

# ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Texas Tech University

Meeting of  
**September 21, 2010**

## MINUTES

**Present:** Wendell Aycock, Bruce Bills, Wesley Cochran, Cathy Duran, Gary Elbow, Greg Elkins, Bob Henry, Norm Hopper, Lynn Huffman, Patrick Hughes, Jorge Iber, Peggy Johnson, Sue Jones, Bobbie Latham, Debra Lavrie, Ethan Logan, Tim Mathis, Pat McConnel, Walt Oler, DaNay Phelps, Marjean Purinton, David Roach, Brian Shannon, Brian Steele, Rob Stewart (chair), Kevin Stoker, Janessa Walls, Vicki West

**Guests:** Kyle Clark, Jenny Mayants, Michael Shonrock, Kelley Pitts

Shonrock, Senior Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, and Mayants, Internal Affairs Vice President for the Student Government Association, discussed a proposal to allow early registration for all members of the Student Senate. Mayants said nearly one-half of the Student Senate already qualifies for early registration. For members to receive the privilege of early registration, senators would be required to attend all SGA meetings and events. Mayants expressed her intention to write a Senate bill requiring that attendance be monitored. Elkins offered to work with Mayants on development of more criteria for the privilege of early registration and for preparation of a Senate bill to have continuous monitoring. No vote was taken.

Pitts, Development Officer for KTXT-TV, presented plans for a new public television program called Challenge!, which is a high school student academic quiz program that offers South Plains' area students the experience of competing intellectually with their peers. The format is similar to the old GE College Bowl and will involve high school students from nine counties surrounding Lubbock. Questions Unlimited will research and write the questions based on curriculum in math, science, history, literature, and the arts. Winners will receive Texas Tech scholarships as well as gifts and prizes. Pitts discussed opportunities for college and department involvement and invited interested council members to contact her at KTXT-TV.

Clark, Chief Operating Officer and Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance, told council members that the university had the lowest number ever of student enrollment cancellations due to non-payment. The collection process began with more than 3,000 students at risk for non-payment and decreased to only 130 students as payments continued to arrive.

The Academic Council reviewed the minutes from August 17, 2010, and noted three corrections to be made: (1) add Clifton Ellis to the attendance list, (2) note that Elizabeth Massengale was not a guest but attended for Greg Elkins, and (3) change the due date for Faculty Development Leave to October 18. Aycock moved to accept the minutes as amended, Purinton seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Elbow presented proposals for a Graduate Certificate in Digital Design and Fabrication and a Graduate Certificate in College Student Counseling, both of which are 15-hour programs. Huffman moved to accept the proposals as presented, Hopper seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Jones presented the September course approval summary. Roach moved the courses be accepted as presented, Oler seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Elbow presented two recommendations from the university's Core Curriculum Committee: (1) addition of WE 2300 to the Core course offerings in Technology and Applied Science and (2) deletion of MAUP 3205 from Core course offerings in Visual and Performing Arts. Both changes will become effective in fall 2011. Purinton moved to accept as amended, Huffman seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Elbow proposed new guidelines for course approval requests. The guidelines are patterned after the more in-depth requests of the Graduate School and would eliminate the current undergraduate form in favor of all colleges and departments using the graduate course form. The new guidelines also would be attached to the relevant operating policy for course approval requests. Council members asked that the word "schedule" in item 3f of the guidelines be replaced by the word "projection." Stoker moved to accept the proposal as amended, Huffman seconded the motion, and the motion passed. *(NOTE: New developments after the council meeting resulted in the Office of the Provost placing these changes on hold until further review.)*

Henry reviewed the history of how the Bachelor of General Studies (BGS) was created and initially housed in the College of Arts and Sciences. He said the Academic Council minutes of October 7, 2003, approved the BGS degree to be offered by the newly created College of Visual and Performing Arts as well as the College of Arts and Sciences (BGS was subsequently transferred from Arts and Sciences to University College). This approval was apparently never reported to the Coordinating Board and continues *not* to be listed in the official THECB degree inventory for the College of Visual and Performing Arts. Huffman moved that the council reconfirm its decision that the BGS degree is an official degree program of the College of Visual and Performing Arts as well as University College and that this information should be conveyed to THECB by the Provost's Office.

Johnson notified the council that the College of Education will begin offering the Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership by interactive video to a site at Angelo State University.

Phelps updated council on House Bill 1172. The bill sets an annual date for general academic teaching institutions to report timely graduation information to their governing boards. The two major reporting requirements include (1) data on undergraduates completing programs and (2) institutional efforts to promote timely graduation. As coordinator of the university's response, Phelps asked colleges and departments to submit information to her describing their efforts to ensure that students graduate in a timely manner.

Faculty Development Leave submissions are due October 18.