

MINUTES#186

FEBRUARY 11, 1998

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, February 11, 1998 in the Senate Room of the University Center with Edward V. George, president, presiding. Senators present were Baker, Boal, Boylan, Bremer, Burkett,

Couch, Crawford, Dornier, Elbow, El-Hindi, Floyd, Fox, Hufford, Josephson, Khan, Lan, McComb, Meaney, Miller, Olivarez, Perez, Ponticell, Reed, River, Robert, Sarkar, Schaller, Stomblor, Stout,

D. Thompson, L. Thompson, Tsai, Van Cleave and White. Senators Casadonte, Meek and Reckner were absent because of University business. Senators Corbett, Coombs, Giaccardo, Gomez, Herring, Liman, Loudon, Oler and Stinespring were absent.

I. President George called the meeting to order and introduced the following guests: Michael Shonrock, Dean of Students; Jim Burkhalter, Director of Housing & Dining; Ilena Delorso and Pamela Chalk, Wallace Bookstore; Bob Davenport, Varsity Bookstore; Dirk Rush and Chris Toelle, Double T. Bookstore; Chris Whitney, Jacob Najera and Rick Gauer, students from Communications Studies; Leslie Clem, student from Arts & Sciences; and members of the media. Provost Burns was also present for part of the meeting.

Professor Brian McGee, Communication Studies, served as Parliamentarian.

II. Approval of Minutes #185. Minutes were approved without corrections.

III. Committee Reports:

Recommendation regarding Memorials: An ad-hoc committee composed of

Senator Elbow, past faculty senate presidents Alwyn Barr, and John Howe submitted a proposed policy regarding Senate memorials. The policy passed. The complete policy can be found on the Senate webpage

(<http://www.ttu.edu/senate>).

Committee on Committees: Proposal of Nominations Committee for 1998-99:

Senator Elbow, as chair of the Committee on Committees, submitted to the Senate the names of Senators to serve on the Nominations committee for selecting candidates to run for Senate offices for the 1998-99 academic year. Senators Richard Meek, Sandra River, and Leslie Thompson were elected to serve as the nominations committee. This committee will have the responsibility of providing a list of persons willing and eligible to run for the offices of Senate President, Vice-President, and Secretary. The list of

candidates will be submitted to the Senate with the agenda for the March meeting to allow for absentee ballots. Nominations for Senate offices will be taken from the floor and the election will be conducted at the March meeting.

Faculty Status and Welfare Committee:

Spouses voting on Spouses' Tenure-The Senate was asked to examine whether there exists a need to establish a policy on spouses voting on spouses' tenure. The committee submitted a report to the Senate; this report can be found on the Senate webpage. The basis of the report was the view that we should not develop a policy. There was discussion both for and against the recommendation of the committee. No formal recommendation was made, thus the report of the committee stands.

Report on the Honors College Proposal- The Faculty Status and Welfare Committee provided a report regarding the Honors College whose implementation has been directed by the Board of Regents. The complete report can be found on the Senate webpage. Senators expressed concern about the creation of a separate Honors faculty. Senator Elbow suggested that the Senate's vote on this issue may have serious impact on the future of the Honors College and we should be sure to have all relevant information prior to voting. Senator Miller expressed concern about how hiring will take place for such a college, specifically whether there would be faculty hired solely for the Honors College or with joint appointments in other academic units. After considerable discussion President George informed the Senate that the agenda committee will look into what decisions have been made regarding the Honors College and report any information to the Senate at the March meeting.

Research Council: Senator Ponticell provided the Senate with a summary of the February 4, 1998 Research Council meeting; minutes can be found on the Senate webpage. Senator Ponticell asked Senators to pay particular attention to Item #4:

Addition of Active Researchers (Principal Investigators) to the Research Council. The report from the Strategic Planning Task Force on Research recommended that a Council of Principal Investigators be formed to oversee problems that occur with grant management. A discussion among Research Council members indicated that grant management can be problematic, particularly with payroll and purchasing. Different rules that "can't be broken" appear to apply in different departments; different people in the same office will provide conflicting information. The accounting system overall was not designed for grant management or principal investigators.

A second discussion occurred regarding what vehicle of representation will best address principal investigators' concerns? A Council of Principal Investigators? A subcommittee of Research Council which includes PI's? An advocacy or ombudsman group that works at problem identification and provides leadership in problem solution?

IV. Unfinished Business: There was no unfinished business.

V. Invited Guests: Dr. Michael Shronrock, Dean of Students, addressed the Faculty Senate regarding the recent problems that have occurred involving Greek organizations associated with the University. Dr. Shronrock informed the Senate that many years ago there was a policy on campuses called "in loco parentis" whereby the University accepted the responsibility of acting "in place of the parents". This policy no longer exists on college campuses. Fraternities and sororities on campus are merely registered student organizations: thus the University is limited to the extent it can monitor or control activity off campus. One exception to this limitation is the Campus Crimes Act of 1990, a federal law that allows the University to adjudicate sex offenses on behalf of a victim. Another exception to limitations is a state law related to the education code for hazing. This activity that occurs off campus is often left to civil or criminal procedures outside of the University. The University can revoke the registration of a student organization that is registered; however, a fraternity or sorority can still exist as a group without being a registered student organization. Student groups who have their registration suspended are not allowed to participate in University activities. Senator Baker expressed concern that these student organizations are using Tech's name and the news sources are referring to these organizations as being associated with Tech. He suggested that we work on public relations to separate Texas Tech's name from such organizations. Senator Elbow suggested the Dean of Students office look at a recent article in the New York Times on public schools, in the Boston area, that have begun to extend disciplinary action off campus. It is somewhat controversial, but may be interesting to look at. Senator Stomblor asked what is the maximum penalty that could be issued to a student group. Dr. Shronrock responded that disciplinary expulsion from the University is an option. Senator Elbow suggested that some type of sexual harassment training should be required for all student groups to become a registered student organization. Senator Couch asked what would be the ramifications of totally disassociating ourselves from all social groups. Dr. Shronrock responded that this has been done by some Universities, especially on the east coast. Several years ago this was attempted by the University of Texas and the groups continued to exist, merely without the association with the University. Dr. Shronrock thanked the Senate for their interest and concern about student organizations and suggested that faculty should be encouraged to get involved as sponsors to these student groups to provide guidance.

VI. New Business: Bookstore Issue- President George invited the managers from the three main bookstores (Double T, Varsity, and Wallace's) serving the university to the Senate meeting to answer questions. President George announced that he had previously met with the three managers who agreed to develop a common policy regarding the sharing of orders among the bookstores. Senator Schaller expressed concern that books were being sent back to the publisher one-month into the semester. Wallace's manager said that any faculty wanting books held throughout the semester only need inform the bookstore and the books will be kept in stock. Senator Reed expressed concern about the way in which books are ordered; specifically, if orders are shared among the three bookstores, is there any guarantee that enough total books will be ordered? Bookstore managers responded that they are running a business and they order the number of books they think they can sell, based on previous sales of books. They will make every effort to get textbooks here on time and will even pay the extra shipping for rush deliveries.

VII. Announcements

1. A copy of the Senate's January memorial to Dr. Virginia Sowell was forwarded to Dr. Sowell's family.
2. The process of elections to the Senate will begin with an invitation for nominations to be sent out February 23. Deadlines for return of nominations will be March 12. Twenty five vacancies will be involved. Please prepare to seek qualified nominees and encourage your colleagues to do likewise.
3. Faculty Workload Committee. The University-wide Faculty workload committee, chaired by Prof. Richard McGlynn, is preparing to send a questionnaire to chairs and deans, asking their opinions on the effectiveness of O.P. 32.18, the current workload policy. Comments to faculty members' chairs on this subject will be timely. Faculty is invited to forward comments to Dr. McGlynn (djn73@ttacs.ttu.edu) or to Vice Provost Brink.
4. Senate President George discussed the Senate's January resolutions regarding the Bookstore with President Haragan. Dr. Haragan was interested by the Budget Study Committee's report. He expressed the opinion that while he sees nothing inappropriate in principle about support for the Athletic Department from outside sources, he is doubtful that the Bookstore is an appropriate outside source for this purpose. He undertook to do further investigating and to get back to the Senate.
5. Post Tenure Review- We anticipate that at its April 13th meeting (postponed from early March) the Board of Regents will consider the draft agreed upon last year by the faculty and administration. We are still awaiting the completion of a draft that will constitute the Health Sciences Center's Post Tenure Review Policy.
6. AAHE conference. Senate President George and Secretary Dornier accompanied Provost Burns and Vice Provost Brink in attending the American Association for Higher Education Conference on Faculty Work and Rewards in Orlando, FL, January 29-February 1. Information from the conference will be posted on the Senate webpage.
7. Irregularities in appointment of committee members. Committee on Committees Chair Gary Elbow, in the process of surveying for committee openings prior to nominations for 1998-99, has observed a number of discrepancies between committee charges and committee structure and appointment procedures. He has provided Provost Burns and Student Affairs Vice President Ewalt with a list of these discrepancies, which Dr. Burns is now addressing.
8. Core curriculum and the State. The University's General Education Committee will be considering a response to the Coordinating Board on the preliminary report on the core curriculum. That response needs to go to the CB by February 20th. Dr. Burns

recommends that the faculty read what the committee has done so far and perhaps offer a response through him. You can see their report by accessing:

<http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/divisions/ctc/ip/core/toc.htm> or

<http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/divisions/ctc/ip/core/draft3.htm>

VIII. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Lanie Dornier, Secretary 1997-98