

Minutes
The Faculty Senate
Meeting #53
October 12, 1983

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, October 12, 1983, in the Senate Room of the University Center with William Mayer-Oakes, Vice President, presiding. Senators present were Adamcik, Anderson, Berlin, Bloomer, Burkhardt, Burnett, Coulter, Cummings, Davis, Dixon, Dvoracek, Eissinger, Elbow, B. Freeman, R. Freeman, Gettel, Goss, Gott, Graves, Havens, Hickerson, Hudson, McKown, McLaughlin, Oberhelman, Pearson, Richardson, Shine, Sowell, Sosebee, Sparkman, Strauss, Twyman, Welton, Wright, Wunder and Zyla. Senators Khan, Sasser, and Sullivan were ill. Senators Ayoub, Bubany, Chonko, Maynard, and Teske were absent. Senators, Mehta, Urban, Vallabhan and Williams were absent because of University business.

Guests included John R. Darling, Vice President for Academic Affairs; David Leon Higdon, Elections Committee Chairperson, Preston Lewis, University News and Publications; Dan Waggoner, President, Student Association; John Murray, Parliamentarian; Pat Graves, The Avalanche Journal; and Jeff Eubank, The University Daily.

SUMMARY OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED

At its October 12, 1983, meeting the Faculty Senate:

1. moved the March meeting date forward to March 7, 1984;
2. was given information by the Chairperson of the Faculty Senate Elections Committee, David Leon Higdon, about problems with the present nominations process;
3. heard a report on the meeting of the Conference of Faculty Governance Organizations held in Austin on September 23-24, 1983;
4. amended Section 7 of the Bylaws of the Faculty Senate;
5. considered Section 33.04 of the Operating Policy and Procedures Manual relating to the conduct of faculty;
6. voted to table a resolution related to the name of Texas Tech University, and
7. voted to go on record as being opposed to exempting seniors from final exams.

William Mayer-Oakes, Vice President, called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. and recognized the guests present.

I. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 14, 1983 MEETING & THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE 1982-83 ACADEMIC YEAR

Two corrections were noted in the minutes of the September 14, 1983 meeting. The spelling of Preston Lewis' name was incorrect and Senator Henry Shine was absent from the meeting because of University business. Oberhelman moved the minutes be approved as corrected. The motion passed.

Eissinger moved approval of the 1982-83 Annual Report of the Faculty Senate. The motion passed.

II. RESCHEDULING OF THE JANUARY AND MARCH MEETINGS

The January Senate meeting is scheduled on the 11th, the first day of the Spring semester and the March Senate meeting is scheduled on the 14th, which comes during Spring Break. Changing these meeting dates was discussed. The Agenda Committee of the Faculty Senate recommended leaving the January date as it is and changing the March meeting date to March 7. Strauss moved to accept the Agenda Committee's recommendation. The motion passed.

III. REPORT OF ELECTIONS COMMITTEE AND DISCUSSION OF FACULTY NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS

David Leon Higdon, Chairperson, Faculty Senate Elections Committee, explained the duties of this committee and cited the following recurrent problems that persist year after year: (1) nominators do not obtain the permission of persons they nominate before submitting that person's name; (2) too many persons are nominated with only one vote; and (3) this necessitates putting many more names on the ballot than is needed. Elbow, Adamcik, Shine and Zyla discussed the matter. Sowell moved that the Faculty Senate President refer the matter to a standing committee of the Senate with the request that the committee meet with the Elections Committee to study the matter further and possibly formulate a solution to these problems. The motion passed.

IV. CONFERENCE OF FACULTY GOVERNANCE ORGANIZATIONS

Pearson, representing Texas Tech, attended the Conference of Faculty Governance Organizations in Austin on September 23-24. Reporting on the activities of that meeting, he said few institutions in Texas have well defined grievance procedures and there was much skepticism voiced at the meeting that Texas Tech's recently adopted grievance procedures would work. Pearson recommended that the grievance hearing panel be urged to develop and define their operating procedures so that they could be included in the faculty handbook. Elbow, Hudson, Adamcik and Darling discussed the matter briefly.

V. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO FACULTY SENATE BYLAWS

The third sentence of Section 7 of the Bylaws of the Faculty Senate reads: "The President of the Faculty Senate can call a special meeting of the Faculty Senate when he deems it necessary." Gott proposed that the wording of this section be changed and proposed a first and second alternate wording. The first alternate reads: "The President of the Faculty Senate can call a special meeting of the Faculty Senate when this officer deems it necessary." The second proposal was: "The President of the Faculty Senate can call a special meeting of the Faculty Senate when it is deemed necessary." The Senate voted, with no opposition, in favor of the first proposal.

VI. CONSIDERATION OF SECTION 33.04 OF THE OPERATING POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL RELATING TO CONDUCT OF FACULTY

Mayer-Oakes introduced this agenda item by saying that the Agenda Committee felt it worthy of the attention of the Faculty Senate. It was pointed out that each department has a copy of the Operating Policy and Procedures Manual for the use of all faculty. Darling explained that the University has had an Operating Policy and Procedures Manual for quite some time and that presently the manual is undergoing updating and a few changes. Adamcik, Twyman, Elbow, Hudson, Havens, Zyla and Berlin discussed and asked questions concerning the policy. McKown suggested that the Senators might want to

review and compare the new policy with the old.

Darling was asked when the new Faculty Handbook will be ready and whether or not it will contain the new Tenure Policy endorsed in 1982 by the faculty and which at this time is still awaiting action by the Board of Regents. He indicated that, if the handbook is printed before action of the Regents, it will be printed with the Tenure Policy as it is in the current Faculty Handbook. (The policy will be printed in the handbook -- with the footnote -- assuming that it is a part of the original policy). Several members of the Senate indicated that it would be desirable to wait for action by the Board of Regents on the Tenure Policy so that the new Tenure Policy may be included in the Faculty Handbook, if approved by the Regents.

VII. DISCUSSION OF THE NAME OF THE UNIVERSITY

Wunder introduced the following resolution saying that he felt the university's funding problem is related to its name.

WHEREAS, Texas Tech University is a full-service educational institution serving all Texas;

WHEREAS, it is time for this University to receive full parity with the University of Texas system and the Texas A&M system;

WHEREAS, this University should assume its rightful role as the lead university of a state-based college system;

AND WHEREAS, this University should not have to compete with or lose monies to non-graduate and non-professional based state colleges;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the President of the Faculty Senate appoint a select committee to consider the impact of our University name upon our image within the state of Texas, particularly with the Texas State Legislature, for purposes of

(a) inclusion of Texas Tech University at the head of a state-based university/college system like those of the University of Texas and Texas A&M University, and

(b) full parity in the Permanent University Fund monies, to be achieved by a Texas constitutional amendment.

There was some discussion, both in agreement and against Wunder's resolution and his statement of support. Twyman called for a quorum count. A quorum was not present and Burkhardt moved the resolution be tabled. The motion to table passed.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Wunder discussed a memo, circulated in some departments on campus, which proposed exempting seniors from final exams. After a brief discussion, McLaughlin moved that the Senate go on record as being opposed to such a policy. The motion passed with one vote in opposition.

The meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

Murray W. Coulter
Murray W. Coulter, Secretary
Faculty Senate

10/24/83