

**TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
MINUTES #193 - FACULTY SENATE
DECEMBER 9, 1998**

The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, December 9, 1998 in the Senate Room of the University Center with Judith Ponticell, vice-president, presiding. Senators present were Herring, Thorvilson, Shin, Dornier, Dunham, Hartwell, Held, Newcomb, A. Perez, G. Perez, Reed, Robert, Stein, Stinespring, Stombler, Whitlark, Boal, White, Hartmeister, Burkett, Liman, Hoover, Boylan, Farley, Lan, Peek, Pigott, Becker, Trost and Brian McGee, parliamentarian. Senators Reckner, Bremer, Khan, Spallholz, Floyd, Couch, Crawford and Meaney were absent because of University business. Senators Misra, Loudon, Baker, Borst, Drager, Lodhi, McComb, Rylander, Tuman, Gomez, Oler, Sarkar, Thompson, Cochran, Olivarez were absent from the meeting.

I. Call To Order was announced by Vice President Judith Ponticell at 3:18 p.m. President Timothy W. Floyd was absent due to University business.

II. Recognition of Guests – Vice President Judith Ponticell recognized the following guests: John Burns, Provost; Jim Brink, Vice Provost; Elizabeth Hall, Assistant Provost; Kara Altenbaumer, Avalanche Journal.

III. Approval of Minutes #192.

The minutes from the meeting of November 11, 1998, were approved with the following two corrections. While the report from the Faculty Status and Welfare Committee concerning the need of Graduate Faculty Status was presented with no action taken, a brief discussion did occur during which some concern was voiced regarding the elimination of Graduate Faculty status. Secondly, Senator Hartmeister requested that his absence from the November meeting be noted as due to a death in his family.

IV. Presentations:

Senator Becker presented a Library Survey Questionnaire and requested that the senators please respond by the conclusion of today's meeting or by the end of the week. The Library will use the responses to set and achieve goals within the next three to five years. Senator Trost added that the questionnaire was part of a strategic planning process taking place in the Library. So far, the questionnaire has been distributed only to the members of the Faculty Senate. Plans to distribute it more widely will depend on the number of responses from the Senate.

V. Reports of Councils and Committees:

Senator Reed presented a report from the meeting of the Texas Council of Faculty Senates held in Austin October 23-24, 1998. Of particular attention are the two opportunities to apply for grants to study issues which would have a state-wide

interest and to apply for the summer Fellow Internship Program to work at the Coordinating Board in May.

VI. Announcements:

Vice President Ponticell reported that the Graduate Council now expects to have a response to the Faculty Senate in February concerning the elimination of Graduate Faculty Status. Council member Professor Donald Rude is drafting the response. Interested parties are encouraged to contact him directly. Vice President Ponticell also read off a list of the charges for the several Senate Committees, pointing out that some are new issues. The Academic Programs Committee continues to study the campus-wide computer upgrade issue as well as changes proposed by the Graduate School for graduate admissions and now also how changes in the registration and TECHSIS generally will affect faculty responsibilities and academic regulations. The Budget Study Committee continues working on the financial aspects of parking under the new Master Plan proposals and in addition, is looking into the status of the faculty/staff scholarship fund. The Faculty Status and Welfare Committee continues to study proposals for the formation of the College of Fine Arts and, in addition, is looking into benefits of non-married faculty members of Texas Tech University and also collegiality as part of the tenure review procedures. Senate Study Committee A is considering the student evaluation forms of the faculty and also conduct of student organizations off campus and prayer at the football games as directed in O.P. 10.05. Senate Study Committee B is considering the Master Plan parking situation relative to matters other than cost and also the future of the Texas Tech Bookstore. Senate Study Committee C is looking into the efforts of Texas Tech University to become a Research I institution and also is considering if the Grievance Policy should be amended to name as respondents faculty members who voted on the decision being grieved. Study Committee C also needs to name its chair and let the Senate office know. Currently, Senator Meaney is the convener only. Senator Robert asked where previous information on the bookstore issue was available and was directed to files in the Senate office. She also asked how topics for committee assignments were selected. Vice President Ponticell responded that some constitute old business, others come from individual requests, and still other topics are charges from other committees or councils on campus which the Senate is requested to consider.

VII. **Adjournment** -- with no further business or announcements coming before the Senate, the meeting was adjourned by Vice President Ponticell at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy B. Reed
Secretary 1998-1999