

Faculty Senate Minutes
Nov. 8, 2017 #352

Senators Present Were: Boren, Pease, Sharma, Zook, Zugay, Al-Hmoud, Barenberg, Brittsan, Johnson, Jonsson, Lavigne, Legacey, Mayer, McCheney, Pare, Singh, Thacker, Thompson, Dass, Romi, Matteson, Fedler, Karp, Nejat, Snoeyink, Hodes, Blum, Jai, Weiser, Cochran, King, Litsey, McEniry, Gring, Keene, Flueckiger, Meek, CM Smith and Strieder.

Senators Excused Were: Verble, Calkins, Couch, Forbis, Ireland, Juan, Kaye, Mosher, Rice, Rider, Skidmore, Wilde, Williams, Zdenek, Crews, Siwatu, Hernandez, Zuo, Ivey, Kalenkoski, Henry, Bucy, Langford, Stetson and Wascoe-Hays.

- **Call to order – Ryan Litsey, Faculty Senate Vice-President**

- **Approval of minutes, Meeting #351, October 11, 2017 – 3:18pm**
 - Motion to approve – Senator Gring
 - Second Senator Matteson
 - Minutes approved unanimously

- **Introduction of Guests – 3:18pm**
 - **Guests were:** Genevieve Durham DeCesaro-Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, Senior Vice Provost Rob Stewart, Alice Young-Associate Vice President for Research. S. Ramkumar-Parliamentarian, Jean Pearson Scott-Ombudsperson, Ashlee Brown-Staff Senate, Andy King-IRB Liaison.

- **Speakers – 3:19pm**
 - **Genevieve Durham DeCesaro, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs**
 - **New Commencement Procedures**
 - University is reaching capacity in United Supermarkets Arena, no larger indoor venue available
 - Sent out proposal 2.5 weeks ago to various constituencies
 - No changes proposed for current academic year
 - Starting December 2018
 - eliminate summer commencement
 - low numbers, can save significant money
 - students slated to graduate in summer can walk in May/December (details TBD)
 - will use savings to purchase commencement software allowing us to accommodate more students at each ceremony
 - will read all names, degrees and honors will be projected on the Jumbotron
 - can do 1400 students in the time it used to take for 1000
 - students will be required to RSVP, will get limited number of tickets for family and friends

- Please send comments and suggestions to commencement@ttu.edu.

Question Senator Gring: Do we know the average number of guests students bring?

Answer Vice Provost Durham DeCesaro: We have no idea what the numbers are. We do know that some graduates bring 20 or more, but the issue is that there is no larger venue in Lubbock with a roof.

Question Senator Weiser: Our graduate students like to see their fellow students graduate. Have any provisions been made for that?

Answer Vice Provost Durham DeCesaro: We haven't discussed this yet. Staff Senate has also asked about tickets for staff.

Question Senator Gring: What about holding commencement outside to accommodate larger numbers?

Answer Vice Provost Durham DeCesaro: Jones Stadium would be great, but there are concerns about the weather. There was a proposal to do one big ceremony in May, but this is not a good weather month, and no one wants to cancel.

Question Senator Al-Hmoud: what would happen in the case of a grad student who defends after March 15? Could they walk in May? Would they have to register for hours in the summer?

Answer Vice Provost Durham DeCesaro: This hasn't been decided, but perhaps the schedule could be adjusted.

Question Senator Gring: Could a ceremony be held just for MA students?

Answer Vice Provost Durham DeCesaro: The colleges are welcome to do whatever they like, but we can't accommodate it at the university level.

- **Dr. Rob Stewart, Senior Vice Provost – 3:32 PM**
 - Update on the Faculty Success Task Force
 - 3 meetings since August, discussing the key questions of do we need to make changes, and what should they look like?
 - 2 foci have emerged: helping chairs advise associate/full professors, helping tenured professors find pathways for new strengths
 - Subcommittee established for each of these
 - All about success, no assumptions about outcomes
- **Dr. Alice M. Young, Associate Vice President for Research- 3:36 PM**
 - **Establishing a TTU Advisory Committee on Research Misconduct and Authorship**
 - Serves as NSF/NIH Research Integrity Officer

- Receives allegations from inside/outside University
- OP 74.08: assessment, inquiry, investigation (committee)
- Should TTU use a committee at inquiry stage? Not required, many large universities do this
 - E.g., standing committee, long cycle?
- Authorship disputes are also increasing
 - Some large schools have a standing authorship dispute board
 - Duke policy looks like it could be a model
- Should TTU consider standing committee(s) to conduct research integrity inquiries and/or authorship disputes?

Question Senator Dass: Are we talking about one committee to do both, or separate one for each?

Answer Associate Vice President Young: We have to take into account the frequency and burden of investigations. There are only 60 days for inquiry process, a lot of work.

Question Senator Pare: Is this initiated by demand, or is it in anticipation of greater demand in the future?

Answer Associate Vice President Young: Most large institutions have committees for integrity inquiries. Regarding authorship, it's about anticipating future demand. Authorship disputes are doubling yearly.

Question Senator Sharma: Couldn't this be handled with ad hoc committees depending on the field in question?

Answer Associate Vice President Young: I don't have mechanisms to set these committees up in all cases: for misconduct yes, authorship no. It would be useful not to have to start fresh each time.

- **Old Business – 3:45**
- **Title IX/Campus Climate Committee – VP Litsey**
 - Senate officers met with Elizabeth Sharp (interim vice president of the Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity & Community Engagement), Wendy-Adele Humphrey (Chair, President's Gender Equity Council), Kimberly Simon (Title IX Coordinator), Jean Pearson Scott (Ombudsperson)
 - Discussed ways to improve faculty reporting environment.
 - Decided to convene a Campus Climate Committee as a standing committee of the Senate. Those interested in serving should contact Patty or a Senate officer.
- **OP 32.17 – Faculty Status and Welfare- Senator Cochran**
 - Motion to take issue of OP 32.17 from the table

- Motion by Senator Dass
 - Second Senator Pare
- Motion to revise section 3a to track with 1a
 - Passes unanimously
- Faculty Status and Welfare discuss four options for voting on continuous appointments of Professors of Practice – no consensus from committee
 - (1) only tenured faculty vote; (2) tenured and tenure-track faculty vote; (3) tenured faculty and professors of practice with continuing appointments vote; (4) tenured and tenure-track faculty and professors of practice with continuing appointments vote.
- Motion for a secret ballot
 - Passes unanimously
- Discussion of motion to accept one of 4 options
- First round of voting
 - 20 for option 1, 0 for option 2, 19 for option 3, 0 for option 4 (3 absentee ballots included in vote tallies)
- Discussion for/against options 1 & 3
- Second round of voting
 - 22 for option 1, 17 for option 3
 - Option 1 language passes
- **Subcommittee B report on ORS survey- Senator Fedler**
 - 31% response rate
 - Generally positive: 60% satisfied with pre-award, 6% dissatisfied
 - Post-award 7% dissatisfied, 31% satisfied
 - Of those with concerns, 67% got a good response
 - Overall high level of satisfaction
 - Full report will be emailed to Senate
- **Study Committee C update – 3rd Year Review – Parliamentarian Ramkumar**
 - Would like to have a document to vote on at December meeting, send it back to Provost, have a policy in place by May 2018
- **New Business – 4:35 PM**
 - **TTU Advisory Committee on Research Misconduct and Authorship – VP Litsey**
 - Who is interested in the Senate taking up this issue?
 - Email Patty or Senate Officers if interested in serving
- **Liaison Reports - 4:40 PM**
 - **Dean's Search Committee, CASNR – Senator Blum**
 - Meeting since summer
 - 10 Skype interviews conducted
 - 4 candidates to be brought to campus at end Nov./early Dec.
 - **Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Committee – Senator Barenberg**
 - If you have any traffic, parking, cycling, pedestrian concerns, please email me.

- **Announcements - 4:42 PM**
 - **Parliamentarian Ramkumar:** AAUP meeting with the President, 3 PM Nov. 28, Library 309. Please email me questions
 - **Senator Lavigne:** the Humanities Center will host a talk by Florence Reed from Sustainable Harvest at 5:30 PM on Thursday, Nov. 9 in the Escondido Theater (SUB)

- **Adjournment 4:45**