

FACULTY SENATE ANNUAL REPORT 1991-1992

The Faculty Senate held nine scheduled meetings during the academic year, September 1991 through May 1992 (meetings #126 through #134).

The Agenda Committee members were President, Dr. Paul Goebel; Vice President, Dr. Rosslyn Smith; Secretary, Ms. Peggy Williams. Dr. John Bliese served as Parliamentarian for each meeting.

SENATOR VISITORS

September 11, 1991

Provost Donald R. Haragan - gave the Senate an update on the Strategic Planning Task Force's work and Vice President for Finance, Don E. Cosby spoke to the Senate on the Impact of the Budget Cuts.

October 9, 1991

Registrar, Don Wickard spoke to the Senate about Tech's registration system, Provost Haragan about the two percent pay raise and Vice Provost Ainsworth about copy service on campus.

November 13, 1991

No visiting speakers

December 11, 1991

Provost Donald R. Haragan spoke to the Senate about the work of the Strategic Planning Task Force saying that it has successfully completed two of its tasks, Funding for Enhancement of Programs and the approval of the Financial Exigency Plan. He said that although resources are limited, Tech is moving in the direction of a university-wide honors program. Mr. William G. Wehner, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, gave an overview of the progress and plans for the central office of development along with Robert M. Sweazy, Vice Provost for Research, who talked about the responsibilities of the Office of Research and the Office of Development.

January 15, 1992

President Robert W. Lawless spoke to the Senate concerning the fact that 64% of all public institutions received a reduction in funding this year. Provost Haragan told the Senate that he and Vice President Cosby are looking into the matter of making the TTU campus a smoke-free campus and that a draft policy will be assigned to a committee for further study.

February 12, 1992

Provost Donald R. Haragan said that the Coordinating Board has questioned the credits earned by Doctoral Candidates and suggest policy changes (acceptance of transfer hours, small classes and policy regarding new program approvals).

March 11, 1992

Provost Donald R. Haragan updated the Senate on budget cuts. Don Wickard and Gene Medley, Office of Admissions and Records, spoke about GPA weighted registration.

April 8, 1992

Ms. Cheryl Glover, Academic Coordinator, Athletic Department, spoke to the Senate about admission credentials, retention rates and graduate rates for TTU athletes.

May 6, 1992

Provost Donald R. Haragan summarized plans for future budgeting and announced that President Lawless will speak to faculty and staff on budget cuts.

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE FACULTY SENATE

Academic Programs Committee

In October this committee was charged with investigating the withdrawal date and policies on academic advising. In December the committee offered a resolution which failed. In May the committee distributed a report and made the following recommendation: The evaluation by the Senate of Academic Advising be tabled until the Recruitment, Admissions and Retention Committee completes its present investigation. The recommendation was endorsed by the Senate.

Budget Study Committee

In January the committee reviewed material from the Office of Institutional Research and a report was distributed in April. The February 1992 report of Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board made it possible to compare average nine-month faculty salaries. Texas Tech is lagging behind the state average in 1992 salaries.

Committee on Committees

This committee reported actions in September, February, March, April and May meetings involving slates of nominees for University and Senate Committees.

Faculty Status & Welfare Committee

In October this committee was charged with the investigation of day care and tuition subsidies. In February the committee reported on: (1) the financial and physical feasibility of establishing a "reasonably" priced day-care facility and (2) tuition reductions for families of faculty. The committee found that several universities do have child care facilities, most of them associated with their educational schools or departments. University Medical Center and TTUHSC conducted a feasibility study on child-care and found the annual cost to high and difficulty in obtaining a suitable site.

This committee communicated with the Office of the University Legal Counsel and was informed that the Texas Education Code prohibits exemptions of tuition for spouse and children of faculty members beyond the normal stipulation that they may register as Texas residents.

Nominating Committee

In March this committee presented a slate of candidates for the 1992-1993 Senate officers.

Study Committee A

In October this committee was charged with the investigation of health insurance for faculty and staff. A preliminary report was distributed in February and a final report in March.

Study Committee B

Charged with the study of a smoke-free environment at TTU, this committee proposed a resolution to accept and endorse the OP for a smoke-free campus. The Senate voted to support this resolution.

Study Committee C

In October this committee was charged with the investigation of the service component of faculty evaluation. In May this committee presented its findings.

The committee was charged with determining the importance of "service" in tenure and promotion decisions of the University.

Questionnaires were sent to Chair, Directors of 41 Departments, Schools or Administrative unit of the university as well as the Deans of the colleges of Architecture and School of Law. Thirty one responses were received. The survey found considerable diversity among administrators as to what activities constitute service as opposed to teaching and research for merit review purposes. There is similar lack of consensus on the weighting to be given service activities, however they might be defined. Finally, there may be some merit in making a survey of all the faculty in terms of ascertaining their feelings or attitudes toward service being given weight toward pay raises, merit pay, tenure and promotion. That is an issue for the Faculty Senate to decide it was concluded.

ACTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS BY THE FACULTY SENATE

November 13, 1992 - approved the revised Financial Exigency Plan and voted to support the recommendations of the Honors Review Committee as well as, a resolution presented by the Faculty Club Board of Governor's promoting the continuing existence and maintenance of the viability of the Faculty Club.

December 11, 1991 - Defeated the Academic Programs Committee's resolution that the drop date be extended from the 30th day to the 60th day of class.

Passed a resolution requesting that a Senate Committee explore the issue of what constitutes appropriate leave in matters that are not fully professional.

Tabled a resolution concerning a new policy of the Office of Development.

January 15, 1992
Point of information - University OP's dictate leave for a number of reasons.

A preliminary report on health insurance was distributed to Senators.

The Senate voted to accept the Smoke-free Environment OP.

February 12, 1992

Senator Elbow asked that a Senate committee study the possibility of a grade weighted system for the registration procedure.

Senator Brink requested an update from the Governor's office on the policy of out of the country travel.

March 11, 1992

The president of the Faculty Senate will prepare a recommendation suggesting that the Faculty Senate be included earlier in the budget process.

President Goebel announced that the Insurance Review Committee voted to recommend that TTU and TTUHSC join Texas Employees Uniform Group Insurance program.

April 8, 1992

Faculty Senate officers elected for 1992-93 - President, Benjamin H. Newcomb; Vice President, Candace H. Haigler; and Secretary, M. Catherine Miller.

Senator Elbow suggested that President Goebel write a letter to Provost Haragan asking him to clarify the purpose of the teacher evaluation to be used in the Spring 1992.

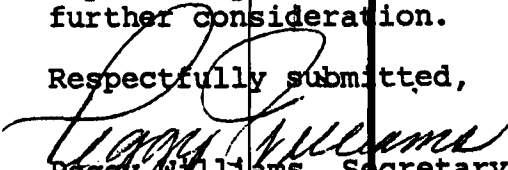
May 6, 1992

Clarification of travel restrictions: As it now stands the policy is that foreign travel paid out of state funds has been curtailed. Travel paid out of local funds, research grants and/or award funds is not affected by the policy on travel restrictions.

Senator Nathan distributed the AAUP Statement on Intercollegiate Athletic and requested that a committee be assigned to study this issue.

Senator Daghistany requested the Senate to place the service issue, as reported by Neale Pearson, Study Committee C, on the fall agenda for further consideration.

Respectfully submitted,


Peggy Williams, Secretary
1991-92