

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE
ANNUAL REPORT 1988-89

The Faculty Senate met in nine regularly-scheduled sessions (nos. 99-107). There were also two called sessions June 8 and 29, to discuss and approve a Senate statement of criteria for the President). A Faculty Convocation was held November 28, and special discussions were scheduled for faculty comment on the University health insurance programs. An open forum was held for each of the four Presidential finalists.

SENATE VISITORS

President Haley attended six of the nine regular meetings and Executive Vice President Haragan attended eight of the nine meetings. Other members of the Provost's and Academic Affairs office were present at seven meetings. In October, Dr. Colette Murray reported on the Enterprise Campaign and on future development plans. Assistant Vice President for Computing Thomas Newman reported on proposed admissions standards and enrollment impacts. December visitors included Doug Saul, representing the Student Association, and Vice President for Governmental Affairs Mike Sanders. Mr. Saul asked for help with promotional efforts and Mr. Sanders summarized the outlook for the coming Legislative session. Ms. Judy Stocks reported on PASS programs in January and Dr. Don Garnett summarized TASP efforts in February. The April meeting had reports on academic status of athletes from Athletic Director T. Jones, Academic Coordinator Clint Ramsey and Athletic Council chair Dr. Robert Sweazy. Professors P.G. Christiansen and D.L. Durland reported on University library committees in May.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Faculty Status and Welfare -- Reviewed, at the Provost's request, nomination procedures and criteria for Horn Professors; reviewed, revised and brought to the Senate the University policy on Intellectual Property, approved by the Senate. It is interesting to note that this policy was introduced into the Senate during 1985-86.

Committee A -- Provided a statement to the Senate on the tenure review policy of the College of Arts & Sciences.

Committee B -- Suggested several revisions in procedures for registration, advising, student records and course dropping.

Budget Study -- Completed in-depth reports on faculty salaries in 1988-89 and 1987-88, salaries by curriculum area, salaries of women faculty, budgeting procedures and administrative costs for work-study programs.

Academic Program -- Reviewed the academic calendar and recommended days of no classes and holidays. The Senate recommended a day of no classes prior to the start of final examinations in December and May; that Labor Day be a University holiday; and that only spring commencement exercises be considered.

SPECIAL AND AD HOC COMMITTEES

Presidential qualifications -- This committee solicited statements on desired characteristics and criteria for the President from Senators and the faculty at large. A list of qualifications desirable in the eyes of the faculty was discussed and approved in the two June meetings, then forwarded to the Presidential Screening Committee.

Bylaws Revision -- Appointed in September, this committee studied the bylaws and constitution. It then recommended several changes in the bylaws, all of which were adopted at the April Senate meeting.

General Education Curriculum -- Most of the work of this committee was completed during the 1987-88 year, but the committee continued into 1988-89, at the request of Dr. Haragan. The committee presented the revised General Education curriculum to the Senate in September, which accepted it and forwarded the document to the Provost.

Research Support -- This committee, originally appointed in the 1987-88 year, completed its work and reported in April. The committee reviewed the current state of research support in the University and sent a detailed questionnaire to the faculty, asking for responses on 20 items. The committee report made 23 specific recommendations. The report was forwarded to President Haley and to Deans, Vice Presidents, Department Chairs and Horn Professors.

Faculty Promotion Voting -- This special committee recommended procedures governing the eligibility of faculty members for voting on promotion. The committee report was adopted by the Senate and forwarded to the Provost with recommendations for changes in the Faculty Handbook.

Funding for Sponsored Research -- This committee met once; its activities will be carried over to the 1989-90 year.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The Senate sponsored and convened an open forum on University insurance programs in conjunction with the University Benefits and Retirement Committee. Further study and actions will be required and the Senate recommended to the Provost that current University Benefits and Retirement committee members whose terms ended in May 1989 be continued for one more year, to provide continuity. This recommendation was accepted.

Senate members served on a Federal Demonstration Project, an effort to reduce clearance time and paperwork required for Federal grant proposals, applications and administration. A faculty questionnaire identified several areas in University and State procedures that added to administrative burdens for Federal projects.

A long-range planning effort was initiated by Senate officers, to begin during the 1989-90 year.

Respectfully submitted

Kary Mathis
Secretary 1988-89