

Minutes
TCU Faculty Senate
6 September, 2001

Members present : Charles Becker, Joe Bobich, George Brown, Melissa Burns, Ron Burns, Arthur Busbey, Carolyn Cagle, Nowell Donovan, Sharon Fairchild, Lynn Flahive, Ron Flowers, Andy Fort, Sally Fortenberry, Pam Frable, Gregg Franzwa, Rob Garnett, Ellen Garrison, Phil Hadlock, Sanoa Hensley, Jennifer Higa, Paul King, Ed Kolesar, Derek Kompare, George Low, Joan McGettigan, Don Nicols, Dick Rinewalt, Magnus Rittby, Mike Sacken, Gene Smith, Elizabeth Taylor, Jeffrey Todd, Bill Vanderhoof, Peggy Watson, Ralph Woodward, Melissa Young.

Members absent : Thad Duhigg, Nancy Meadows, Ron Watson.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Carolyn Spence-Cagle at 3:36 p.m.

The minutes of the May 3, 2001 Faculty Senate were accepted with the following corrections: the date of the minutes should read May 3, 2001 and edits were made to the April 5, 2001 minutes.

The Chair welcomed Senators to the meeting and provided an overview of the proposed agenda. In addition, she announced that the Academic Deans failed to support the Conflict Resolution Policy approved by the Senate at the May 3, 2001 meeting. Chair Cagle noted that Provost Koehler will address specific concerns of the Deans at today's meeting.

Old Business

The Chair noted that the Faculty Senate needs to elect a Senator to participate on the Budget and Finance Committee (a committee of the Senate) for the 2001-2002 year. Normally, this election occurs at the final Senate meeting each year but apparently was overlooked as a responsibility last year. Sanoa Hensley has agreed to stand for election for a current open position on the Budget and Finance Committee. Three Senators are to be serve on this committee each year according to the Faculty/Staff Handbook. Emails sent to the Chair from a current Committee member, Senator Fort, prior to this meeting indicate his desire to have a member of the Executive Committee serve on this committee in his place. Senator Fort had made this recommendation several years before when he served on the Executive Committee. Based on Senator Fort's suggestion, the Chair had contacted Chair-elect Brown who agreed to be considered as the Executive Committee's representation to this committee. Senator Fort noted that under the new TCU CFO, the Budget and Finance Committee is actively involved in decision-making about the finances of the University, thus mandating financially experienced and informed membership. Senator Fort noted his belief that Senators Hensley and Brown have the background to effectively contribute to the committee.

The Chair asked for a vote of the Senate to accept Chair-elect Brown and Senator Hensley for this year's membership for the Budget and Finance Committee. The Senate unanimously supported these nominations. This year's membership will, thus, include Chair-elect Brown (replacing Senator Fort)(term until 2002), Senator Hensley (term until 2004), and Senator Sacken (term until 2003).

There was consensus among Senators that the Senate Chair-elect will serve as a member of the Budget and Finance Committee in the future. This will allow that individual to develop an understanding of fiscal affairs of the University that are important to the Senate goals and process.

The vote for Chair-Elect Brown's and Senator Hensley's election was unopposed.

Change to TCU Vitae to Reflect Teaching Role:

The Executive Committee through the summer reviewed the recommendation made by the Tenure, Promotion, and Grievance Committee (TP+G) last May to change the current vitae to include more information on teaching performance. Discussion held at this meeting focused on concerns by Senators about including class GPAs and detailed time allotments spent with students. The Executive Committee decided in view of these concerns to recommend that Senators once again talk with their constituencies to more fully understand faculty support for including specific items as suggested by the TP+G Committee. This discussion may provide a foundation for re-evaluation of the proposal made by the TP+G group last May. After some discussion by the Senate about the best process to keep the proposal "alive," the Senate decided to further discuss this issue in October.

Report from the Quasi-judicial Ad Hoc Group:

Lynn Flahive, the 2000-2001 Committee on Committees Chair, reported on this group's meeting during June 2001 and recommendations relevant to combining various quasi-judicial committees for greater University committee efficiency (see May 3, 2001 Minutes for specifics of ad hoc group formulation). The summer group also made recommendations to formulate a Hearing Committee that would hear cases on academic dishonesty. Senator Hensley asked about the number of committee members, and Senator Flahive noted this would be decided later. She added that the composition of the committee would also reflect the needs of individual cases (3-4 members in cases of sexual assault, for example) and the committee focus. Senator Flahive noted there are 25 or so faculty that have been trained and could form a pool from which Hearing Committee members could be selected. A summary of the group's work and recommendations was circulated to each Senator via email prior to the meeting. Due to inadequate time to review the recommendations, these will be voted on in the October meeting. Don Mills and Mike Russel, members of the Ad Hoc group, will also be present at the October meeting to provide further information about academic dishonesty and the Hearing Committee concept.

Review of Individual Senate Committee Charges:

The Chair reviewed the specific charges of the four Senate standing committees. She emphasized that the general theme of "defining the teacher-scholar" defines each committee's work but the focus will change with a different orientation on students, academics, etc. All Senators will be notified later today of their committee assignment via the Senate list-serve managed by Secretary Busbey.

University Equipment Security

The Chair introduced Mr. Steve McGee (Police Chief) and Mr. Will Stalworth who gave a presentation on campus renovations. This summer renovations included 78 rooms in 8 buildings. Some six million dollars have been spent on infrastructure, furniture and some cosmetic work. The projects were quickly planned and executed. There are still some small projects under way. The AC is a bit cold in some places and there will be two more weeks of adjusting systems and getting boilers ready for winter. Furniture problems are being taken care of. Next summer TCU will work on teaching labs in science facilities and buildings. They are planning how to execute renovations with minimum disruption. Some projects will take place over Christmas.

Mr. McGee Security noted that building security is a problem. The new classrooms have approximately \$18K in equipment. There have already been thefts of the new AV equipment, so there is a problem about how to secure the equipment. There will also be new procedures for obtaining keys since "Key control is out of control". Faculty are encouraged to report anything missing immediately. The TCU police think the main problem is probably the transient contract workers on campus. Be careful about leaving rooms open and be sure to lock doors.

Senator Fortenberry asked if they knew the number of master keys possessed by contractors. Mr. Stalworth said that the contractors check out keys on a daily basis and have to sign them back in before they leave.

Senator Kompare asked about the missing remote controls for DVD players and we were told that policies for their use were being formulated.

Remarks by Chancellor Ferrari:

There will be a meeting with alumni to set up goals and the process for the next major fund raising campaign.

Remarks by Provost Koehler:

Provost Koehler commented at length on the rejection of the TP&G's CRP by the Deans. They asked the Faculty Senate to reconsider the recommendations in the light of the following suggestions:

- 1) Carefully consider what problems the Faculty Senate is trying to solve and,
- 2) Pay special attention to the rights and privileges of the faculty because the Deans feel these are being forfeited in the CRP document.

The Provost and Deans think that the proposed procedures circumvent the CRP and Provost Koehler listed a number of problematic points for the Faculty Senate to consider.

According to the Deans and Provost, the proposed policy also applies to adjunct and occasional faculty and includes many issues that do not involve contentious issues of tenure and salary. These include course load, research support, instructional issues, mentoring and graduate student issues: many things that don't deal with the CRP. The document speaks about a conflict resolution facilitator and yet there is no requirement that this individual be a

faculty member. The document stipulates that the TCU CRF would be appointed by administrators and other non-faculty members. Current wording says that results are approved by HR and Staff Assembly and NOT by representatives of The Faculty. The proposal says the board could consist of current or retired faculty, but with no requirement that it has active faculty. Mediators will listen to the problem but there is no requirement that they are a faculty member.

The proposed process says to discuss concerns with an immediate supervisor, however, in step 1 of the procedure, in which a faculty member is uncomfortable speaking to the supervisor, the CRF may be contacted immediately. There could be some worse case scenarios in which everyone in the normal chain is skipped because a faculty member “is not comfortable”. The process could pass outside of the academic arena. If the informal process is unsuccessful it may be submitted to a peer review panel. Finally, the HR department, and not faculty representatives, would be responsible for administering and interpreting policy. The provost charged the Faculty Senate to carefully review the policy, considering faculty rights, responsibilities and privileges and to indentify what problems need to be solved. Provost Koehler also noted that much of the content seems to have been lifted from the current Staff policy. The Provost and Deans think that the document needs to be generated by faculty with attention given to traditions and concerns of the Faculty.

Final Discussion

Dean of Admissions Ray Brown showed new recruitment materials and talked a bit about this year’s class.

Chair Spence-Cagle noted that the Fall forum will be held at some point. The meeting time is up in the air as we are waiting on the results of the ‘Enos’ UCR committee.

Adjourned at 4:58

Submitted Respectfully,
Art Busbey, Secretary
Faculty Senate