

TCU Faculty Senate Meeting
04 October 2012
3:30 – 5:00 PM
Faculty Senate Chambers

Minutes

Senators Present

Bob Akin, Julie Baker, Arnie Barkman, David Bedford, Jon Burgess, Bruce Carroll, Cynthia Chapa, Lindy Crawford, Richard Estes, Billy Farmer, Lynn Flahive, Greg Friedman, Sarah Fuentes, Diane Hawley, Clark Jones, Andrew Ledbetter, Ted Legatski, Steve Mann, Dianna McFarland, Joan McGettigan, Stathis Michaelides, Linda Moore, Joddy Murray, Johnny Nhan, Hylde Nugent, Katie Polzer, Jan Quesada, Ranga Ramasesh, Magnus Rittby, David Sandell, Chris Sawyer, Marie Schein, Paul Schrodt, Krista Scott, Alan Shorter, R. Eric Simpson, Loren Spice, Janet Spittler, Greg Stephens, Michael Strausz, Stephen Weis, Dan Williams, Scott Williams, Barbara Wood, Qiao Zhang

Senators Excused

Onofrio Annunziata, Martin Blessinger, Brian Clinnin, Rebecca Dority, Jeffrey Geider, Tracy Hanna, Bi Ying Hu, Suzy Lockwood, Gloria Solomon, David Vanderwerken, Jo Nell Wells, Angela L. Thompson

Senators Absent

Ronald Anderson, San-Ky Kim, Steve Palko, Michael Skinner, Australia Tarver

Guests Present

Chancellor Victor Boschini, Provost Nowell Donovan, Ray Walls (Assistant Advisor, Athletic Academics), Shawn Worthen (Director Athletic Academics), Kathy Cavins-Tull (Vice-Chancellor, Student Affairs), Ryan West (Skiff Reporter), Marsha Ramsey (Director, Center for Academic Services), (SGA representative), Kay Higgins (Associate Dean, Student Development), Steve Sherwood (Director, TCU Writing Center), Cathy Coghlan (Director, Institutional Research), Tanisha Arrington (Assistant Director, Institutional Research), Leo Munson (Associate Provost, Academic Support), Ryan Tiglas (Student Development Services)

Call to Order

Marie opened the meeting at 3:30. The minutes of the September 6, 2012 senate meeting were approved unanimously with no corrections.

Old Business

1. The FSEC met with SGA reps regarding free scantron plan. The matter is still under discussion, distribution methods are at issue. SGA expects to bring a proposal to the Senate at the November meeting.
2. Appointment of a Faculty Senate Webmaster is in process. Trey Ivey is still handling updates until new webmaster is appointed.

Guest Presentations

1. Dr. Kathy Cavins-Tull – Kathy presented her thoughts on student success. She discussed psychosocial and social identity development, and their need for involvement, engagement, learning, persistence, and growth. She discussed student needs at each year of their college development, and ways that TCU is acting to assist them in meeting those needs.
 - a. Freshman year growth needs: competence, managing emotions, autonomy (orientation, frog camp, frogs first, first year residential life, house calls, connections, leadership4life, activities fair, intramural and club sports, success programming - wellness and choices).
 - b. Sophomore year growth needs: autonomy, interdependence, identity (sophomore pinning, early career services - externships, shadowing, residential experience - suite style, focus on service and leadership, chancellor's leadership program, encourage refinement of leadership - taking on more responsibility, greater opportunities for cultural programming).
 - c. Junior Year growth needs: identity and purpose (involvement in the major, service to support identity & major, internships, career development, connections with potential employers, off campus living - greater independence, significant leadership in field, major positions on campus).
 - d. Senior year growth needs: identity, purpose, integrity (refine next steps, career development - placement services, job search preparation, graduate school applications, leaving a legacy programming, culmination of experience and preparation for the future). Moral and intellectual development: staffing patterns, community development in residence halls, judicial education, and etc. Safety net: student affairs, live in staff, counseling staff, health center staff, campus life, alcohol & drug education, duty system, policing system, case management, monthly meetings with associate deans. Suicide prevention: best practices model development and

- implementation (displayed the model that she are working with, found on the last page of her PP presentation).
2. Kay Higgins - The often invisible student: The transfer student.
 - a. Presented study results regarding transfer advising - mostly positive results, but she is concerned about the minority who did not see value in transfer advising (compared 2009 & 2011).
 - b. Shared examples of comments from students that saw transfer advising as less than helpful. Similar results (and comments) for perceptions of helpfulness in transfer registration.
 - c. A Transfer Student Task Force was organized last year to identify ways to address these shortfalls. New students actually includes first years and transfers...last year, there were 460 transfers in addition to the 1853 first years enrolled at 12th day.
 - d. Recommendations of the task force were discussed, including advising centers in every college, enabling faculty advisors to access the files of the majors entering the department, specific training for faculty advisors.
 3. Linda Moore and Marsha Ramsey - Introduced a resolution for establishing a testing center for intercollegiate athletics.
 - a. Background and history of the research on testing centers was discussed. Lessons learned about best practices for testing centers were also discussed. Testing center options at various universities were explored.
 - b. Q&A then ensued, with a recommendation to find out more about the testing center in use at BYU, a suggestion for computers in a testing center, and a recommendation to explore using space in the library for a testing center. A question was raised about funding, the response being that it is early to be thinking about that. Several faculty expressed strong support for the idea as something that makes sense from a faculty perspective. Another question was asked regarding whether we need a single center, or whether there could be multiple stand-alone centers at various high-traffic locations.
 - c. The Senate approved the resolution (in a straw poll).
 4. Shawn Worthen - Discussed the needs, what his office does, with regard to supporting academic achievement in athletics. They want, and hope for, a two-way street with the

faculty, that we will participate fully with them in their goals for the athletes, and that if we need their help, we will call them in.

5. Steve Sherwood - Discussed the role and operations and staffing of the Writing Center. Presented statistics on student usage of the Writing Center, which has dramatically increased over the years. It is not a remedial writing center - it is for everyone, to help them take their work a few steps further. They are almost at the limit of their ability to serve students at the current rate of growth. The number of students seeking help, as well as the number of appointments, are both rising. Looking for alternative funding sources to be able to help meet students needs - for example, they share the cost of a writing assistant with the business school. Students may sometimes have a short wait, but the Center is usually able to meet their needs with a few days notice.
6. Provost Donovan – Offered remarks on the Faculty Senate White Paper on the evaluation of teaching and the new SPOTs (recently distributed to all faculty by email). Reiterated that deciding how to evaluate teaching is a faculty responsibility. Noted that training on eSPOTs by Dr. Cathy Coghlan will soon be available.
7. Cathy Coghlan & Tanisha Arrington - Discussion of the implementation of the new eSPOT system and the results of the pilot program (which took place in spring and summer 2012).
 - a. Academic units volunteered to be part of the pilot test. Response rates, strengths of the SmartEval system in the experience of the pilot group, concerns about the SmartEval system from the pilot group.
 - b. Q&A ensued regarding the window of opportunity for students to complete the eSPOTs, concerns about response rates (where response rates were very high with paper SPOTs). Right now the system doesn't have the capability to allow instructors to assign their own response periods. There will be a great deal of advertising reminding students to complete the eSPOTs as that time approaches. Students will not be able to complete the eSPOTs on mobile devices...they will need to use computers, either in class or on their own time. Response rates are visible to anyone (department chairs, deans, etc.) with authority to review the SPOT results.
 - c. What's next? They are currently working to roll out the system campus wide. That includes a communication campaign, training sessions for faculty (including how to add instructor-level questions), Fall 2012 survey periods, and FAQs. Faculty will be able to view their historical eSPOT scores on My.TCU in the Faculty Center section, starting with the Fall 2012 survey results...email reports will no longer be individually sent to faculty.

8. Senator Scott Williams raised a question regarding the timing of Convocation, and how to motivate or enable students (and faculty) to attend, and a brief discussion of ideas ensued.
9. Senator Akin publicly recognized Shawn Worthen for his service to the University.

The Faculty Senate meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.