

TCU Faculty Senate Meeting
01 October 2015
3:30 – 5:00 PM
Faculty Senate Chambers

Minutes

Senators Present

Barth, Tim; Bedford, David; Begnoche, David; Busbey, Art; Castro-Balbi, Jesus; Coffey, Jeff; Farmer, Billy; Friedman, Greg; Fry, Julie; Gil, Dan; Gollaher, Timothy; Jenschke, Monica; Kerstetter, Todd; Krochmal, Max; Lahutsky, Nadia; Ledbetter, Andrew; Legatski, Ted; Lovett, John; Mann, Steven; Meier, William; Michaelides, Efstathios; Moeller, Thomas; Moore, Carrie; Moore, Jeff; Moore, Linda; Petrovich, James; Powell, Samantha; Quesada, Janis; Ramasesh, Ranga; Sandell, David; Sawyer, Chris; Scherger, Michael; Schiffer, Adam; Scott, Krista; Shniderman, Adam; Shorter, Alan; Simanek, Eric; Skinner, Michael; Spice, Loren; Stephens, Greg; Warrington, Patricia; Williams, Daniel; Wright, Robin; Zhang, Qiao

Senators Excused

Argenbright, Kristi; Esposito, Phil; Geider, Jeff; Jimerson, Jo Beth; Kim, San-ky; Packard, Sally; Schrodt, Paul; Whitworth, Keith; Yorkston, Eric

Senators Absent

Baker, Kathy; Hammad, Hanan; Jenkins, David; Lim, Steve; Palko, Steve; Solomon, Gloria; Woodworth, Steve

Guests Present

Chancellor Victor Boschini, Provost Nowell Donovan, Kathy Cavins-Tull (VC for Student Affairs), Bryan Lucas (Chief Technology Officer), Todd Waldvogel (Associate VC for Facilities), Katie Rettig (Student House of Representatives), Drew Hirschmann (TCU 360)

Call to Order

1. Faculty Senate Chair Stathis Michaelides called the meeting to order at 3:30.
2. The minutes of the September 03, 2015 meeting of the Faculty Senate were approved as submitted.

Old Business

3. N/A

New Business

4. Chancellor Boschini spoke briefly in welcome to the assembled Senators, and responded briefly to questions from the Senators. Progress is underway on the joint medical school with UNTHSC.
 - a. The Chancellor and Provost are visiting various universities (e.g., Seton Hall) with similar arrangements to understand the potential challenges we must be aware of and handle along the way.
 - b. There will be financial implications for TCU, both in costs and in potential revenue/donations.
 - c. Graduates of the medical school will have a TCU degree until the state approves UNHSTC's operation, after which graduates will receive a joint degree.

5. Bryan Lucas spoke briefly
 - a. TCU is expanding two-factor authentication for off-campus access to TCU networks.
 - b. The login delay in classrooms that some faculty may have noticed at the beginning of the semester was an unfortunate consequence of Microsoft building a profile. It was a one-time occurrence and should not happen again.
 - c. Hard drive space on computer upgrades has been reduced, and faculty are encouraged to use network space or cloud drive space to save files, because hard drive space is often less reliable.
 - d. Various Senators suggested we need a more efficient and clear route of communication to discuss issues such as OS upgrades, machine upgrades (or not, for those who would rather wait), and other such issues unique to each faculty member. Faculty are encouraged to contact the help desk for such issues, as all IT managers see the help desk call logs and watch for unresolved issues over ten days.
 - e. Faculty are encouraged to use box.com for cloud storage, for which the University has a site license. Much better than Dropbox, in various ways.

6. Todd Waldvogel then updated the Senate on the TCU Facilities Master Plan.
 - a. Facilities are crucial to the campus environment, and enacting TCU's vision.
 - b. Focusing on the foreseeable future, but also on the unforeseen future - challenges that may take place or that have no clear definition (water, energy, landscape, growth/shrinkage, NCAA Division 1 issues, etc.).
 - c. Reaching out to the city, neighbors, and other stakeholders, trying to achieve active community engagement and genuine collaboration. Transparency is critical, with clear objectives and processes...deliberate communications with a consistent message.

7. Resolution on the Faculty Senate's recommendation on Campus Carry
 - a. The proposed resolution is as follows: "The Faculty Senate recommends to the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees that concealed firearms not be allowed on campus and that TCU opt out of the Campus Carry provision of Texas Senate Bill 11."
 - b. Discussion ensued
 - i. Legal signage may be necessary if the University opts out (30.06 signage as specified under concealed carry legislation).
 - ii. While a large majority of the campus community is undoubtedly in favor of opting out, it is acknowledged that there is a subset of faculty opposed to opting out.
 - iii. The Senate voted in favor of adopting the resolution (?? in favor, 3 opposed).
8. Senator Billy Farmer offered as a point of information that students are being asked to use One Drive cloud storage space, and sometimes Faculty who wish students to set up a website will need to work with the registrar to set up such space for that specific class and semester.
9. Senator Linda Moore requested that a future discussion to be held regarding the size of the Faculty Senate, and the possible advantages of reducing the required number of Senators.
 - a. Given we had some time before closing, Chair Michaelides invited discussion immediately.
 - b. Some benchmarking has taken place, and it was noted that some universities have as few as two senators per college/school, and senatorial service is considered prestigious and is often accompanied by course reductions or other such arrangements.
 - c. We have an ongoing problem trying to find faculty willing to serve on the Senate. It does not seem to be a priority for many faculty, and perhaps it should be more selective.
 - d. It was also argued that service on the Senate would also be seen in a more favorable light by the faculty if it were rewarded in some significant way by the administration.
 - e. While service will likely always be third in importance behind teaching and research, it was argued that Senate service is, in fact, leadership in the University, and should be acknowledged and rewarded accordingly.
 - f. This discussion will continue in future meetings of the Senate.
10. Information items:
 - a. The student honor codes has been adopted and will be in place January 2016.

- b. The faculty/graduate student lounge (26' X 26') on the first floor of the library will open soon. Erudite conversationalists are welcome.

The Senate adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Stephens
Faculty Senate Secretary