

**Faculty Senate Minutes
Sept 13, 2017 #350**

TO: Members of the Faculty Senate

FROM: Dr. Gene Wilde, Faculty Senate President

RE: **Agenda for meeting #350, September 13, 2017**
Senate Room, meeting starts at 3:15 p.m.

- **Call to order – Dr. Gene Wilde, Faculty Senate President**
- **Approval of minutes, Meeting #349, May 10, 2017 – 3:19pm**
 - Motion to approve – Senator Fedler
 - Second Senator Dass
 - Minutes approved
- **Introduction of New Faculty Senators and Guests:**
- **Speakers – 3:20pm**
 - **Lawrence Schovanec-Texas Tech University President – 3:20pm**
 - An update on what's upcoming for the year
 - Received results from the COACHE survey
 - Raises issues of communication and governance, which we will try to respond to in a meaningful way
 - Oct. 9 – State of the University Address
 - Discuss new strategic plan
 - Work of 27 member committee
 - Reduced priorities to 3
 - Trying to create some meaningful metrics
 - Provost will hold two University-wide meetings on Strategic Plan
 - Provost and President meetings with individual departments will continue
 - To hear what's going on at the unit level
 - College budget forums upcoming
 - Deans' retreats
 - Transparency in budget
 - Promoting student and faculty success
 - Creating Provost Task Force on how to assess and promote student/faculty success
 - COACHE survey results showed disaffected Associate Professors, need path to promotion
 - Budget update
 - 3.8% cut
 - Reduced benefits

- Colleges cut 1%
- No effects on HEAF
 - Putting resources into labs/classrooms
 - 5 million to spend over 5 years above usual infrastructure spending
- Endowed professorships, 50 with stipend of \$5,000 each (half research, half teaching)
 - Trying to secure donors to make them truly endowed
- Pi² program – 100 students in 5 cohorts
 - Faculty mentor gets \$500, student \$5000
 - Funded by NRUF funds
- Merit increase is a priority, hope to do 2.5%
 - Coming from SCH increase
- Enrollment
 - Up for undergrads, down for graduate students
 - Graduate issues: budget discussions, international students
 - Continue to offer increased graduate support
- VPR Joseph Heppert starts Monday
- Memo about Degrees of Impact
 - How to tell TTU story, shape perception of the University
- University rankings
 - Flat in US News & World Report
 - Growing global reputation, rankings in all 4 global rankings
- Two new programs will be announced in a month or so
 - Returning scholars (support to complete projects for those returning from major fellowships)
 - Young scholars (buy out courses for pre-tenure faculty)

Question Senator Pare:

I've heard from a lot of colleagues about the difficulty of moving from associate to full professor. Are there any specific plans that you're going to roll out that might make the trajectory more obvious?

Answer President Schovanec:

I'd be happy to talk about the Provost's ideas, but I'll let him express them if he'd like.

Answer Provost Galyean:

We're going to put together a task force to give us some ideas on how to do this. A couple of things that might be on the table would be a mentoring program, much like we provide for our probationary faculty, and also an informational review of some sort about what your college expects in terms of promotion to full professor.

Question Senator Zook:

What about graduate enrolment?

Answer President Schovanec:

The Provost and the Graduate Dean have already met with every dean to try to look at what the issues are. The terminology that we're using is "purposeful": how do we grow with purpose? We're not going to ram it down someone's throat. Areas of growth should be areas where there's interest from students, possibilities, etc. We just got a document from the Graduate Dean today about this. We've had a lot of meetings about this because it is disappointing when we want to enhance our stature as a research institution, graduate enrolment is going the other direction, especially when you put that much money into it. So I think you have to look at individual departments where there's capacity, in some areas too many graduate students per faculty members, but and other areas where we could probably grow and it might require additional resources to recruit more students. We look at our peer data a lot to see how our stipends compare (Oklahoma State puts out a study of 40-45 school). We tend to be about \$2,000 lower than almost everybody.

Question Senator Zook:

Per month or per year?

Answer President Schovanec:

Per year. So it's a matter of compensation, it's a matter of capacity, and I think you have to do it in a purposeful way that's responsible. But it is a priority. When you look at Carnegie designations, it's heavily weighted on expenditures on teaching, and it would be unthinkable to fall out of that category. If that happens I won't be addressing you anymore!

- **Old Business –**
 - **OP 32.XX-Third Year Review for Tenure-Track Faculty-Academic – 4:07pm**
 - Report – President Wilde
 - Comments on draft OP on 3rd year review received from Deans, upper administration
 - Will be assigned to Study Group C (asks Parliamentarian Ramkumar to serve ex-officio)
 - Research Services Study
 - Report – Senator Fedler
 - Survey on Research Services was administered
 - Most responses positive
 - Will have a formal report soon
 - **New Business**
 - Report from the committee on Committees
 - Report – Senator Blum
 - Patty sent out list of committees. All senators required to be on a committee
 - Motion for committee report to be approved – approved unanimously
 - Faculty Expectations
 - Comment - President Wilde
 - Meeting with Provost on Monday
 - Questions? (No questions)
 - Faculty Status and Welfare
 - Comment – President Wilde

- Received a number of OPs in Spring – some comments from FS&W committee distributed
 - Comment – Lewis Held
 - OPs will be discussed in the next month by a new FS&W committee once a chair has been elected
 - Resolution on Racism, Intimidation and Free Speech on the TTU Campus
 - Motion to read aloud by Senator Kalenkoski
 - Senator Boren seconded
 - Resolution read by Secretary Barenberg
 - Discussion of Resolution
 - Friendly Amendment Introduced by Senator Gring
 - Add "Antifa" to list of hate groups in first "Whereas" statement and first "Therefore, be it resolved"
 - Friendly amendment fails (3 in favor)
 - President Wilde refers resolution to ad hoc committee of Senators Weiser, Ireland, Crews, Meek, Snoeyink, Secretary Barenberg for further discussion
 - Staff Senate joint Resolution on Sustainability
 - Comment – Secretary Barenberg
 - Staff Senate seeks to collaborate on a joint resolution on sustainability/carbon footprint
 - Seek volunteers for a joint ad hoc committee: Senators Romi, King and Pease
- **Liaison Reports:**
 - **President Wilde**
 - Met with LGBTQIA office on campus they seek to work with Faculty Senate
 - Senate will ask for a volunteer to serve as a liaison via email
- **Announcements:**
- **Adjournment -- 4:10 PM**