

**TCU Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**07 April 2016**  
**3:30 – 5:00 PM**  
**Faculty Senate Chambers**

**Minutes**

**Senators Present**

Baker, Kathy; Bedford, David; Busbey, Art; Castro-Balbi, Jesus; Coffey, Jeff; Esposito, Phil; Friedman, Greg; Fry, Julie; Gil, Dan; Gollaher, Timothy; Hokayem, Hayat; Jenkins, David; Jenschke, Monica; Jimerson, Jo Beth; Lahutsky, Nadia; Ledbetter, Andrew; Legatski, Ted; Meier, William; Michaelides, Efstathios; Moeller, Thomas; Moore, Carrie; Moore, Jeff; Moore, Linda; Packard, Sally; Palko, Steffen; Petrovich, James; Powell, Samantha; Quesada, Janis; Ramasesh, Ranga; Sandell, David; Scherger, Michael; Schiffer, Adam; Scott, Krista; Shorter, Alan; Simanek, Eric; Spice, Loren; Stephens, Greg; Warrington, Patricia; Wright, Robin; Yorkston, Eric

**Senators Excused**

Zhang, Qiao; Whitworth, Keith; Schrodt, Paul; Geider, Jeff; Farmer, Billy;

**Senators Absent**

Argenbright, Kristi; Barth, Tim; Begnoche, David; Hammad, Hanan; Kerstetter, Todd; Kim, San-ky; Krochmal, Max; Lim, Steve; Lovett, John; Mann, Steven; Sawyer, Chris; Shniderman, Adam; Skinner, Michael; Solomon, Gloria; Williams, Daniel; Woodworth, Steven;

**Guests Present**

Provost Nowell Donovan, Cathan Coghlin (Director, Office of Institutional Research), Elysa Menger (Director of Constituent Engagement), Suzy Lockwood (faculty)

**Call to Order**

1. Faculty Senate Chair Stathis Michaelides called the meeting to order at 3:30.
2. The minutes of the March 3, 2016 meeting of the Faculty Senate were approved as submitted.

**Old Business**

3. N/A

**New Business**

4. Elyse Menger briefly spoke regarding the faculty/staff giving campaign. It's not as much about how much you give as that you give! Gifts can be made to the general fund or as

restricted gifts to specific causes for which you have a passion. Gifts made by payroll deduction can simply be allowed to roll over, and will count for the next year.

5. Dr. Suzy Lockwood spoke briefly about a campaign for achieving a smoke-free campus. Tobacco is a leading cause of death, and also of significant costs to organizations such as absenteeism. Second hand smoke is as dangerous for non-smokers as smoking itself. Almost 1,500 universities around the country have gone smoke- or tobacco-free already. Our buildings are smoke-free, but the campus itself is not. The university has resources available (many through HR benefits) to help those who smoke to kick the habit. Student body is supportive of this initiative as well. Anyone with questions can contact Dr. Lockwood directly.
6. A resolution from the Educational Evaluation Committee was presented by Dr. Frye (committee chair). Prior to presenting the resolution, she reviewed findings from the committee's survey of faculty regarding use of the Student Perceptions of Teaching evaluations. A motion came from the committee to approve the resolution, and passed unanimously in the Senate. Following the vote, an observation was made that it would be worthwhile to think outside of the box about other (non-SPOT) methods of assessing teaching performance - perhaps qualitative, rather than quantitative methods would be better. It may also be that the current centralized (rather than department or program-based) evaluation system is not the best way to engage students in the process.
7. Dr. Ted Legatski then presented a joint resolution from the Executive Committee and the Governance Committee proposing standardization of certain language in the Faculty-Staff Handbook relevant to Senate operations. One wordsmithing amendment was recommended and accepted. The motion to approve the resolution passed.
8. Committee nominations and elections: three nominations were made, for the Budget Advisory Committee, the University Advisory Committee, and the HMMV committee. No other nominations being forthcoming from the committee, nominations were closed, and voting for the individuals indicated for each position was unanimously in favor.
9. Nominations for the Executive Committee were then opened, with several nominated individuals announced. No further nominations being forthcoming, the nominations were closed by unanimous vote. Elections will take place at the final meeting of the year, on April 28th.

There being no further business, the Senate adjourned at 4:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Stephens  
Faculty Senate Secretary