**TCU Faculty Senate Meeting**

**7 March 2019**

**3:30 – 5:00 PM**

**Faculty Senate Chambers**

**Minutes**

**Senators Present:** Atkinson, Sean; Barger, Kat; Bashore, Lisa; Bedford, David; Bowen, Kendra; Bradley, Layne; Canclini, Sharon; Dastgeer, Shugofa; Elwell, Sage; Esposito, Phil; Flowers, Roma; Frable, Pamela; Friedman, Greg; Fripp, Jessica; Hawley, Diane; Helms, Jason; Herzig, Emily; Hokayem, Hayat; Jones, Clark; Kiani, Morgan; Ledbetter, Andrew; Ledis, Dennis; Lemon, Alex; Loveall, Ian; Lovett, John; Lynch, Laurel; Mack, Russell; Marichal, Albert; Mayne, Rhiannon; McGettigan, Joan; Moeller, Thomas; Moore, Jeff; Nelson, Karen; Nhan, Johnny; Piñón, Santiago; Quesada, Jan; Ramasesh, Ranga; Ramirez, Susan; Sawey, Michael; Sawyer, Chris; Schein, Marie; Scherger, Michael; Scott, Krista; Spice, Loren; Stewart, Alyssa; Watkins, Timothy; Williams, Daniel; Wood, Barbara

**Senators Excused:** Allender, Marinda; Grau, Stacy; Havens, Jill; Jackson, Lynn; Johnson, Kevin; Legatski, Ted; Meitl, Michele; Meyn, Till; Sandell, David; Stephens, Greg

**Senators Absent:** Busbey, Art (CSE); Carrión, José (CSE); Gollaher, Timothy (Harris); Harvey, Omar (CSE); Maas, Penny (Fine Arts); Palko, Steve (Education); Quinn, Brandy (Education); Schiffer, Adam (AddRan); Walters, Patricia (Neeley)

**Guests Present:** Nowell Donovan (Provost); Teresa Abi-Nader Dahlberg (Provost); Abbey Widick (SGA); Yohna Chambers (VC of HR); Victor Boschini (Chancellor); Susan Weeks (Vice Provost); Matthew Dena; Eric Gobel

**Call to Order**

1. Faculty Senate **Chair-elect Clark Jones** called the meeting to order at 3:30, and welcomed Senators and guests.
2. The minutes of the February 7, 2019, meeting of the Faculty Senate were approved as written.

**New Business**

1. **Provost Donovan** gave a brief update on **Lead On**. The committee charged with synthesizing the Lean On Strategic planning work has been meeting regularly since this past summer and held a lunch meeting today to finalize report to give to the Trustees at their April meeting. After the Trustees receive the report, it will be distributed to the campus. He emphasized that the hard work from across the campus in formulating the Lead On recommendations is being honored. He then introduced Dr. Teresa Abi-Nader Dahlberg, the Co-Provost, whose job officially began on March 1st. Donovan will officially retire on May 31st, by which time Dahlberg will be the sole Provost.
2. **Provost Dahlberg** spoke to the Senate. She celebrated the overlap period she is getting to experience now, and said that she is in listening and learning mode. She is spending her time visiting the various colleges—touring spaces and meeting students and staff. Her biggest challenge coming in as an administrator will be, she said, getting to know the culture and the students well. These next two months, she is eager to be invited to interact with folks in various departments and units across the TCU community.
3. **Abbey Widdick, SGA President,** spoke to the Senate about three emphasis initiatives, beginning with **Mental Health Awareness week**, which is this week. Faculty had been invited to collaborate and have been very helpful to participate in this initiative. The goal is to reduce the stigma of reaching out for help on mental health matters. The week after Spring Break will bring back the **“It’s on Us” campaign** is coming up in two weeks—please be ready to participate in this initiative. This campaign is to raise awareness on the problem of sexual assault and to demonstrate solidarity with its victims. The third awareness campaign—**DEI week**—is scheduled for the last week in March. Abbey also encouraged faculty to **nominate students for the new DEI student award**.
4. **Yohna Chambers**, VC for Human Resources, filled in for Cheryl Taylor to give an informative presentation on the **Great Colleges to Work For survey**. The survey is now operated separately from The Chronicle of Higher Ed. She gave an overview of what to expect in the survey—60 questions/15 themes/12 areas—Likert scale; qualitative component. 600 participants will be randomly selected to receive survey. TCU has been recognized since 2011 in various categories. She also gave the survey timeline—which will run from 3/9-4/2. Confidentiality and the anonymity of the participants is assured.
5. Next, Chambers gave an **update from Human Resources**. She affirmed HR’s commitment to the principle of **Shared Governanc**e. In January, a meeting was convened by HR with members from Faculty Senate leadership, Staff Assembly leadership, UCAC, and the Retirees Association. The meeting’s purpose was mainly to communicate about Benefits. Chambers stated that the goal going forward is to convene these meetings once a semester, or more frequently if there are looming issues. She noted that about 67% of TCU’s annual budget is dedicated to salaries and benefits. **HR’s Benefits Philosoph**y—commitment to maintain a comprehensive and competitive benefits program to help ensure we continue to attract and retain best faculty and staff. She also gave reports on numerous, specific benefits areas, as well as on scheduled improvements to the HR website and on the consideration of an **On-site Employee Health Clinic** for TCU employees and dependents.
6. Next, **Phil Esposito, chair of the Student Relations Committee**, presented his committee’s resolution on an Honor Code. He emphasized that this statement is generic and aspirational.

**Student Relations Committee Honor Code Resolution**

**The TCU Faculty Senate, in its role as the representative body of the TCU faculty, joins the TCU Student Government Association (SGA) in increasing and reaffirming our commitment to academic integrity at TCU.**

**At this time, along with SGA, the TCU Faculty Senate recommends the adoption of a TCU Honor Code stating:**

**“As a member of the TCU community, I will actively contribute to an environment of academic integrity. We are ethical leaders and will not participate in any form of academic misconduct. ”**

Motion to Approve came from Andrew Ledbetter and discussion commenced. Vote was called and the resolution passed.

1. **Clark Jones** then presented the resolution on the **Teacher Scholar Model Statement.** Krista Scott moved to approve the resolution. Wordsmithing ensued. A motion was made and seconded to send the slightly amended statement back to a committee. That motion passed 22-16. The resolution will go back to the Executive Committee for emendation. The amended resolution coming out of the Senate’s consideration today is:

**Teacher-Scholar Statement Resolution**

The teacher-scholar model is an honored tradition at TCU that requires not only distinction in both faculty roles but also a dynamic dialogue between the two. Excellence in both is essential. TCU’s academic culture is founded on the premise that teaching and critical or creative inquiry are mutually compatible and reciprocal—that exceptional performance in one inspires equal merit in the other. Encompassing all faculty, the teacher-scholar model recognizes that learning is strengthened when students interact with faculty actively engaged in scholarly and creative activities, who then share their zeal in the classroom. The teacher-scholar model thus integrates faculty productivity and student learning, ultimately resulting in an enhanced awareness of, and service to, the world.

1. **Clark Jones** then announced that the **March 21st Faculty Assembly is still scheduled**. He reiterated the fact that 140+ full-time faculty need to be present to have a valid assembly in order to hold a vote on the DEI-EC resolution. The actual vote on the resolution will occur after the assembly and will be conducted electronically.
2. **Assistant Secretary Greg Friedman** announced that nominations are still open for Senate membership—Nomination still welcome. Currently, the nomination tally is as follows:

AddRan needs 4/ has 4; Neeley needs 3/has 2; Schieffer needs 2/has 2; Education needs 1/has 1; Fine Arts needs 3/has 6; Harris needs 5/has 4 + 1 maybe; CSE needs 4/has 3; Honors needs 1/has 1

1. **Pam Frable, chair of the Governance Committe**e, announced that Senate officer nominations are still being accepted until tomorrow.
2. Jones reminded the group that **the Faculty/Staff Annual Campaign** is starting after Spring Break. It is important to participate.
3. The meeting adjourned at 4:50.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Quesada, FS Secretary