

Minutes
TCU Faculty Senate
1 May 2003

Members present: Arnie Barkman, Arthur Busbey, Carolyn Spence-Cagle, David Cross, Sharon Fairchild, Blaise Ferrandino, Ron Flowers, Andy Fort, Sally Fortenberry, Pam Frable, Rob Garnett, George Gilbert, Phil Hadlock, Jack Jones, Paul King, Derek Kompare, Nadia Lahutsky, Suzy Lockwood, Don Nichols, Ranga Ramasesh, Dick Rinewalt, Magnus Rittby, Mike Sacken, Ellen Page Shelton, Gene Smith, Elizabeth Taylor Carol Thompson, Jeffrey Todd, Bill Vanderhoof, Peggy Watson, Lee Woodward, Melissa Young.

Members absent: Lynn Flahive, Tom Guderjan, Sanoa Hensley, Joan McGettigan, Bill Ryan.

Chair Watson convened the last meeting of 2002-2003 at 3:35 PM and welcomed visitors, including members of the Staff Assembly Executive Committee.

The minutes of the March 6 Faculty Senate meeting were approved unanimously.

Senator Fort announced the departing Senators, including Ron Flowers, Phil Hadlock, Lee Woodward, Lynn Flahive, Paul King, Derrick Kompare, Joan McGettigan, Becky Taylor and Sanoa Hensley. He also introduced the incoming senators, including David Bedford, Jack Hill, Ed McNertney, Carol Thompson, Nowell Donovan, Dick Rinewalt Magnus Rittby, Lori Diel, Steve Levering, Molly Weinburgh, Chuck Bamford, Arnie Barkman, Donelle Barnes and Linda Moore

New Business

Since there were only single candidates for the EC positions, senator Fort moved to acced the proposed new EC members by acclimation. His proposal was accepted by the corpus of the Faculty Senate. New EC members include Nadia Lahutsky (Chair), Peggy Watson (Past-Chair), Blaise Ferrandino (Chair-Elect), Sharon Fairchild (Secretary) and Rob Garnett (Assistant Secretary).

Assistant Secretary Fort distributed election ballots for the Budget Committee.

Chair-Elect Lahutsky noted that SACS requires that every class have a syllabus. She noted that since this was a requirement for accreditation, the presence or absence of a course syllabus was no longer simply a matter of debate. She introduced a motion that the Faculty Senate support the inclusion of a syllabus in every TCU course and the motion was passed unanimously.

Report of the Academic Excellence Committee – Derek Compare

The AEC focused on the one standing charge; monitor, with Admissions, the promotion of the academic mission of TCU. They found that there is a gap between student expectations and experiences, raising questions concerning how well students are prepared for college life in general and TCU in particular.

The AEC feels that admissions materials focus on presenting how much fun TCU is, rather than emphasizing the academic mission. However, data indicates that the best students don't come to TCU because of the fun gambit. In fact, TCU is rated lower in academics than all surrounding schools. The committee feels that TCU needs to improve the perception of its academic standing in the greater community.

The AEC suggests that we do a better job of measuring students' perceptions of TCU in relation to TCU's promotional materials. They also suggest that a wide scale survey should be undertaken in the next academic year.

They also feel that something should be put in our promotional literature that lets students and parents know that we are not a conservative religious institution.

Student Affairs Committee - Sharon Fairchild

The SAC continued to monitor the concerns of the SGA and documented those concerns in its annual report.

Tenure, Promotion and Governance Committee - Mike Sacken

The TPGC met about modifying the Staff Conflict Resolution policy to include faculty conflicts that don't involve tenure or promotion problems. Chair Watson suggested presenting their decisions to the full Faculty Senate in the Fall.

Faculty Governance Committee - Lee Woodward

Senator Woodward briefly summarized the suggestions and; the report was distributed for the May meeting. A lively discussion followed and it became clear there was not sufficient time to complete senate debate.

**Senator Paul King moved to take all 6 recommendations to the FGC next year.
Senator Fairchild seconded the motion and it passed with one vote against.**

Chair Elect Lahutsky distributed the final report of the **Budget Committee**.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Arthur Busbey, Secretary (2002-2003)