-point Strategic Plan, including:
    - Improving policies
    - Improving procedures
    - Improving technology
    - Improving advising for transfer students
    - Professional development of advisors
  - Will be making recommendations to the Provost this semester



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Committee Reports:

**Staff Senate Committees:**

Constitution & Bylaws: Nothing to report

Nominations & Elections: Nothing to report

Technology: Nothing to report

Grievance: Nothing to report

Issues: David Mondt: Third-party complaint regarding employees taking classes during the day and being required to use vacation time. Recommendation: ask Talent Management to create form letter for employees taking classes; include policies about taking classes in leadership modules for supervisors.

Scholarships: K.C. Gilcrest: Applications are being reviewed by committee; question about how scholarships are disbursed—undergraduate students receive the money as a credit to SBS account, but graduate students receive the money as taxable income. K.C. checked with payroll and this is due to IRS policies stating this income is a fringe benefit if a graduate student.

Communications & Public Relations: Audrey Breault: Tech Advantage Business Fair is moving along. \$150 for off-campus vendors to participate - must offer TTU staff a discount or perk. Goal is 60 vendors. Senators encouraged to send vendor suggestions to PR Committee or Jeff Hays. Non-profit groups—fee is waived. Senators wanting to help are encouraged to contact PR Committee or Jeff Hays.

Announcement: President Elect Christine Self reminded all 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> year Senators to think about running for Executive Board.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:55

Submitted by P-E Christine Self