

**TCU Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**Thursday, 4 February 2010**  
**3:30 - 5:00 PM**  
**The Chambers, Brown-Lupton University Union, Room 3004**

**Senators Present**

Arnie Barkman, David Bedford, Tony Burgess, Chip Burns, Art Busbey, Jesus Castro-Balbi, Jason Clark-Miller, Rebecca Dority, Ze-Li Dou, Blaise Ferrandino, Lynn Flahive, Sally Fortenberry, Greg Friedman, Charles Hannon, Dianne Hawley, Cara Jacocks, Ted Legatski, Carrie Leverenz, Suzy Lockwood, Steve Mann, Dianna McFarland, Ed McNertney, Till Meyn, Darren Middleton, Artemis Moon, Linda Moore, Sheri Neill, Don Nichols, Hylda Nugent, Julie O'Neil, Steve Palko, Anna Petursdottir, Claire Sanders, Michael Sawey, Marie Schein, Paul Schrodt, Alan Shorter, Michael Skinner, Kay Stevens, Keith Whitworth, Dan Williams, Scott Williams, Barbara Wood

**Senators Excused**

Bob Akin, Jodi Campbell, Misha Galaganov, Jan Quesada, Melissa Sherrod and Maggie Thomas.

**Senators Absent**

None

**Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 3:36 p.m.

**Welcome guests**

Guests included Chancellor Victor Boschini, Provost Nowell Donovan, Michael Hackemack (TCU Campus Recreation), Jeff King (Director, Koehler Center for Teaching Excellence), Dean Paulette Burns (Harris College of Nursing & Health Sciences), Jill Laster (Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Relations & Risk Management), Zoranna Jones (Assistant Director of Student Advisement and Resources - Harris College of Nursing & Health Sciences), and David Sandell (Department of Sociology & Anthropology).

**Approval of Minutes of Dec 2, 2009**

The December 2, 2009 minutes were approved as submitted.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

**1. Sophomore Transitions Team - Michael Hackemack (Campus Recreation)**

Mr. Hackemack informed the Senate of the Hot Dogs with Top Dogs event. Students have been invited to come and grab a hot dog and chat with a TCU Top Dog Professor at the Spring Faculty Meet & Greet. The event is Wednesday, March 24, 2010, at 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at the TCU Library Mall. He invited all faculty to participate by dropping in to visit with students.

## **2. Faculty/Staff Annual Campaign - Dr. Janine Kraus (Director, TCU Annual Giving)**

Dr. Kraus was rescheduled.

## **3. “Multi-tasking or Multi-distracting: Laptops in the Classroom” - Dr. Jeff King (Director, Koehler Center for Teaching Excellence)**

Director Jeff King summarized the research of the so-called “student multi-tasking” and shared faculty, researchers’, and students’ perspectives on the topic. A closed captioned video summary of the presentation can be viewed at [http://elearning.tcu.edu/onlineresources/youtube/Faculty\\_Senate\\_2010.asp](http://elearning.tcu.edu/onlineresources/youtube/Faculty_Senate_2010.asp). He stated research indicates self-described multi-taskers perform much worse on cognitive and memory tasks. He described multi-tasking as actually “task switching.” He provided specific recommendations as to how to address students using their laptops in the classroom. Please review the video for specific information on this topic.

## **4. Update of Harris College of Nursing & Health Sciences - Dean Paulette Burns**

Dean Burns stated the Harris College is vibrant and thriving with new programs, innovative curricula, and students and faculty who are making a difference for others. The Harris College houses Nursing, Social Work, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Kinesiology, and Nurse Anesthesia, and is home to over 990 undergraduate students and 278 graduate students. She described the various programs such as Bilingual Speech Pathology Program, a major in Athletic Training, and the graduate programs in Nursing. The College has \$2.5 million in National Institutes of Health grants. The most challenging aspect of the College is space and time.

## **5. CARES Prevention Plan - Jill Laster (Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Relations & Risk Management)**

Ms. Laster introduced The Prevention Plan for CARES Health Plan members, which is your health improvement program to measure and track your top health risks. You receive a new personalized plan of action and step-by-step clinical guidance to reduce those risks for serious medical issues such as asthma, arthritis, back pain, colorectal cancer, COPD, depression, diabetes, heart disease, breast, kidney, liver or skin conditions, thyroid disorder, and obesity. Upon completion of both the Health Risk Appraisal and free blood test, you will receive a personalized plan of action and summary to help you improve and manage your health. More information can be found at <http://www.ThePreventionPlan.com>. All information is kept confidential and separate from the TCU CARES Health Plan. The Prevention Plan is free for faculty and staff.

## **6. Remarks from Provost Nowell Donovan**

Provost Donovan stated he was happy to announce a 2.5% merit raise for faculty. Non-exempt staff will be paid 80% of market wages. He indicated that during the tough economic times, TCU is doing well compared to many other universities, and will proceed “lean but not mean.” For example, Illinois State cut their budget by 6%, laid off all adjuncts, and all salaries were frozen. Seven new TCU faculty positions have been approved. TCU has met all of the needs of the TCU Library and Technology Resources. TCU will be able to continue funding strategic initiatives. Graduate programs are not growing with the exception of the Nursing graduate programs. The TCU admissions applicant pool is bigger than last year’s pool. The goal for admissions is 1600 freshmen. Provost Donovan stated he will focus on the following initiatives:

- Definition of service for TCU faculty
- Engage faculty in a conversation about Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT) in regard to merit raises
- Development of TCU Arboretum

## **7. Executive Session – TCU Honorary Degrees**

The Faculty Senate discussed the nominations for TCU Honorary Degrees in a closed session.

### **Announcements**

#### 1. Faculty Picnic

The 1<sup>st</sup> All Faculty Picnic will be held Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> from noon to 4:00 p.m. at Frog Alley. Games, face painting, and contests will be held from noon to 2:00 p.m. Lunch is catered by Jason's Deli. The Celtic rock band, The Killdares, will perform at Frog Alley from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Bring your family and help start a new faculty tradition.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:04 p.m.