

**Minutes
TCU Faculty Senate
3 February 2000**

Members present: Chuck Becker, Joe Bobich, Pat Bradley, Clayton Brown, Art Busbey, Carolyn Cagle, Ernie Couch, Nowell Donovan, Bruce Elleman, Lynn Flahive, Andy Fort, Sally Fortenberry, Gregg Franzwa, David Grant, Nadia Lahutsky, George Low, Linda Moore, Don Nichols, Pat Paulus, Roger Pfaffenberger, Sherrie Reynolds, Dick Rinewalt, Bill Ryan, Mike Sacken, Gloria Solomon, Greg Stephens, Carol Stephenson, Peggy Watson, and Melissa Young.

Members absent: Peggy Bennett, George Brown, David Jenkins, Pat Kinkade, Ed Kolesar, Nancy Meadows, Alison Moreland, Ellen Page-Garrison, and Ron Watson.

The February 2000 meeting of the TCU Faculty Senate was called to order by Chair Roger Pfaffenberger at 3:36 p.m. in the Sid Richardson Board Room.

The minutes of the 2 December 1999 meeting were approved as distributed.

Old Business.

At the 7 October 1999 Senate meeting, a motion was approved recommending that the chair-elect of the Staff Assembly be appointed co-chair of the Retirement, Insurance, and Benefits Committee. Chair Pfaffenberger announced that the Staff Assembly and RIB Committee were going to propose a modification of that original motion, so that the Staff co-chair would not rotate every year. This proposal will be addressed in a future meeting.

New Business

• **Revision of the bylaws regarding allocation of Senate seats.** The Executive Committee placed on the floor the following motion, the intent of which is to bring the Senate's Bylaws in conformity to the new college structure that will go into effect in June 2000:

That Article II, Section 2, Part A of *The Bylaws of the Faculty Assembly and Faculty Senate* be modified to read as follows:

“A. Members representing the several schools and colleges. Each school and college is allocated one member in the Faculty Senate for every eleven full-time members in that school or college, with an additional seat allocated when there are six or more full-time faculty beyond multiples of eleven. **No school or college, or division of Addran College of Humanities and Social Sciences, shall be allocated fewer than three members, with at least one member elected at each regular election.**”

Discussion of the motion focused on the ambiguity in this statement, now that there is a School of Music within the College of Fine Arts and a College of Nursing within the College of Health Sciences and Human Services. Senator Fort moved that the motion be tabled and sent back to the Executive Committee for rewording to eliminate the ambiguity. The motion to table was approved.

• **Resolution concerning pedestrian safety on University Drive.** Senator Bobich brought the following resolution to the floor and Senator Franzwa made a motion to adopt it:

Too many T.C.U. constituents are being run over by careless drivers. Therefore, the T.C.U. Faculty Senate requests that the chancellor ask Bob Bolen to work hard to get all the T.C.U. crosswalks on University Drive raised as they are in front of Paschal High School, to better mark all crosswalks, to eliminate parking in front of "Flash, The University Store," and to do everything else that he and the University can do to decrease automobile accidents on campus.

Several persons spoke from their own experiences of the pedestrian dangers on University Drive. Senator Donovan suggested putting up large purple signs with "Caution: Frog Crossing." Senator Fort asked what is the best way to proceed. Ed Biven, Vice Chancellor for Administrative Service, present as a guest, suggested that the city has a traffic manager whom we can ask to come out to look at the situation. If senators give him a list of things to bring to that traffic manager, he'll see what's possible. The resolution passed.

Announcements

Report from Vice Chancellor Biven on changes in health plan carrier. Chair Pfaffenberger asked Vice-Chancellor Biven to speak to the recent acquisition of Harris Methodist Health Plan by Pacificare and the impact it will have on us. Several senators indicated that they had had trouble getting prescriptions filled. Vice Chancellor Biven noted that there was indeed some confusion due to Pacificare's imposing a drug formulary in their HMO. Our contract with Harris explicitly does not allow the imposition of a formulary, however, and Pacificare is bound by the terms of the Harris contract until it expires. He encouraged anyone who was having problems to call the staff in Human Resources.

Report from the Chancellor on January Board meeting. Chair Pfaffenberger invited Chancellor Ferrari to address the Senate on the recent January Board Meeting. Chancellor Ferrari indicated that the purpose of the January meeting was to approve the revenue budget; the expense budget will be approved at the March meeting. The Board approved a revenue forecast of \$168,120,000 for 2000-2001. This increase in revenue incorporates a \$25/sem. hr. increase in tuition, from \$365 to \$390; an increase in student fees of 7%; and an average 7% increase in housing. It also assumes a slight total enrollment growth of 50 students, 30 undergraduate and 20 graduate. The endowment spending percentage is slightly decreased, although the actual dollars from endowment is slightly higher.

The chancellor then presented the Proposed Strategic Directions for TCU that came out of the Board. (See Attachment A.) and took questions from senators.

There being no further business before the regular meeting, Chair Pfaffenberger called the Senate into executive session to discuss nominations for honorary degrees.

C. David Grant
Secretary

Proposed Strategic Directions for TCU

Board of Trustees Discussion

January 27-28, 2000

Enrollment and Tuition Principles

- TCU will seek to maintain a relatively stable enrollment base over the next few years to reinforce its character as a small to medium-sized residential university providing high quality education in a personal learning environment.
- Modest and selective enrollment growth may occur, but such growth will be sensitive to the availability of faculty, staff and facility resources to ensure a high quality educational experience for students.
- TCU will raise tuition and fees and scholarship support more aggressively than in previous years while maintaining its relatively lower pricing position in relationship to peer institutions.
- TCU will move to differential tuition and pricing for selected academic programs, especially at the graduate level.

Debt and Facility Improvement Principles

- TCU has the capacity for incurring up to \$100 million in additional long-term debt for strategically-critical, long-term projects provided the sources for repayment are clearly identified.
- The University seeks to maintain its Aa bond rating in the incurring of additional debt.
- Preference will be given to projects for which there is a revenue stream, but there is no limitation as to the type of project (e.g., academic vs. non-academic) so long as the sources for repayment are clearly identified.
- TCU will continue to identify the incremental operating and maintenance costs associated with a new capital project and provide for revenue sources to cover these costs (e.g., through endowment, if part of a fund-raising initiative, but not limited to that source alone).
- The Administration will have flexibility to propose the start of construction on a capital project if at least 70% of the total project cost (i.e., all “hard and soft” costs, except endowment) is committed and there is a specific plan for meeting the remaining costs of the project. The Board will consider such proposals on a project-by-project basis.

Endowment Principles

- The University is committed to maintaining the economic value of the endowment, adjusting for inflation.
- TCU will strive to achieve a spending rate of 5.5% over the next five years and a 5.0% spending rate over the next ten years. The spending rate will be based on financial assets, excluding mineral income and real estate rental income. The University will continue a policy of calculating the spending rate over a 9-quarter trailing average with the goal of moving to a 12-quarter trailing average as soon as feasible, from a budgetary perspective.
- Endowment funds held in trust will be included as endowment in calculating the spending-rate, and the Fiscal Affairs and Investment Committees will periodically examine what constitutes the financial endowment against which the spending rate is calculated..
- The Fiscal Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees will consider and recommend to the Board of Trustees a long-term spending policy for mineral assets.
- The University will make every effort to not invade the endowment to fund the construction of “brick and mortar” projects, with the exception of selective property acquisitions on the perimeter of the campus.
- TCU will seek to become less dependent on endowment income as a percentage of total revenues in the University’s operating budget and strive to hold level the current ratio of 27%.