

**Faculty Senate Minutes**  
**Oct. 11, 2017 #351**

**Senators Present Were:** Pease, Sharma, Zook, Zugay, Al-Hmoud, Barenberg, Brittsan, Couch, Ireland, Johnson, Jonsson, Juan, Lavigne, Mosher, Pare, Rider, Singh, Thacker, Thompson, Wilde, Williams, Romi, Matteson, Siwatu, Fedler, Karp, Nejat, Zuo, Hodes, Blum, Kalenkoski, Weiser, Cochran, Henry, King, Litsey, McEniry, Bucy, Langford, Flueckiger, Meek, Stetson, and Strieder.

**Senators Excused Were:** Boren, Verble, Calkins, Forbis, Kaye, Legacey, Mayer, McCheney, Rice, Skidmore, Zdenek, Dass, Crews, Hernandez, Snoeyink, Ivey, Jai, Gring, Keene, CM Smith and Wascoe-Hays.

- **Call to order – Dr. Gene Wilde, Faculty Senate President**
- **Approval of minutes, Meeting #349, May 10, 2017 – 3:15pm**
  - Motion to approve – Senator Fedler
  - Minutes approved unanimously
- **Introduction of Guests**
  - **Guests were:** Dr. Ralph Ferguson from the Ethics Center, Lora Lopez from the Ethic Center, Senior Vice Provost Rob Stewart, S. Ramkumar-Parliamentarian, Jean Pearson Scott-Ombudsperson, Ashlee Brown-Staff Senate, CassiDe Street-IRB liaison and Professor Lewis Held.
- **Speakers – 3:17pm**
  - **Ralph Ferguson, TTU Ethics Center**
    - Global Ethics Day coming up next week, you may have received emails (if not, will go out)
    - Reaching across the University, promoting programs with students and faculty
    - Global Ethics Day at Law School
      - Speakers: Seana Willing, Jack Nowlin, Stephen Ekwaro-Osire
      - 50-120 people attend, streaming online with Carnegie Council for Ethics and International Affairs (3,000-4,000 people total)
      - Ethics Faculty Symposium will be standalone next year with paper competition
        - Prizes to cover travel costs for faculty/students
        - Reviewed by independent committee
      - "Fragile Trust" event – plagiarism
        - Create seminars for students/faculty
      - Annual Report will circulate soon

- E-Journal launched last year, will continue (articles from HSC, Law School, Symposium)
      - Soliciting papers from department symposia, conferences
      - Through Texas Digital Library platform
- **Old Business – 3:25 - None**
- **New Business – 3:26**
  - **Title IX Issues**
    - Speaker – President Wilde
    - Senate agenda committee has discussed issues of Title IX violations and reporting on campus. Have discussed concerns with President Schovanec. Will meet with Faculty Ombudsperson, Title IX Coordinator, and others parties to discuss how faculty Senate can help with faculty reporting complaints.
  - **Committee Report, Study Committee C**
    - Report – Senator Meek
      - Study Committee C met briefly to discuss comments from Deans and Provost on draft Third Year review OP
      - The committee expressed unanimous sentiment of the need for a third-level evaluation before deans in Third Year Review cases
      - Brought to Senate for further discussion
    - Discussion - S. Ramkumar
      - Provost wants an OP on the books by May 2018
      - Recap of draft OP passed by Senate in May 2017: ensures transparency and strict deadlines
      - Only current sticking point with administration is the need for a third level of evaluation before the deans
      - Suggestion that if we propose the college-level Tenure and Promotion Committee as the third level of evaluation this would likely be accepted by Provost and Deans
      - Essential to mirror the process in 32.01 (Tenure and Promotion) to prevent complications and lawsuits.
    - President Wilde calls for informal straw poll: should the committee consider the suggestion of adding the college-level T&P committees as the third level in case of a negative outcome at the department level?
      - Majority positive vote in response to straw poll
  - **Committee Report: Faculty Status and Welfare Committee**
    - Report – Secretary Barenberg
      - Motion to accept OPs 32.30, 40.04, 70.36 without discussion since changes are trivial
        - Motion passes unanimously
      - Motion to accept changes recommended for OP 32.17

- Discussion
  - Vice President Litsey: I would encourage keeping the language as "academic unit" in 2e5 to ensure that other professors of practice would be able to vote rather than just tenured/tenure-track faculty. Proposed amendment to leave as "academic unit."
- Discussion by Faculty Status and Welfare Committee
  - Lewis Held: Purpose for this change is to prevent possibility of political intervention to force a department to hire a Professor of Practice. This is a safeguard for academic freedom and shared governance.
  - Vice President Litsey: Professors of Practice should also be evaluated by their colleagues.
  - Senator Weiser: If we include only tenured faculty and professors of practice, do we exclude the tenure-track faculty?
  - Secretary Barenberg: It would simplify things to leave the language as originally proposed in the committee report.
- Proposal by President Wilde to table this discussion of OP 32.17 and send it back to the committee for further discussion?
  - Motion made by Senator Kalenkoski
  - Second by Senator King
  - Motion passes, 17-16
- Question from Senator Sharma: Is it possible to send options for the Senate on how this article might be worded?
- Senator Barenberg: We can present options at the next meeting
- Motion to accept changes recommended for OP 32.21
  - Motion passes (1 against)
- Motion to accept changes recommended for OP 70.32
  - Motion passes unanimously
- Motion to accept changes recommended for OP 74.04
  - Discussion:
    - Senator Lavigne: are these revisions based on policies from peer institutions?
    - Lewis Held: The changes were inserted by the chief council of the University. We can stand on our own and follow common sense. You don't tax students and expect them to give back.

- Motion passes (1 against)
- Comment from President Wilde: we can either have the committee pass them pro forma (with my approval), or send every OP to the full body. The reason why we do this is that previously we would not get all OPs up for revision, but some of these were important to faculty. Now the University is letting us review each OP
  - Informal straw poll: if revisions to OPs are minor, is there a need to send this to the full body? Can we let the committee make decisions on minor changes?
- Comment from Senator Lavigne: one way to do this would be to clearly mark the OPs with minor changes in an email
- Comment from President Wilde: I will ask the committee to operate as it had previous, but when they have an OP to pass pro forma I will find a way to send those out to the full senate and ask to have them put on the agenda
- **Ad Hoc Committee Report on Resolution on Racism, Intimidation and Free Speech on the TTU Campus**
  - Report – Ad Hoc Committee Chair Senator Weiser
    - Committee met and agreed to accept slightly revised language by 5-0 in favor (with 1 vote not received).
    - Motion to read aloud by Senator Kalenkoski
  - Resolution read by Senator Weiser
  - Friendly Amendment introduced by Senator Lavigne
    - Change "threatens" to "threaten" in fourth "Whereas" clause
  - Friendly Amendment to friendly amendment introduced by Senator Sharma
    - Change "puts" to "put" in fourth "Whereas" clause
  - Ad Hoc Committee votes to accept friendly amendments (4-0)
  - Amended resolution passes:

**Resolution  
on Racism, Intimidation, and Free Speech on the TTU Campus**

WHEREAS the "Unite the Right" rally of August 11-12 in Charlottesville, Virginia demonstrated the threat that white nationalist, white supremacist, neo-Confederate, neo-Nazi, and other hate groups pose to the intellectual life and open atmosphere of universities, as well as to the physical well-being of members of university communities and

WHEREAS the university is conceived as a place for the free exchange of knowledge and ideas without the threat of violence and

WHEREAS the faculty plays a vital role in creating and maintaining an atmosphere of inclusion and openness that is necessary for an institution of higher learning and

WHEREAS violence and intimidation, particularly by outside groups, threaten the university's environment and mission, and put the safety of our community at risk;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the TTU Faculty Senate stands against racism and discrimination in any form, particularly by white nationalists, white supremacists, neo-Confederates, neo-Nazis, and other hate groups.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the TTU Faculty Senate condemns any attempt to use Texas Tech University spaces to promote racism and/or bigotry, particularly using intimidation and/or violence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the TTU Faculty Senate reaffirms the faculty's commitment to creating an environment on campus where all people are free to express their ideas and assert their opinions, recognizing that hate speech, intimidation, and physical violence stifle free speech and debate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the TTU Faculty Senate gratefully acknowledges the TTU President's statement of August 21, 2017 denouncing racism and hatred. The Faculty Senate asks that the Texas Tech University administration continue to publicly denounce any attempt by hate groups to use Texas Tech University space as a platform for their ideas. It also asks said administrators to protect the safety of the campus community from any group that aims to use violence and intimidation on campus.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Chancellor Duncan, TTU Board of Regents Chair Francis, President Schovanec, and Provost Galyean.

- **Liaison Reports - 4:20 PM**
  - **Academic Council - Vice President Litsey**
    - Key business is a change in Banner and the way summer is coded for students. Summer will be entered as a single semester. Courses will still be taught in Summer 1 or 2, but there will be a single summer payment. Students will not be paying double fees, and the banner change will help graduate students with pay and benefits.
    - Question Senator Pare: Will this effect what students pay for health insurance, etc.?
    - Answer Senior Vice Provost Stewart: students will now pay at the beginning of the summer (although payment plans are available). There is a clear benefit for students and advisers, as they will see everything offered over the course of the summer instead of one

term at a time. I can't speak directly to how this will affect health insurance.

- Question Senator Flueckiger: Will this affect Maymester?
- Answer Senior Vice Provost Stewart: Maymester will remain the same.
- **Faculty Success Committee - President Wilde**
  - Faculty Success committee met. Goal is to see how we can help provide support and guidance for associate professors. We might not do anything, but if we find anything that helps faculty, we'll recommended it.
- **Announcements - 4:25 PM**
  - **President Wilde:** we have an email of support from the Chair of the Baylor University Faculty Senate: "The members of the Baylor University Faculty Senate stand with our colleagues and friends at Texas Tech University. We were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Texas Tech Police Officer Floyd East, Jr., and we hold the entire Texas Tech Community in our prayers. We extend our appreciation for the heroic actions of the Texas Tech Police Department, and we join in solidarity with the entire Texas Tech community"
  - **Vice President Litsey:** the summer 2018 planning task force met today. Task force looking for ways to improve summer enrollment. If you have any ideas on how to increase summer enrollment, please send them to me
  - **Senator Lavigne:** the Humanities Center Alumni College will take place at the Market Center on Wednesday, October 18 from 6 to 8 PM
  - **S. Ramkumar:** the AAUP will host an open forum with President Schovanec on November 6 at 3 PM, venue TBA. You may ask questions directly or you can send them to me and I will ask them for you
- **Adjournment**
  - **Motion by Senator Kalenkoski**
  - **Second by Senator Lavigne**
  - **Meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM**