



Texas Tech University

The Faculty Senate

September 24, 1981

TO: Members of the Faculty Senate

FROM: Benjamin H. Newcomb, President

SUBJECT: Agenda for the special meeting of the Faculty Senate, September 30, 1981

The Special meeting of the Faculty Senate, called by vote of the Senate at its last meeting, will be September 30, 1981, at 3:30 p.m. in the Senate Room of the University Center. The single agenda item is the discussion of Fall Commencement plans. Possible recommendation in regard to specific plans are noted below.

Following are the principal decisions already reached.

- 1) Fall Commencement will be held on Friday, December 18, at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Auditorium, with the Coliseum available for staging and as an alternative site if necessary.
- 2) The final examination schedule and the deadline for submission of final grades are unchanged. Diplomas will be mailed later after grades are processed.

Possible recommendation: The Faculty Senate endorses the decision to maintain the current final examination policy and schedule, which does not provide for automatic exemption for students nor for early final exam administration. It further recommends that if in the future any changes in the policy or schedule are contemplated, prior consultation with and recommendation from the Senate be sought.

- 3) Commencement exercises will include only the Friday evening session, with no individual college ceremonies.

Possible recommendation: Inasmuch as the Faculty is obligated to meet a grade report deadline, 36 hours after the Commencement, the Senate believes that the plan to have one commencement session will best conserve time.

- 4) The program will include a speaker; the Convocation Committee has prepared a list of notables.

Possible recommendation: The Faculty Senate recommends that the programs for the Fall and Spring Commencements, particularly the featured speaker, be of equally high quality and of benefit to the university community.

- 5) Vice President Darling writes, "it is my hope that we will also have a strong representative number from each of the departmental faculty groups....."

Possible recommendation: The Faculty Senate recommends that faculty be encouraged to participate in the Fall Commencement in the same manner that they have been encouraged to participate in the Spring Commencement.

Although the faculty was not consulted in the initial decision to hold a Fall Commencement, Faculty and student members of the Convocations Committee have been fully consulted on all principal matters involving planning for the ceremony.

Possible recommendation: The Senate recommends that the administration continue to seek the recommendations of the Convocations Committee and, if these affect general plans for future commencements, bring any such before the Faculty Senate for its action.