

FACULTY SENATE ANNUAL REPORT
1983-84

Submitted by Murray Coulter, Secretary

The Faculty Senate held nine regularly scheduled meetings during the academic year (meetings #52 through #60) for the months of September 1983 through May 1984. A special Faculty Senate meeting was called by the Agenda Committee for April 25, 1984, to authorize call of a General Faculty meeting April 27, 1984, that would address special needs arising from a new tenure policy proposal presented by the University President on April 30, 1984.

The September 1983 meeting was chaired by Faculty Senate President Charles Bubany but all subsequent meetings of the academic year were chaired by William Mayer-Oakes (October through December 1983 as Vice-President in the absence of President Bubany, and January through May 1984 as president by succession following President Bubany's resignation.) In the absence of President Bubany the executive function of the Senate was carried out by the Agenda Committee consisting of Vice-President Mayer-Oakes and Secretary Coulter acting as an executive committee after November 1983. Following Senator Mayer-Oakes succession as President of the Faculty Senate, that organization continued with the addition of newly elected Vice-President Adamcik in February of 1984. President Mayer-Oakes also formed an advisory committee composed of senate committee chairpersons to assist the Agenda Committee in its planning and deliberations.

SENATE VISITORS

During the year the following guests shared information with the Faculty Senate as follows: Dr. Gene Medley, Director of Admissions and Records; September, 1983 concerning registration procedures. Dr. Robert Sweazy, Chairperson, Athletic Council, on activities and decisions coming out of the NCAA convention in Dallas on January 11, 1984. Jim Noble, Student Association President on April 25, 1984 to indicate support of the faculty's position on the newly presented tenure policy. Karen Johnson, Legal Counsel for TSTA to give observations on the proposed tenure policy. John Darling on various occasions throughout the year concerning goals of the office of academic affairs, "24 issues" of priority presented by President Cavazos to the Faculty Senate for deliberation, the new proposed tenure policy as well as the existing and old proposed policy, grievance procedures, the faculty handbook, and the Office of Research and Vice-President for Research position.

AD HOC COMMITTEES OF THE FACULTY SENATE

Ad Hoc Committee to Develop Viable Policy Recommendations on External Funding

The Senate approved the final report of the committee and instructed that it be forwarded to the President of the University for incorporation into the Operating Procedures Manual of the University.

Deadweek

The committee found no compelling need to change the current "deadweek" policy but indicated regret that no days were allowed for preparation of final examinations by the students and recommended that adjustment in the calendar be studied by an appropriate study committee of the Faculty Senate for further report.

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE FACULTY SENATE

Committee on Committees

The committee presented its report in November 1983 which included a slate of nominees to fill many vacancies. In addition, the Senate instructed the Committee on Committees to consider librarians for committee appointments in the future. At the January 11th meeting, a Nomination Committee slate was presented to the Senate.

Elections Committee

In September of 1983 the Elections Committee advised the Senate of its operational problems and reported the results of elections that it had supervised.

Academic Affairs Committee

Although the committee made no reports during the academic year the Senate referred the matter of uniform reporting dates for faculty members to that committee as well as recommendations concerning the matter of academic dishonesty.

Faculty Status and Welfare Committee

Reports were given concerning the development of the faculty handbook and the problems with its publication as well as reports concerning acceptance of a proposed tenure policy and/or replacement of the footnote in the existing tenure policy. In view of the circumstances concerning loss of the footnote in the current tenure policy the committee was directed to consider amendment of the tenure policy to incorporate the content of that missing footnote.

Senate Nominating Committee

A slate proposed by the Committee on Committees was elected on January 11 and directed to prepare a slate of officers for the next academic year as well as a slate of nominees to fill vacancies of University committees and the now vacant vice president position on the Faculty Senate. On February 8, the nominees for the replacement of the vice-president were presented as well as a slate of officers for the next academic year. Dr. Joe Adamcik, Arts & Sciences, was elected Vice-President to serve the remainder of the academic year. In the March Senate meeting, officers for the next academic year were elected as follows: President, Evelyn Davis, Home Economics; Vice-President, Ernest Sullivan, Arts & Sciences; Secretary, Henry A. Wright, Agriculture.

Budget Study Committee

Report was made concerning various considerations associated with merit salary decisions and possible policy variations. The committee recommended that the Faculty Status & Welfare Committee or one of the Faculty Senate Study Committees be charged with the investigation of the criterion that are used to determine merit salary distributions from among colleges and administrators.

Committee A & B

Committee A's report was submitted concerning administrative accountability and the committee recommended that administrators be evaluated from below as well as above. Upon submission of Committee B's final report on April 18, 1984, the Senate moved implementation of the six objectives submitted in that report as follows:

- (1) Identify the current status of faculty evaluations of chairpersons and deans.
- (2) Justify the need of faculty evaluation of administrators, including purpose and function statements.
- (3) Determine faculty interest in the process and feedback of faculty evaluation of the vice presidents and the president.

Committee A & B report continued.....

- (4) Develop a workable system for faculty evaluation of administrators.
- (5) Provide the opportunity for administrative input and cooperation of the development of the system of evaluation.
- (6) Develop policy and procedure recommendations as part of the system of evaluations.

Action on Committee B's report above relieved a need for any further action on Committee A's recommendations.

Committee C

Made a report concerning tenure track concepts in which they indicated there was feasibility for study of:

- (1) Procedures that the University could use to deal with high percentages of tenured faculty,
- (2) Determining what constitutes a reasonable percentage of tenured faculty within departments, colleges and the entire university,
- (3) Policies and procedures that help insure recruitment and retention of quality faculty.

The Senate voted that items 1 & 2 of the report be referred to the University Tenure and Privilege Committee by the President of the Faculty Senate for action this year. The third was recommended for referral to Faculty Status and Welfare Committee.

Committee D

On April 18, 1984, the Committee made reports on registration procedures and quality of classrooms on the campus. The Senate passed the motion by the Committee to direct the Academic Vice President to charge the Campus Admissions & Registration Committee with the task of studying the registration process and to provide the Faculty Senate with a report by November 15, 1984. The Committee also recommended that a Faculty Senate Standing committee be charged with evaluating the quality of classrooms across campus.

Agenda Committee

During the academic year, the Agenda Committee gave various reports related to announcements of changes in meeting schedules and locations, conferences with the President and the Academic Vice President, and status reports of the "24 issues" presented to the Senate in 1982 by President Cavazos. In addition, on November 9, 1983, the committee presented a report on the status of the faculty handbook. On December 14, 1983, it presented information on the status of the conference of faculty governance organizations and moved that Neale Pearson be designated as the Senate's additional representative for the remainder of the academic year. On February 8, 1984, it reported that the final reports of the five Senate Study committee addressing the "24 issues" presented to the Senate by the President of the University, and, on the recommendation of the Agenda Committee, the Senate approved the reports and instructed that they be forwarded to President Cavazos. Also on February 8 the Agenda Committee reported on the state Conference of Faculty Governance Organizations in Austin. It called a special Faculty Senate meeting for April 25 to authorize a special called meeting of the voting faculty of the University and to authorize a mail ballot to the voting faculty of the university concerning the proposed tenure policy. It conducted the special meeting of the voting faculty on April 27, 1983, and continued on May 11, 1983, to allow open discussions relating to the proposed tenure policy.

OTHER ACTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS BY THE FACULTY SENATE

On September 14, 1983 - elected Professor Neale Pearson as one of the Senate's representatives to attend the Council of Faculty Governance Organizations meeting in Austin on September 23, to 24.

On October 12, 1983 - amended Section VII. of the bylaws of the Faculty Senate and voted to go on record as being opposed to exempting seniors from final examinations.

On November 9, 1983 - voted to have the Faculty Status and Welfare Committee review accumulated policy and procedural changes yearly to determine when and if such changes should be incorporated into the Faculty Handbook. On the same date it passed a motion to recommend that the chairpersons of the Ethnic Studies and Women's Studies Committees be invited to join the Minority Affairs Committee and passed a motion to refer the decision of the Academic Council to establish a uniform reporting date for faculty for the spring and fall semesters 1984 to an appropriate standing committee of the Senate for its evaluation.

On December 14, 1983 - endorsed a resolution, with certain provisions, to approve publication of a new edition of the faculty handbook and voted to refer the matter of uniform reporting dates for faculty members to the Senate's Academic Affairs Committee for its consideration.

On March 7, 1984 - Senate voted to forward a resolution concerning the office of research and graduate studies to President Cavazos for his consideration. Also approved a motion for the President of the Faculty Senate to invite President Cavazos to meet with the Faculty Senate to discuss the matter of the Office of Vice-President for Research.

On May 9, 1984 - Faculty Senate passed a resolution allowing for the option of motions from the floor at the upcoming May 11, 1984 faculty meeting. It also adopted a resolution requesting that the President and the Board of Regents delay consideration of the new tenure policy and moved to request that the proposed tenure policy, preliminarily approved by the faculty and the administration in 1982, be the basis for discussion of a future tenure policy.

INDEX

	<u>Meeting #</u>	<u>Date</u>
Academic Affairs Committee (55)		
Academic Affairs Goals (52)	52	September 14, 1983
Academic Dishonesty (55)	53	October 12, 1983
Council of Faculty Governance	54	November 9, 1983
Organizations (52, 53, 55, 57)	55	December 14, 1983
Agenda Committee (51, 53, 54, 56)	56	January 11, 1984
Budget Committee (58, 59)	57	February 8, 1984
Bylaws, Faculty Senate (53)	58	March 7, 1984
Committee on Committees (54, 55)	59	April 18, 1984
Deadweek (58)	60	May 9, 1984
Election Committee (52)	Special	April 25, 1984
Ethnic Studies (54)		
External Funding (56, 57)		
Faculty Development (56, 57)		
Faculty Development and Retraining (56)		
Faculty Handbook (54, 55)		
Faculty Recruitment & Retention (56)		
Faculty Status & Welfare Committee (54, 58, 59)		
Final Exam Exemption (53)		
General Education (59)		

Index continued.....

Librarians (55)
Long-Range Planning (54, 55)
Minority Affairs (54)
Name change (53)
NCAA 956)
Nominating Committee, Faculty Senate (56, 57, 58)
Registration Procedures (52)
Research Office (58)
Southern Association Commission (59)
Study Committees (59)
Study Priorities for the Senate Proposed (56, 57)
Tenure Policy (55, 58, 59)
Twenty-four Issues from the President (52, 57)
Uniform Reporting Dates (54, 55)

Murray Coulter

Murray Coulter, Faculty Senate Secretary
1983-84