

Minutes
TCU Faculty Senate
5 September 2002

Members present: Joe Bobich, Arthur Busbey, Carolyn Spence-Cagle, David Cross, Sharon Fairchild, Blaise Ferrandino, Lynn Flahive, Andy Fort, Sally Fortenberry, Pam Frable, Rob Garnett, George Gilbert, Phil Hadlock, Sanoa Hensley, Jack Jones, Paul King, Derek Kompare, Nadia Lahutsky, Suzy Lockwood, Joan McGettigan, Don Nichols, Ranga Ramasesh, Dick Rinewalt, Magnus Rittby, Mike Sacken, Ellen Page Shelton, Gene Smith, Elizabeth Taylor, Jeffrey Todd, Peggy Watson, Ralph Woodward, Melissa Young.

Members absent: Melissa Burns, Thad Duhigg, Ron Flowers, Bill Vanderhoof.

Chair Peggy Watson called the meeting to order at 3:38 and had the senators introduce themselves.

The Chair introduced the Chancellor who talked about his Convocation speech and his enthusiasm for the coming year. Senator Bobich asked him to share with us what he would like to see from the new core revision committee. Chancellor Ferrari said he hoped to see a core that everyone will embrace with enthusiasm. He hopes to see a document by the end of the year with a new core, but realizes it may take more final shaping.

Senator Cagle thanked the Chancellor for his emphasis on the Faculty Senate when he spoke at the new faculty introduction reception. Chancellor Ferrari said the Faculty Senate is very important and that faculty always needs to be involved and engaged in what happens at TCU. The Senate is the main body that speaks for the faculty and is especially important this year [because of the core revision].

Chair Watson introduced guests, including Leo Munson (Assoc. Vice Chancellor for Academic Support), Catherine Wehlburg (Director, Center for Teaching Excellence), Amy Johnson (Skiff reporter) and also the Provost and Chancellor.

The minutes of May, 2002 were approved.

The Chair presented the problem of having to elect a new Chair-Elect [because of the departure of Chair George Brown, over the summer]. She noted that Senator Lahutsky volunteered to run for the position of Chair-elect and that since there was only a single candidate that we could move to elect by acclamation.

Senator Fortenberry moved (seconded by Senator Cagle) to elect Senator Lahutsky as the new Chair-Elect by acclamation. The motion passed unanimously.

Ballots for the Core Curriculum Committee were distributed for membership vote. Only AddRan and the College of Science and Engineering had contested positions. Chair Watson asked the senators to consider two points while they were electing the members; 1) Try to elect people who have a past history with the new core, and 2) People with the ability to see past their own

disciplines and colleges and who can analyze the core as a member of the entire academic community.

Senator Gilbert asked if the new committee was just an overlay committee or if its charge had been broadened. Chair Watson said that the charge had been broadened as the EC felt that we needed to empower the committee members to have a broader look at the core. Senator Fort also noted that there was a timing problem getting responses from senators during the summer.

The Chair said that the new committee will have a charge to meet with constituent groups and to try to end discussions by November with a document to consider at the December Faculty Senate meeting. This should give senators a chance to consider the document over winter break.

Senator King asked if the motion supporting the new committee could be re-read. Senator Cagle asked if he meant the revised May motion.

Senator King asked if the Senate had voted to expand the original motion. Senator Fort quoted from the May motion and said that the language did not restrict us to just evaluating the overlay component. Senator King said he didn't know we were voting for something beyond looking at the overlay. Senator Cagle noted that in forums last spring there was little opposition to the categories and that mainly there were a series of overlay discussions. She said the EC felt that the new committee could take non-controversial material and overlay topics and work on both together for a better plan. Senator Fort said that over the summer the EC's interpretation had evolved but that we had kept within the language of the motion.

Senator Hensley asked if the Faculty from AddRan and the Faculty from Business had submitted names. The Chair said that the only college that submitted names was Science and Engineering and that these were from the senators themselves. Other Science and Engineering senators submitted the names of Drs. Bobich and Donovan.

Because of interest, the Chair read out a current draft of committee charges. Senator Todd asked if there was anything from the Mission Statement, and the Chair noted that the Mission Statement was mentioned in the first line of the charges.

Senator Lahutsky asked if anyone who was not elected to the new committee may be called to serve and was answered in the affirmative.

Presentation by Leo Munson.

Dr. Munson provided the Senate with an update on construction and on the video projector situation [the theft of 8 projectors this summer triggered projector removal from many classrooms on campus]. He said that the video presenters were being reinstalled. Apparently a single individual was responsible for video projector thefts at TCU and other area institutions. The thief was attempting to sell \$7K projectors for \$60 to retail outlet.

After 2 years there are 128 cameras in academic areas (others in other areas) and Leo was asked to perform a security audit. As a result of that audit TCU will now have two security mechanisms. The first is a wire that connects to the TCU police and sets off a silent alarm at the

police department if the wire is broken; response time will be 8 to 10 minutes. The second mechanism will be a metal box that is put around the projector that must be broken to be removed. It should take over 8 minutes to break and remove a box which should be enough time for the campus police to respond. The boxes are being fabricated for TCU, which is slowing down the reinstall. All projectors in Reed Hall should be installed as of September 6th, and others will be installed as soon as possible.

Presentation by Catherine Wehlburg

Senator Young was on the Search Committee for the Chair of Center for Teaching Excellence and she introduced Dr. Catherine Wehlburg who was chosen for that position.

Catherine said she had been at TCU for two months and was in the offices on the 5th floor of Sid Richardson that were formerly those of the Dean of Science and Engineering. The Center should be viewed as an information resource, as a location to work on improving teaching methods and to bring Faculty new options and ideas. Her hope is to work on the quality of instruction from the individual to the Department level. She hopes that the Center will be an advocate for teaching across campus.

Other

The results of the election of the Core Curriculum Committee members were announced: AddRan College: Drs. Schmidt and McNertney and the College of Science and Engineering: Drs. Donovan and Hartman. The Chair thanked everyone who volunteered their names for consideration.

The Chair announced that a faculty forum was being set up in the near future to allow faculty to hear a presentation from the Chair of the Chancellor Search Committee. She also noted that there will be a joint meeting with SGE and the Staff Assembly at the end of October and Bob Bolen will be the speaker.

Chair Watson also noted that a concerned group was drafting a proposal for onsite daycare. Dr. Bonnie Melhart and others were working on the proposal and hoped to have it finished by the end of October. Interested parties can contact Senator Cagle or Dr. Melhart for additional details.

Senator Fort announced that the Faculty Senate is understaffed in many areas and asked senators to actively help in the search for new senators.

The first meeting of the 2002-2003 academic year was adjourned at 4:48PM

Respectfully submitted,
Art Busbey, Secretary of the Faculty Senate.

[On September 6 Dr. Bobich resigned his Faculty Senate membership]