

**Faculty Senate Minutes
October 10, 2018 #360**

Senators Present Were:, Al-Hmoud, Barenberg, Bayne, Blum, Boal, Boren-Alpizar, Borshuk, Buelinckx, Cassidy, Cochran, Cook, Decker, Donahue, Flueckiger, Gilson, Gotlieb, Held, Hodes, Jai, Johnson, Jonsson, Juan, Karp, King, Kleinhans, Lavigne, Legacey, Matteson, McEniry, Meek, Mosher, Nathan, Ramkumar, Rider, Romi, Shumway, Singh, Skidmore, CM Smith, Stetson, Strieder, Thacker, Thompson, Wang, Watts, Weiser, Williams, Zook.

Senators Excused Were: Barnes, Bradatan, Bucy, Fedler, Ireland, Jones, Li, Louis, Pare, Pease, Rice, and Walter .

Senators Unexcused Were: Hernandez.

- **Call to order – Alan Barenberg, Faculty Senate President – 3:17pm**
- **Introduction of Guests – 3:17pm**
 - **Guests were:** Senior Vice Provost Rob Stewart, Vice President for Research Joseph Heppert, Ombudsperson Jean Pearson Scott, Maggie Gilchrest-Staff Senate President, CassiDe Street-IRB liaison, Ryan Litsey – Parliamentarian, and Michael Ryan-Rawls College of Business.
- **Discussion of minutes, Meeting #359 – 3:19pm**
 - President Barenberg asks for discussion
 - Motion to adopt minutes with spelling corrections made by Sen. Ramkumar, Sen. Juan seconded.
 - Motion carries, minutes are approved.
- **Speakers – 3:20pm**
 - **Dr. Joseph Heppert, Vice President of Research**
 - Here to discuss trends in federal agencies
 - Signs of stress in agencies
 - Increasingly view funding as investment – expect a return
 - Oversight of federal agencies under scrutiny and have increased security concerns
 - Many agencies – including Department of Defense, National Institutes of Health, and National Science Foundation – have indicated changes are forthcoming
 - Dr. Heppert seeks input on how the Office of Research and Innovation can communicate more effectively with faculty about these upcoming changes and other important issues
 - Dr. Heppert indicates that international collaborations are very important to TTU

- President Barenberg opens the floor for questions
- Senator Ramkumar indicates that planning is important in order to ensure that TTU is competitive in recruiting international STEM students
- Dr. Heppert stresses that international outreach and collaborations are important to TTU
- TTU is working on this at the federal level
- Senator Shumway indicates that messaging about federal issues shared with Faculty Senate today was very effective
- Senator Held asks about ESB 1 and ESB 2 and seeks oversight on the College of Arts and Sciences strategic plan – indicates there are inconsistencies
- Dr. Heppert expresses concern about ESB 2, indicates that the Provost, the President, and Dr. Heppert will be discussing ESB 2
- Senator Held asks that discussions be held with faculty regarding these issues
- President Barenberg asks if there are additional questions
- President Barenberg shares President Schovanec's regrets for having to miss today's meeting
- **President Barenberg, Old Business – 3:51pm**
 - Senator Cochran reports on Faculty Status and Welfare (FSW) Committee
 - Discusses OP 32.38 – third year review
 - FSW met with Provost Galyean, SVP Stewart, and President Barenberg regarding this OP
 - They recommend sending a guidance memo to departments on this OP to assist in its implementation
 - Any concerns on OP that should be addressed in the guidance memo should be sent to Senator Cochran in next two days to pass along to the Provost
 - Discusses summary procedure of OPs used by FSW committee to triage incoming OPs
 - Triage procedure categorizes incoming OPs as either non-substantive or substantive in terms of their revisions
 - The non-substantive OPs are listed in the report – if any senators have a concern about an OP listed there, please contact Senator Cochran and the FSW committee will review that OP more closely
 - If OPs categorized as non-substantive in terms of revisions, and there are no objections from the Senate, President Barenberg will pass the OPs on with Senate approval
 - If Senators have objections, please let Senator Cochran know right away
 - Senator Cochran discusses OP 32.02 (Faculty Non-reappointment, Dismissal, and Tenure Revocatio)
 - Other offices must sign off on this and then will return it to FSW
 - This OP is not ready to go forward until the others have signed

- Once this is done, the OP will come back to the Faculty Senate for review
- President Barenberg asks for discussion of pending OPs
 - Senator Johnson requests adding language to OP 32.03 (Academic Deans, Associate or Assistant Deans, and Department Chairpersons) about voting for department chairs
 - Additional discussion ensues
- President Barenberg asks Senator Karp to discuss the Administrator Evaluation Committee Report
 - Senator Karp discusses how the evaluation was reviewed by her committee
 - Addresses anonymity concerns – says no private data are disseminated
 - Lack of clarity on the use of the comments solicited in the evaluation – they are not summarized or presented anywhere
 - They recommend the questions on the evaluation remain unchanged
 - Senator Karp mentions that she received a comment indicating that the Dean of the Graduate School is not evaluated
 - Last evaluation was in February of 2018
 - Senator Karp solicits input about when to administer the evaluation
- President Barenberg asks for discussion
- President Barenberg clarifies the action under discussion, asks if there is a motion to run the survey
 - Senator Karp wants to wait a month to review any additional comments before administering the evaluation
 - Senator Flueckiger asks how results are used
 - Senator Karp has no further details to offer
 - Other discussion ensues on effectiveness and actionability of the administrator evaluation results
 - President Barenberg interjects that under New Business there is an action item addressing administrator evaluations – postpones further discussion until New Business
 - Senator Ramkumar asks for clarification on the gender question on the survey
 - Senator Karp is unclear on what was done with data by Institutional Research outside of what was published on the website – she has emailed to ask about this, but has not received a response
- President Barenberg asks Senator Stetson for a report from Faculty Study Committee A on full-time non-tenure track faculty
 - Senator Stetson asks for input from faculty on this issue
- **President Barenberg, New Business – 4:07pm**
 - Vice President Skidmore discusses gender neutral language resolution

- Campus Climate Committee seeks to create an environment on campus that is inclusive to all
- Ensuring language is inclusive is a good first step
- Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, and Student Government Association want to make a joint resolution on the issue
- Campus Climate Committee advocates a switch in terminology from freshman to first-year, chairman to chairperson, spokesman to spokesperson, foreman to foreperson
- President Barenberg asks for discussion
- Discussion ensues
- President Barenberg asks for a motion to vote on the resolution
 - Senator Legacey moves
 - Senator Johnson seconds
 - Resolution passes
- President Barenberg asks Senator Weiser to address the Campus Climate Committee's time use survey for faculty
 - Senator Weiser explains background and structure of the survey
 - Campus Climate Committee worked with the Gender Equity Council on the creation of the survey
 - Senator Weiser asks if there are questions about the time use survey
 - President Barenberg asks for discussion
 - Senator Karp asks who will evaluate the survey
 - Senator Weiser said that she will run the analyses to prepare the report
 - Senator Karp asks if cultural differences will be evaluated as part of the survey and if this will be analyzed within colleges
 - Senator Jonsson asks how survey will be distributed
 - Senator Weiser says an email will go out to faculty, but encourages Senators to discuss the survey with their colleagues
 - President Barenberg indicates that the Campus Climate Committee would like to approve the survey and send it out to faculty
 - Since this is a committee report, we don't need a motion, only a second
 - Senator Lavigne seconds
 - President Barenberg asks for vote
 - Senate approves the survey and its distribution
- President Barenberg returns to the Administrator Evaluation Survey responses
 - Ongoing concerns about the survey across campus
 - Two concerns arise most frequently
 - One – why do we bother as there are no substantive actions taken on results.
 - Two – anonymity is a concern that identifying information could be solicited and seen by administrators

- Perhaps an external entity could run the survey
- President Barenberg asks for discussion
- Discussion ensues about the survey
- President Barenberg indicates that faculty are less likely to complete the survey if they don't trust the process
- Provost Galyean suggests that not collecting identifying data is probably the best course of action
- President Barenberg suggests charging a Study Committee to examine how to design the faculty survey to improve response rates
- Senator Lavigne recommends that the Study Committee examine how the data from the survey are used
- President Barenberg says that this is up to the committee
- Senator Jai recommends providing an option to not answer identifying questions
- Senator Juan indicates that the info can still be ascertained
- President Barenberg asks if there is a motion to charge Study Committee C to examine this issue
 - Senator Ramkumar moves
 - Senator Beal seconds
 - Motion passes
 - Senator Nathan – as convener of Study Committee C – seeks clarification on the charge
 - President Barenberg indicates the charge is to explore how to improve weak response rates
- President Barenberg raises issue of Faculty Senate communications
 - Desire to improve communications with faculty at large
 - Suggests a motion to form an ad-hoc committee to explore the issue
 - Asks for discussion
 - Discussion ensues regarding emailing faculty with minutes of Faculty Senate
 - President Barenberg mentions different ways to form the ad-hoc committee and seeks a motion from the floor to collect people now for the committee or to do it via email
 - Senator Ramkumar moves to collect people for committee via email – that interested parties should send a note to Patty Gisch
 - Senator Nathan seconds
 - Motion passes
- President Barenberg asks if there is any other new business
 - Senator Nathan raises the issue of KTTZ FM, which has been off the air now for two months or more
 - A letter was sent out by station in early August indicating there would be a two – three week delay in airing program

- No communications have been received since then in spite of inquiries
 - President Barenberg asks for discussion
 - Senator Johnson offers to send a note to the program director to address the issue
 - Other discussion ensues
 - President Barenberg will raise the issue with President Schovenec, as TTU public media is under the President's Office
 - President Barenberg asks for other new business
 - **President Barenberg, Liaison Reports – 4:35pm**
 - Senator Rider reported on the Graduate Council. The implementation of mandatory CITI training was approved by the Graduate Council. More information will be forthcoming.
 - President Barenberg reported on traffic and safety and asked for input from senators regarding any concerns they may have with these issues on campus.
 - President Barenberg asks if there are other reports
 - **President Barenberg, Announcements – 4:37pm**
 - Senator Cook discusses TTU Pride Week and the programming for the remainder of the week
 - President Barenberg discusses his office hours on the last Monday of every month from 1:00 – 4:00pm
 - Senator Donahue discusses the schedule of productions for the season
 - Maggie Gilchrist shares that the Texas memorial is next Thursday at 5:30 at Memorial Circle
 - President Barenberg asks for motion to adjourn
 - Senator Ramkumar moves
- **Adjournment 4:40**