

**TCU Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**05 September 2013**  
**3:30 – 5:00 PM**  
**Faculty Senate Chambers**

**Minutes**

**Senators Present**

Akin, Bob; Akkaraju, Giridhar; Bedford, David; Begnoche, David; Castro-Balbi, Jesus; Dority, Rebecca; Esposito, Phil; Flowers, Roma; Friedman, Greg; Geider, Jeffrey; Gollaher, Timothy; Griffith, Robin; Jenkins, David; Kim, San-Ky; Lahutsky, Nadia; Ledbetter, Andrew; Legatski, Ted; Lockwood, Suzy; Mann, Steve; McFarland, Dianna; Meier, William; Michaelides, Stathis; Moeller, Thomas; Moore, Linda; Neilson, Robert H.; Nhan, Johnny; Quesada, Jan; Ramasesh, Sandell, David; Sawyer, Chris; Schein, Marie; Schrod, Paul; Scott, Krista; Shorter, Alan; Simpson, R. Eric; Skinner, Michael; Spice, Loren; Stephens, Gregory; Warrington, Patricia; Waters, Sandra; Weis, Stephen; Wells, Jo Nell; Williams, Scott; Wood, Barbara; Woodworth, Sreve; Zhang, Qiao.

**Senators Excused**

Barkman, Arnie; Chapa, Cynthia; Clinnin, Brian; McGettigan, Joan; Polzer, Katie; Simanek, Eric; Spittler, Janet; Thompson, Angela.

**Senators Absent**

Carroll, Bruce; Crawford, Lindy; Miller, Vanessa; Murray, Joddy; Nugent, Hylda; Palko, Steve; Petrovich, James; Strausz, Michael.

**Guests Present**

Chancellor Victor Boschini; Provost Nowell Donovan; Cathy Cavins-Tull; Aisha Torrey-Sawyer; Ed McNertney; Catherine Whelburg

**Call to Order**

1. Faculty Senate Chair Chris Sawyer called the meeting to order at 3:30 and welcomed senators and distinguished guests to the first senate meeting of the 2013-2014 academic year.
2. The minutes of the May 2, 2013 meeting of the Faculty Senate were approved as submitted.

**Old Business**

3. None

## **New Business**

4. Chancellor Victor Boschini was introduced and offered welcoming remarks, then introduced Provost Nowell Donovan.
5. Provost Donovan offered welcoming remarks also, and briefly discussed coming activities, construction, and other things to take place in the coming year.
  - a. The first year (of a five year plan) for the QEP.
  - b. Pilot project for student e-portfolios.
  - c. Addressing the needs for students at risk.
  - d. "Great theme" semesters - water to be the first, followed by energy, food, and time. Enhancements to existing courses are encouraged, as well as the introduction of new courses. Faculty will be offered a financial incentive for developing such courses, and will own the associated intellectual property.
  - e. Educational technology - reorganization is likely.
  - f. Replication of the gender study from seven years ago. Revitalization of efforts to address associated challenges is both important and necessary.
  - g. Exploration of, and initiation of, online courses, to take place in the summers. Opportunities for faculty to be involved will be made available.
  - h. Town hall meeting to take place on September 6, 2013 regarding the QEP.
6. Cathy Cavins-Tull was introduced and gave an update on student affairs on campus.
  - a. 108% occupancy of dorms. New construction of living space, as well as renovation of existing structures, is ongoing, and will add substantially to space available, though it, and dining space, is overcrowded at present.
  - b. A national search is underway to replace the Dean of Campus Life, Suzi Adams, who has retired.
  - c. Suicide prevention efforts are under way, and faculty are encouraged to support the awareness training that is being made available. Printed information was distributed.
7. Aisha Torrey-Sawyer, Chair of the Staff Assembly brought greetings, and expressed a desire to work closely with the Faculty Senate on key issues.
8. Chris Sawyer welcomed the Senators new to the Faculty Senate this year, and introduced the members of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

9. Ed McNertney and Catherine Wehlburg summarized TCU's efforts this past year on the SACS re-accreditation and QEP, and our plans going forward, on the SACS re-accreditation. Details may be found in their PP presentation to the Senate, which is included with these minutes. Discussion ensued, including:
  - a. Refining term definitions, such as "cultural empathy." Generally speaking, it is expected that definition and understanding of these terms will evolve as faculty and students get further into the work.
  - b. How the "% of students targeted to achieve" was determined, and whether it is ambitious enough (or perhaps too ambitious). Began more conservatively, and hope to adjust upward as we learn more about our students' capabilities.
  - c. Currently at TCU approximately 4-6% of student body is comprised of international students (5% UG, 3% G), who may already have some degree of cultural empathy. Efforts are also underway to identify faculty who are bi/multi-lingual and bi/multi-cultural, who would constitute a valuable resource to draw upon.
  - d. The QEP is not intended to replace or modify any part of the core, but will build upon it and go beyond.
  - e. Faculty are encouraged to get involved in a variety of ways. More information is available at [www.qep.tcu.edu](http://www.qep.tcu.edu).
10. A proposal was made by Chair Sawyer for replacing Arnie Barkman on the University Budget Advisory Committee. The Faculty Senate is expected to have a member representing the Senate on this committee. Suzy Lockwood, a sitting Senator, is already a member of the Budget Advisory Committee, and it was proposed that she formally represent the Senate on the committee.
  - a. Jan Quesada moved to nominate Suzy as the Senate representative on the committee.
  - b. The motion was seconded, and then unanimously approved by the Senate.
11. Marie Schein then provided a summary report on the Senate's activities and accomplishments during the 2012-13 academic year. Her report was followed by brief reports from Alan Shorter (on behalf of Chair Greg Friedman) of the AEC committee, Suzy Lockwood of the FGC, Ted Legatski of the SRC, Dianna McFarland (on behalf of Chair Gloria Solomon) of the TPG committee, and Andrew Ledbetter (on behalf of Arnie Barkman) of the COC. Details of the committees' activities and accomplishments during the 2012-13 academic year may be found in their respective annual reports.

The Senate adjourned at 4:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Stephens  
Faculty Senate Secretary