

TCU Faculty Senate Meeting
06 March 2014
3:30 – 5:00 PM
Faculty Senate Chambers

Minutes

Senators Present

Akin, Bob; Akkaraju, Giridhar; Barkman, Arnie; Bedford, David; Begnoche, Carroll, Bruce; Chapa, Cynthia; Clinnin, Brian; David; Dority, Rebecca; Flowers, Roma; Jenkins, David; Kim, San-Ky; Lahutsky, Nadia; Ledbetter, Andrew; Legatski, Ted; Lockwood, Suzy; Mann, Steve; McFarland, Dianna; McGettigan, Joan; Meier, William; Miller, Vanessa; Moore, Linda; Murray, Joddy; Neilson, Robert H.; Palko, Steve; Petrovich, James; Quesada, Jan; Ramasesh, Sawyer, Chris; Schein, Marie; Schrodt, Paul; Scott, Krista; Shorter, Alan; Simpson, R. Eric; Skinner, Michael; Spittler, Janet; Stephens, Gregory; Strausz, Michael; Warrington, Patricia; Waters, Sandra; Weis, Stephen; Wells, Jo Nell; Williams, Dan; Williams, Scott; Wood, Barbara; Woodworth, Sreve; Zhang, Qiao.

Senators Excused

Castro-Balbi, Jesus; Crawford, Lindy; Esposito, Phil; Friedman, Greg; Geider, Jeffrey; Gollaher, Timothy; Griffith, Robin; Michaelides, Stathis; Moeller, Thomas; Nhan, Johnny; Nugent, Hylda; Polzer, Katie; Sandell, David; Simanek, Eric; Spice, Loren; Thompson, Angela.

Senators Absent

Guests Present

Chancellor Victor Boschini, Provost Nowell Donovan, three representatives from SGA, two TCU 360 reporters

Call to Order

1. Faculty Senate Chair Chris Sawyer called the meeting to order at 3:30.
2. The minutes of the February 6th, 2014 meetings of the Faculty Senate were approved with minor modifications.

Old Business

3. N/A

New Business

4. Senator Barkman brought forward a proposal for a change in the Computer Committee, initiated by the Committee on Committees. The recommended changes involves changing the Committee's name to the Technology Committee, and changing the number of faculty who are members of the committee from nine to seven, seeking reasonable representation from across the academic units of the university. The motion was unanimously approved.
5. Dean Andy Schoolmaster (AddRan College of Liberal Arts) provided information on a proposed TCU Institute for Inquiry, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship. He provided a printed executive summary, which is also available on the Internet. The I3E would follow a four-pronged approach emphasizing creativity, inquiry, innovation, and entrepreneurship and would endeavor to:
 - a. Facilitate creativity-related improvements in curricula and co-curricular programs,
 - b. Leverage existing creativity and interdisciplinary-oriented activities,
 - c. Support faculty and student research,
 - d. Strengthen TCU's distinctive teacher-scholar and student-scholar ethos,
 - e. Serve as a campus resource for faculty, students, and staff, and
 - f. Enhance the creativity and problem-solving skills of students as they prepare to compete in a world marked by rapid change, population growth, regional conflict, environmental disruptions, and the forces of globalization.
 - g. The Institute would employ a full-time director, two associate directors, and an administrative assistant. Faculty would be invited to apply to be faculty "creativity fellows" in the Institute. A Faculty Fellows seminar and other activities of the Institute would begin in FY2015.
6. Walter Betts (Systems Librarian, Mary Couets Burnett Library) introduced a Declaration of the Right to Libraries, and requested that Senators who are in favor sign the Declaration. Others who wish to support the Declaration may sign virtually at: txla.org/declaration-signing.
 - a. Senator Williams made a motion that the Senate support the Declaration as a united body, and the motion passed unanimously.
7. Provost Donovan reported on the meeting of the Executive Committee of the TCU Board of Trustees. Of immediate interest was that:
 - a. The Board has deferred taking any action at this time on the nominations for honorary doctorates submitted by the Senate.

- b. Concerns were raised about awarding honorary degrees to anyone currently serving as a trustee as well as about awarding too many honorary degrees, feeling that such honors should be rare.
 - c. These concerns were aligned with similar thoughts expressed in the Senate deliberations in February.
8. Jan Quesada (Senate Chair-Elect) reported briefly on the proceedings of the Budget Advisory Committee. She invited Senators to forward to her their thoughts on priorities for the BAC.
9. Marie Schein (Past Senate Chair) reported on the proceedings of the first meeting of the University Compensation Advisory Committee under its new structure. Several guests were invited to address the committee. The president of CARES was introduced (he offices on campus, and is willing to be accessible to the faculty). There was discussion of a report compiled by retired TCU faculty on prescription drug policy changes, as well as a report by Dan Williams with recommendations about child care, merit raises, health care package, salary compression, and other topics.
10. Chair Sawyer, representing Senator Lockwood of the Faculty Governance Committee (who is at a conference out of town), introduced proposed revisions to the Senate Bylaws and Constitution.
 - a. Discussion ensued about the proposed change regarding liaisons to the committees from the Senate Executive Committee.
 - b. A friendly amendment was made to remove the words "as requested" from the Bylaws where it refers to the committee chairs' invitation for a liaison from the FSEC. The amendment passed.
 - c. The FSEC has also offered a friendly amendment to include a sixth member of the FSEC, to be an information officer, including oversight of the FS website, social media, and so forth. Doing so would also raise the number of members of the FSEC to be equivalent to the number of proposed committees, thus allowing for committee liaisons as has been done in the past, which would still be allowable under the new proposed language of the Bylaws.
 - d. Acceptance of the proposal regarding the proposed changes to the Senate's Bylaws and Constitution was moved and seconded, and the vote of the Senate was unanimously affirmative.
 - e. Discussion regarding the proposed changes to the Senate Handbook was tabled.
11. Dianna McFarland (Chair, Tenure, Promotion, and Grievance Committee) facilitated a discussion of proposed edits to the Faculty Appeals Policy. Certain edits appeared not to have

made it to the document on file with the Senate, so further discussions as postponed until our next meeting.

12. Final announcements:

- a. Senate elections have been pushed back one week, to the second week after spring break.
- b. We have two open seats in AddRan and one in Education for which we have no candidates...please encourage colleagues to self-nominate.
- c. An announcement was made regarding the upcoming Hillel Holocaust museum events in April.
- d. Representatives from SGA reported on feedback from SGA regarding interest in the language houses discussed at our last Senate meeting.
- e. Chair Sawyer made a final announcement regarding the date change for the April Senate meeting, which will be Thursday, April 10th, and will be held in the Scharbauer Hall Debate Chambers.

There being no further business, the Senate adjourned at 4:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Stephens
Faculty Senate Secretary