**6 SEPTEMBER 2018 FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES.**

The meeting was called to order by **Chair Greg Stephens** at 3:33.

He welcomed various guests and invited their statements. First, **Chair of Staff Assembly Walter Betts**highlighted several of his group’s shared interests with Faculty Senate, such as getting key information to employee families with college bound students, participating in community service events, and continuing to advocate for the development of an Ombuds program at TCU. Next, **SGA President Abbey Widick** spoke on her appreciation of the collaborative relationship between SGA and FS. Abbey introduced **Alexis Hood** as this year’s SGA liaison to the Faculty Senate and identified the SGA areas of focus for the year: sexual assault prevention; mental health initiatives, and the expansion of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion among all campus student organizations. **Nathan Brasher**, **President of TCU’s Graduate Student Senate**, made remarks on his organization and its emphases for the year: more engagement among grad students on family focused events; free headshots for attendance of the first meeting; and evaluation of the statistics on current TCU graduate students and their needs, such as childcare (“sitters for service” idea), in order to establish priorities, solve problems and develop new initiatives.

Next, Greg Stephens asked **the new Senators** to stand and introduce themselves.

**Assistant Secretary Greg Friedman** introduced the FS Executive Committee and Senate Committee Chairs.

Minutes from the May meeting were approved.

**Chancellor Boschini** gave a brief word of welcome and touted the remarkable 91-92% retention rate (after the 12th day) for this semester. He identified the big item of business for TCU this year is the search for a new Provost.

**Provost Donovan** gave his opening remarks, expressing his gratitude for the **Senate Emeritus status** conferred on him at the last meeting in May 2018. He made a brief presentation about the **Lead On Steering** **Committee**, whose task is to follow-up on and develop action plans based on the strategic planning work of last year’s 4 Lead On Committees. The Steering Committee, which he chairs, began work over the summer, and is small (nimble) and inclusive of university leadership (such as the FS Chair, Staff Assembly Chair, SGA President, GGA President, as well as Administration figures). The Provost promised to keep the faculty/ TCU community abreast of the committee’s progress and to have feedback sessions in the near future. He highlighted the fact that he meets with FS Chair once a month and once a month with FSEC (to plan FS meeting); **Katie Farmer**, the new **chair of the Academic Affairs Committee of the TCU Board of Trustees**, attended the August FSEC meeting with the Provost. This structure facilitates good communication with the Board. He is also developing a regular meeting of the Provost’s Council to include FSEC members, further devising means of keeping faculty voices in the conversation.

**Joshua Friend**, a graduate student in Vocal Performance (Opera) and **one of the** **Co-Chairs of Graduate** **Spectrum—an LGBT student alliance** whose main mission is to educate & encourage members of the TCU community regarding LGBT matters and to support the Undergraduate Spectrum group—gave a brief informative presentation. He expressed appreciate for the good support Spectrum has received from numerous faculty and staff; he announced a Sexual Health event Spectrum will sponsor in September, along with a Drag Show in November. Graduate Spectrum is working on Diversity and inclusion matters for students. Among other announcements, Joshua mentioned an LGBT exhibition in the Library this month; this Saturday, TCU is hosting an LGBT symposium; a Community Center is soon to launch in Jarvis. He welcomed questions at the alliance’s email:  spectrum@tcu.edu .

**Past Chair Ted Legatski,**who chairs the **Provost Search Committee**, gave a presentation on the Provost Search timetable and process. He noted the aggressive timeline—committee composed of 16 members from various sections of the campus community; announcement ad place in early August; Leadership Statement ready; Committee will review applications beginning October 1st; semifinalists (about 10) interviewed by committee late October; Campus visits by finalists (3) mid-November for campus-wide conversations; the Chancellor makes final selection before Christmas.

250 applicants have been contacted by the search firm; referrals are still being accepted. Ted is still looking for **input from faculty on key qualities/characteristics of next Provost**. He reminded the group that the **deadline for applications is Sept. 30th**. Over 20 applications have been received so far; 60 or so are expected. The Senate had an in-depth discussion of the subject:  regarding the leadership profile and “preferred qualifications,” about commitment to “shared governance” (to be addressed during interviews), “leadership,” “scholarship,” “public v. private school experience,” etc. (The next Provost Search Committee meeting is October 3RD). An ad has been placed in The Chronicle, as well as in other publications, in the interest of targeting a broad applicant pool. Ted affirmed that candidates’ commitments to the mission and core values of TCU is essential.

The Chancellor reassured the group that the concerns expressed in the Senate meeting are those of the committee. A copy of the final Leadership Statement will be released to the TCU community soon.

In sum, Ted wants: (1) names of potential candidates; (2) strong priorities of qualities for next Provost; (3) concerns or questions. (Shared governance commitment key for Ted.) **To send feedback or share input, please send an email to** t.legatski@tcu.edu.

Next, the Senate heard an update on the LEAD ON Steering Committee from Susan Weeks, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs. She thanked Greg Stephens for his service over the summer on the Academic Space Planning Group & assistance in planning for the October 11th (class day) TCU football game, as well as his part of the VIA Lead On Steering Committee. She stated that it is important for the campus community to know that progress on strategic initiative priorities is already underway. For example, TCU has invested in a new Data Warehouse and data governance protocols are under discussion. The DEI dialog well underway. The Steering Committee is beginning to identify priority action items for the upcoming budget cycle, as well as longer term initiatives to pursue.

Greg Stephens made a presentation of a recommendation to the Senate from members of the Interdisciplinary Studies Chair selection committee.  Over the summer, that group crafted a statement on how best to encourage DEI and interdisciplinarity on campus. (See attached document.) They recommended the integration of DEI-related activities and research into faculty annual reports. This idea was discussed by Provost’s Council, which led to its inclusion on the TCU 180 site. There is still confusion about the implementation of this item, its use for promotion and tenure purposes, and the matter of Faculty Senate consent (a la shared governance). David Bedford made a **motion that the Senate refer the issue to the Faculty Relations Committee (FRC**), a motion that was seconded by Sean Atkinson. The motion **passed**.

Ted Legatski gave an update on the **Task Force on Status of Adjuncts on Campus**. The task force, approved last year, has been formed and was to report to FS in March 2019. However, they encountered difficulties in accessing data over the summer. Therefore, the schedule of the report has been moved to the fall of 2019.

A senator raised the issue of a University Testing Center and of accommodations issues for students. Intercollegiate Athletics Committee is looking at this agenda item too.

The new FS website is getting its final touches and about to go live, according to Information Officer, Krista Scott.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:58.

Best regards,

Jan J. Quesada,

Faculty Senate Secretary