

FACULTY SENATE MEETING
NOVEMBER 4, 2010
THE CHAMBERS
The Brown Lupton University Union

Senators Present:

Bob Akin, Ron Anderson, Onofrio Annunziata, Arnie Barkman, David Bedford, Jon Burgess, Tony Burgess, Chip Burns, Art Busbey, Jodi Campbell, Jason Clark-Miller, Rebecca Dority, Richard Estes, Billy Farmer, Lynn Flahive, Greg Friedman, Misha Galaganov, Diane Hawley, Cara Jacocks, Ted Legatski, Carrie Leverenz, Steve Mann, Dianna McFarland, Ed McNertney, Till Meyn, Darren Middleton, Artemis Moon, Linda Moore, Joddy Murray, Hylda Nugent, Jan Quesada, Ranga Ramasesh, Magnus Rittby, David Sandell, Claire Sanders, Chris Sawyer, Marie-L. Schein, Paul Schrodt, Alan Shorter, Michael Skinner, Gloria Solomon, Loren Spice, Gregory Stephens, Kay Stevens, David Vanderwerken, Dan Williams, Scott Williams.

Senators Excused:

Martin Blessinger, Jesus Castro-Balbi, Sarah Fuentes, Suzy Lockwood, Sheri Neil, Michael Sawey.

Senators Absent:

Julie Baker, Julie O'Neil, Melissa Sherrod.

I. Call to order and welcome to Guests

The meeting was called to order at 3:40 PM.

Dianna McFarland, Chair of the Faculty Senate introduced the distinguished guests.

Chancellor Victor Boschini

Provost Nowell Donovan

Dr. Catherine Wehlburg, Director of the Office of Assessment & Quality Enhancement.

Dr. June Koelker, Dean of the Library

Dr. Jeff King, Director of the TCU Koehler Center for Teaching Excellence

II. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Minutes from the October 7 meeting were approved after the discussion of recommended revisions

III. New Business

A. Chancellor Boschini's Address

Chancellor Boschini proposed to the Senate his top two budget priorities for next year: providing raises and hiring more faculty and staff. The Chancellor invited the Senators to offer ideas about possible other priorities for the 2011 budget. Dr. Boschini announced that \$70 million in new scholarships have been raised and reported progress on his ongoing effort to raise funds to renovate the Ballet Building.

B. June Koelker, Dean the TCU Library

Dean Koelker began her address with comments regarding the use of the library. Statistics collected by the TCU ID Center and resulting from two years of data, indicate 2000 total visits per day during fall semesters. In the last two fall semesters, statistics show 2000 unique TCU ID cards between the hours of 1AM and 7AM. Dean Koelker also reported a segmentation of activities in the building, ranging from students working in groups, researching in the stacks, eating at the café, and more.

Dean Koelker's presentation focused on three essential research tools available to the TCU Library patrons: *Ithaka*, *JSTOR*, and *Portico*.

Ithaka, a project funded by the Andrew Mellon Foundation, is a not-for-profit organization serving researchers and students. *Ithaka* provides access to *JSTOR* and *Portico*. *JSTOR* offers thousands of online resources while *Portico* digitally preserves data in an electronic vault of sorts. In particular, *Portico* preserves titles that are no longer available to the public when the publisher no longer exists, titles are discontinued, the publisher no longer offers back issues, and/or catastrophic circumstances cease a publisher's operation. More than 600 libraries participate in *Portico*. Member libraries, including the TCU Library, can provide guaranteed access to more than 11,000 eJournals, 65,000 eBooks and 39 collections.

C. Provost Donovan's Presentation

In response to the concerns voiced by many faculty over the new eSPOTs evaluations and their use in yearly evaluations, tenure, and promotion processes, Provost Donovan inaugurated a series of *Conversations on the Improvement of Teaching at TCU* and explained their goals. Dr. Donovan reiterated the importance of Shared Governance and the necessity for Senators and other faculty to engage in this practice, particularly as we prepare to participate in a new process of teaching evaluation. Provost Donovan called on all faculty to adopt a proactive role in determining the shape and role of the evaluation of their teaching abilities. To this end, he urged the Faculty Senate to invite their constituents to the discussion table to "take a deeper look at the processes, purposes and protocols of evaluation." To launch this series of discussions, Provost Donovan invited Dr. Jeff King to deliver the inaugural talk.

D. Dr. Jeff King, Director of the Koehler Center for Teaching Excellence:
Knowing You're a Good Teacher: Promise, Product, Proof

First, Jeff King challenged Senators to revisit the promise they make to their students when they present them with a syllabus and the outcomes of a course and to seriously scrutinize if and how they fulfill this promise. Then, Dr. King invited Senators to consider one scholar's self-study and the changes he made in his teaching to better fulfill his promise to his students. A brief video introduced the Senate to Dr. Eric Mazur, a Harvard Professor who conducted a study of his students in an Introduction to Physics class to determine if they were grasping the major concepts of the course. The study led Dr. Mazur to change his teaching style to teaching by questioning and not by telling.

In the second half of his presentation, Jeff King talked about the *Learning Outcome Management Training*, an initiative of the Center for Teaching Excellence that began two years ago and has already attracted many TCU faculty who teach Core courses. The program invites faculty to retool their syllabi and projects in an effort to offer students carefully crafted assignments that clearly help them reach the outcomes of a given course.

Dr. Darren Middleton, Professor of Religion and recent participant in the LOM Program, shared his experience. Dr. Middleton stressed the personal benefits of the training in the craft of teaching as well as the benefits at the program level within his department.

Jeff King hopes that by 2012, 50% of the Core courses will be taught by faculty who will have received the LOM training.

(To view the video of Professor Mazur, go to this link:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IBYrKPoVFwg.>)

E. Senators Greg Friedman, Chair of the Academic Excellence Committee and Ted Legatski, Chair of Student Relations Committee: *Undergraduate Student Honor Code*

Senator Legatski addressed the Senate first and acknowledged the work of Dr. Blaise Ferrandino and Dr. David Bedford in bringing to fruition this student-led initiative. He also thanked Justin Brown, the major student force behind the honor code initiative, and Caroline Wiersgalla, Chair of the SGA Academic Affairs Committee. Dr. Legatski emphasized that the revised Honor Code offers an augmentation to the existing code and suggests additional steps. There are two key additions to the document. First, the revised Honor Code includes a statement of academic integrity reprinted here:

"As a member of the TCU community, I will work to actively create an environment of academic integrity. On my honor, I will not participate in any form of academic misconduct."

Second, students can now appeal to the newly created Student Integrity Council whose members are selected by deans. According to Senator Legatski, "The new Council offers students the opportunity to become proactively involved in checking each other's integrity and promotes awareness that certain conducts are not ethical."

Senator Legatski noted that SGA has presented a resolution that the House of Representatives has passed unanimously. At the December Faculty Senate meeting,

the Academic Excellence Committee and the Student Relations Committee will present a motion to recommend the adoption of the Honor Code. Senator Greg Friedman provided an overview of the current appeal process for students who may face sanctions for academic misconduct, then, presented a flow chart to explain the new process in light of the role of the Student Integrity Council. A discussion followed the presentation. Dr. Legatski invited Senators to read the Honor Code and send him emails with reactions or questions. (A copy of Dr. Legatski's and Dr. Friedman's presentations will be posted on the Faculty Senate web page)

The meeting was adjourned at 5:02.