

TCU Faculty Senate Meeting
05 November 2015
3:30 – 5:00 PM
Faculty Senate Chambers

Minutes

Senators Present

Bedford, David; Busbey, Art; Castro-Balbi, Jesus; Coffey, Jeff; Esposito, Phil; Farmer, Billy; Friedman, Greg; Fry, Julie; Geider, Jeff; Gil, Dan; Gollaher, Timothy; Jenschke, Monica; Lahutsky, Nadia; Ledbetter, Andrew; Legatski, Ted; Lim, Steve; Mann, Steven; Meier, William; Michaelides, Efstathios; Moeller, Thomas; Moore, Carrie; Packard, Sally; Quesada, Janis; Sandell, David; Schiffer, Adam; Schrodt, Paul; Scott, Krista; Shorter, Alan; Simanek, Eric; Skinner, Michael; Solomon, Gloria; Spice, Loren; Stephens, Greg; Warrington, Patricia; Whitworth, Keith; Williams, Daniel; Yorkston, Eric; Zhang, Qiao

Senators Excused

Baker, Kathy; Barth, Tim; Jimerson, Jo Beth; Moore, Jeff; Powell, Samantha; Ramasesh, Ranga

Senators Absent

Argenbright, Kristi; Begnoche, David; Hammad, Hanan; Hokayem, Hayat; Jenkins, David; Kerstetter, Todd; Kim, San-ky; Krochmal, Max; Lovett, John; Moore, Linda; Palko, Steffen; Petrovich, James; Sawyer, Chris; Shniderman, Adam; Woodworth, Steven; Wright, Robin

Guests Present

Chancellor Victor Boschini, Rhonda Hatcher (TCU Faculty Athletics Representative), Drew Herschmann (TCU 360 reporter)

Call to Order

1. Faculty Senate Chair Stathis Michaelides called the meeting to order at 3:30.
2. The minutes of the October 01, 2015 meeting of the Faculty Senate were approved as submitted.

Old Business

3. N/A

New Business

4. Chair Stathis Michaelides gave a brief update on the Medical School. Twelve subcommittees have been formed. The Dean's search committee has engaged Korn-Ferry. Several applications have been received, many first class. The goal is to have a Dean in place by the end of March. A "project manager," Ms. Jolie Allen, has been hired to coordinate the tasks associated with the establishment of the medical school. We are on track for accreditation applications to LCMS and SACS in summer of 2016. The Chancellor will hold a faculty/staff town hall on Monday, November 16 at noon in the RJH incubator lab to discuss the medical school.
5. The AEC made a recommendation that the TCU Faculty Senate withdraw from COIA (Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics). It appears that COIA has become increasingly ostracized from the NCAA, perhaps because of an adversarial relationship between the two organizations. For a variety of reasons, it appears that there is not a positive cost to benefit relationship. It was suggested that a better approach would be for our Faculty Athletic Representative (Rhonda Hatcher) to visit with the AEC committee several times a year. A motion was made to withdraw from COIA, it was seconded, and the vote was unanimously in favor of withdrawing. Our outgoing COIA rep will inform COIA that we will withdraw.
6. The Faculty Governance Committee announced that it will administer a survey to the members of the Senate asking for their input regarding the appropriate size of the Senate, and how best to optimize the efficiency and effectiveness of the Senate. That survey will be distributed before the end of the Fall 2015 semester.
7. A recommendation was made by the FSEC that football games not be scheduled on weekdays, and that if it is unavoidable, then all normal parking spaces should remain available to faculty, staff, and students at least until 5:00 PM on game day.
 - a. The mission of the University is to educate - all no educational activities are of secondary importance.
 - b. Educational activities suffer significant interruptions when weekday games are scheduled.
 - c. Alcohol consumption, increase when parking lots are taken over for tailgating and other such activities. Allowing these activities sends the wrong message to students and may even encourage underage alcohol consumption.
 - d. Discussion of the pros and cons of the recommendation ensued, with recognition that there is much at stake on both sides of the issue.
 - e. A team of Senators will revisit the recommendation, exploring other options and ways of communicating the issue while acknowledging our gratitude for the efforts of those who tried to make the interruptions manageable. A vote was taken to table the recommendation until the March meeting of the Senate.

8. A resolution was introduced by the FRC calling for the re-establishment of the Trustee-Faculty Relations Committee, a committee which has previously existed, and was, in fact, established by the Board of Trustees (BoT) itself. The resolution is intended to initiate a dialogue with the Trustees. Mechanics such as whether faculty representatives will be from the Senate, whether they will be elected or appointed, and if the latter, who will appoint them, will be discussed and determined later.
 - a. Much discussion followed regarding the advantages and disadvantages of the resolution, and other options for working to initiate and establish a more active involvement of the faculty with the BoT.
 - b. A vote was taken and the resolution was approved. In addition, Faculty Senate Chair Stathis Michaelides, at his upcoming meeting with the BoT, will discuss options for greater participation of the faculty in the deliberations of the BoT.
9. Information items:
 - a. The "Lizard Lounge" at the library is now fully functional.
 - b. The VC-Academy of Tomorrow is expecting student comments on the Honor Code. Implementation is still planned for January 2016.

The Senate adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Stephens
Faculty Senate Secretary