Minutes #187

MARCH 11, 1998

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, March 11, 1998 in the Senate Room of the University Center with Edward V. George, president, presiding. Senators present were Baker, Boal, Boylan, Bremer, Burkett, Casadonte, Corbett, Couch, Dornier, Elbow, Floyd, Fox, Giaccardo, Gomez, Herring, Hufford, Josephson, Lan, Louden, Meaney, Meek, Miller, Peek, Perez, Ponticell, Reckner, Reed, River, Robert, Sarkar, Schaller, Stinespring, Stombler, Stout, D. Thompson, L. Thompson, Tsai, and White. Senators Crawford, Liman and Olivarez were absent because of University business. Senators Coombs, El-Hindi, Khan, McComb, Oler and Van Cleave were absent.

I. President George called the meeting to order and introduced the following guests: Donald R. Haragan, President, John Burns, Provost; James Brink, Vice Provost/Interim Vice President for Enrollment Management; Jim Brunjes, Vice President for Fiscal Affairs; Ginger Pope and Daniel Kerr, University Daily; and Leslie Clem, student from the College of Arts & Sciences.

Professor Brian McGee, Communication Studies, served as Parliamentarian.

II. Approval of Minutes #186. The minutes from the last meeting had an incorrect email address for Richard McGlynn. His correct email address is r.mcglynn@ttu.edu. Minutes were approved with the noted correction.

III. Invited Guests:

President Haragan addressed the Senate about the proposed Honors College. President Haragan stated that we now have a charge from the Board of Regents to create an Honors College and he is in favor of the establishment of an Honors College. This move upgrades the role of the Honors Program and gives recognition to the University. President Haragan stated that he understands the problems associated with the establishment of a new college, in particular how to establish a rewards system and how faculty in such a college will be evaluated. He indicated that the Faculty Senate should offer suggestions about these issues. President Haragan stated that we do not necessarily need to design a college to be in line with the way other similar colleges are designed. We need to design the college that is best for Texas Tech. He expressed support for the establishment of a core faculty that belongs to the college. He understands the downsides to this system and is willing to examine all options. He suggested we could establish the college with the faculty relationships we now have in place: specifically, having joint appointments with major decisions such as salary and tenure and promotion being made within a faculty member's college with participation from the Honors College. Initially, joint appointments should be given only to tenured faculty until we have worked out precisely how to treat faculty who are on a probationary status. The establishment of an Honors College will not be costly to the University. President Haragan is in support of

the Senate establishing a committee to provide recommendations related to the guidelines for running such a college, particularly regarding faculty advancement and faculty rewards. He hopes the committee will be able to provide recommendations before the end of the semester, but realizes this may not be possible. Perhaps at least some recommendations could be made by the end of the semester. There is no need to decide whether we need a college or not; this question has already been decided. President Haragan expressed his support of the Honors Program and he is pleased with the progress this program has made.

Senator Boal asked President Haragan how amenable he will be to the recommendations of a committee. President Haragan replied that it would take a lot to convince him that we should not establish an Honors College; however, he will take the recommendations seriously and he is completely open to the suggestions of a Senate committee. Senator Reckner expressed support for this program and stated that he is pleased we are giving recognition to academics at the University.

President Haragan took this opportunity to address the Senate about several other issues of interest. The first issue concerned the establishment of a College of Fine Arts. There has been a recommendation, the second over the past twenty years, to establish a separate College of Fine Arts. President Haragan expressed support for this and will discuss this with the Regents. In contrast to an Honors College, the establishment of a College of Fine Arts will be an expensive endeavor and should be examined in light of other priorities and resources that. He is agreement with the concept but cites the need to be very careful in considering the costs.

Issue number two related to the need at Texas Tech for additional faculty. This is one of the biggest shortcomings at the University. We have never fully recovered from the massive cuts we took in the 80's. Texas Tech University has one of the highest faculty workloads of any University in the state. He is aware we need to correct this, but again this will require resources and prioritizing our needs. The third issue was the success of our regional centers in Houston, Dallas and Austin, with an upcoming center to be established in El Paso. These centers, along with the establishment of scholarships, have improved the student population at Texas Tech University. The fourth issue was study abroad. President Haragan expressed interest in developing our study abroad programs. He has provided small stipends for presidential scholars to study abroad this summer and hopes that this program will grow in the future.

President George asked President Haragan if there is any plan to increase the number of faculty development leaves granted each year given that the majority of publicity for faculty in the capital campaign is for endowed chair positions. President Haragan responded that the 18 faculty development leaves now provided is a random number that was created some years ago and efforts should be made to increase this number. Senator Stombler asked President Haragan to respond to the rumor that faculty will not be receiving a raise this year, but will be given a "one-time" bonus. President Haragan stated that this is true and that this arrangement is not a University decision. We knew at the time of the last legislative session that any money appropriated for faculty salaries was

appropriated for the first year of the biennium and that there was no money available for faculty raises in the second year. It is his contention that we could give a bonus this year and that if money in future years is sufficient we could include that bonus as part of the base salary. There is a strong push to encourage legislators to provide funds to increase faculty salaries. President Haragan stated that if Texas Tech is going to achieve the goals that it has set there needs to be recognition in Austin by the legislature that we need to move to a different level, and be funded differently. He suggested we can look at California, where there are nine major research universities that are funded differently by the state than other colleges and universities, then look at federal dollars that are filtered into the state as a result of all of the colleges and universities. It is not merely higher education, but also economic development that is bringing more dollars to the state. Senator Miller asked President Haragan to comment on the UD's article on privatization. President Haragan responded that there is continued talk of privatization. We need to be very careful in making these decisions. There is some benefit to having our "own people" who feel a part of the University. It is not something that we should not do, we should merely be careful in making these decisions.

Vice President for Fiscal Affairs, Jim Brunjes addressed the Senate regarding HEAF fund disposition. HEAF is the name adopted for the constitutionally dedicated fund committed to all colleges and universities not receiving PUF bond proceeds. It is a capital fund that can be used for only four purposes; library acquisitions, new construction on campus, major repairs, and equipment. The original allocation was \$100 million for a ten-year period from 1986-1995. The legislature amended this through a constitutional amendment to \$175 million for the next ten-year period, which is 1996-2005. There is an adjustment that can be made after the fifth year. The annual allocation to Texas Tech is \$16,887,085. Vice-President Brunjes provided the Senate with a handouts outlining the major allocations of this money. These handouts are attached to the minutes. Senator Hufford asked Vice-President Brunjes about the decrease in allocation for technology from \$676,730 in 1996 to \$233,857 in 2005. Given that the administration has expressed interest in expanding the use of technology, specifically with regard to distance education, will funds come from other sources? Vice-President Brunjes responded that funds could be generated from other sources, perhaps even generated funds from the distance education programs to support technology. Senator Floyd asked the estimated cost of the proposed parking decks. Vice-President Brunjes responded that the current estimated cost is \$6000 per space. Decisions have yet to be made regarding where and how many spaces will be provided by parking decks. Currently there is only one parking structure has been planned and committed to in terms of funds. Senator Giaccardo asked why Architecture was previously on the list of buildings to receive HEAF allocation for renovation although now it is not on the list. Vice-President Brunjes responded that strategic planning was done in consultation with the Chancellor's office and this list reflects priorities that were established. A question was asked as to how money is divided that is allocated to academic units. Provost Burns responded that each college submits requests and money is allocated based on these requests. The Senate allowed Professor Held the floor to ask a question. Professor Held asked where start-up funds for new faculty will come from on this list. Vice-President Brunjes said that each college

apportions out a percentage of money received for the academic unit to use for this purpose.

IV. Election of Senate Officers. The elections committee handed out ballots for election of Senate officers. New officers for the 1998-99 term are:

President- Tim Floyd, Law School

Vice-President- Judith Ponticell, Education

Secretary- Nancy Reed, Arts & Sciences

V. Senate Reports. Study Committee A provided the Senate with a report regarding the need for student groups to receive sexual harassment training. This report is available on the Senate webpage (http://www.ttu.edu/~senate) under reports. The report will be discussed at the next Senate meeting in April.

VI. Unfinished Business. There was no unfinished business.

VII. New Business. Report of Committee on Committees: Senator Elbow presented the nominations for University Council and Committees for the 1998-99 academic year. The complete list is available on the senate webpage (http://www.ttu.edu/~senate) under reports. The vote on the slate of candidates passed unanimously.

Resolution presented by the Agenda Committee to create an ad hoc committee to study the Honors college. The complete resolution with charges to the committee can be found on the senate webpage under reports. The resolution passed unanimously.

Resolution on recommended Committee Members: A resolution was proposed by Senator Elbow recommending the members of this committee. Recommended committee members are James Graves, Agriculture; Ben Newcomb, and Mindy Stombler, Arts & Sciences; Scott Hein, Business Administration; Judith Ponticell, Education; James Gregory, Engineering, and Sue Couch, Human Sciences. The resolution passed.

Resolutions from Study Committee A regarding Hensley motions: At the end of last academic year former Senator Hensley made a motion, that was seconded, which stated that the Senate investigate the mismanagement of academic affairs at Texas Tech University. Study Committee A examined the Hensley motions and proposed two resolutions regarding his motions.

Resolution 1 states "Unless it is an item of immediate, pressing urgency for the University, the Faculty Senate requests that a summary of any items for general consideration by the Faculty Senate from Administration and Staff members at Texas Tech be submitted with the regular agenda mailing to the Faculty Senate for review at least one week before the relevant Faculty Senate meeting, or that the items be submitted electronically for posting on the Faculty Senate webpage in a timely fashion prior to its discussion at a Faculty Senate meeting." Vote on the resolution passed.

Resolution 2 was withdrawn to be considered at the April Senate meeting.

Motion to Congratulate the Lady Raiders: Senator Baker made a motion, Senator Couch seconded, that the Faculty Senate congratulate the Lady Raiders on winning the Big 12 and the Big 12 tournament and receiving a NCAA bid and wish them well in their bid for the NCAA National championship. Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Announcements

1. Nominees for University committees and for Faculty Senate positions are coming in slowly. Please do what you can to engage the interest of qualified faculty in being named for these positions.

2. The Board of Regents will have a telephone conference meeting Thursday, march 12, at 8:30 AM, based in the Board Room, 201 Administration Bldg. Topics of interest include: a. changes in academic rank and granting of academic tenure. b. approval of student fees for fall 1998 and vehicle registration fees for faculty, staff, and students for fiscal 1999. c. authorization of contracts with the City of Lubbock for economic development. The next subsequent meeting of the Board is scheduled for Monday, April 13, 1998.

3. Post Tenure Review. The Faculty Senate's recommendations regarding the Board's Guidelines and the University's procedures have been in a form agreed to with the University administration since October 1997. Further passage of the recommendations to the Board have presumably been awaiting completion of similar recommendations by the faculty of the Health Sciences Center. I am now taking steps to determine the reasons for the slow movement of this matter through channels.

4. Texas Council of Faculty Senates: Meeting, Feb. 20-21, in Austin. President George was in attendance. See the report on the Senate webpage.

IX. Adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm.