**TCU Faculty Senate Meeting**

**5 September 2019**

**3:30 – 5:00 PM**

**Faculty Senate Chambers**

**Minutes**

**Senators Present:** Alexander, Curby; Barger, Kat; Banos, Antonio; Bentley, Joshua; Bowen, Kendra; Busbey, Art; Carrión, José; Craig, Layne; Elwell, Sage; Esposito, Phil; Frable, Pamela; Friedman, Greg; Fripp, Jessica; Gil, Dan; Gonzales, Eric; Hammad, Hanan; Harvey, Omar; Havens, Jill; Hawley, Diane; Herzig, Emily; Hosainy, Hadi; Jackson, D. Lynn; Jones, Clark; Kiani; Morgan; Kim, San-ky; Lauve-Moon, Katie; Ledbetter, Andrew; Ledis, Dennis; Legatski, Ted; Lemon, Alex; Lovett, John; Lynch, Laurel; Marichal, Albert; McGettigan, Joan; Meitl, Michele; Meyn, Till; Moeller, Thomas; Moore, Jeff; Nelson, Karen; Nhan, Johnny; Nugent, Hylda; Palko, Steve; Quesada, Jan; Quinn, Brandy; Ramasesh, Ranga; Sawey, Michael; Sawyer, Chris; Schein, Marie; Scherger, Michael; Schiffer, Adam; Scott, Krista; Singletary, Laura; Stephens, Greg; Stewart, Amy; Tyler, Tee; Walters, Patricia; Watkins, Timothy; Williams, Daniel; Wood, Barbara; Yang, Qinghua

**Senators Excused:** Atkinson, Sean; Bashore, Lisa; Bedford, David; Carter, Suzanna; Jeffries, Marlo; Langston, Scott; Murray, Joddy

**Senators Absent:** Johnson, Kevin (CSE); Simanek, Eric (CSE)

**Guests Present:** Victor Boschini (Chancellor); Teresa Abi-Nader Dahlberg (Provost); Susan Weeks (Vice Provost); Yohna Chambers (VC-HR); Dean Floyd Wormley (Research & Graduate Studies); Dean Chris Watts (Harris); Dean Daniel Pullin (Neeley); Chris Hightower (Staff Assembly Chair); Jan Lacina (Acting Dean, Education); Claire Sanders (DEI, Faculty Fellow); Tim Ballingall (GSS President); Eric Gobel (grad student); Joshua Witkop (SGA President); Robbie Vaglio (TCU 360); Mary Ruth Jones

**Call to Order**

1. Faculty Senate **Chair Clark Jones** called the meeting to order at 3:32 with opening remarks in which he welcomed new Senators and guests, touted the new TCU Capital Campaign, and reviewed the Senate’s accomplishments of the past academic year.
2. The minutes of the May 2, 2019, meeting of the Faculty Senate were approved, with one correction of a senator’s absence as excused.

**New Business**

1. **Assistant Secretary Greg Friedman** introduced the chairs of the Senate’s Standing Committees, who announced where they planned to meet with their committees this coming academic year.
2. **Provost Teresa Abi-Nader Dahlberg** addressed the Senate. She opened with appreciate remarks about her positive experiences at TCU over the summer and saluted TCU’s collegial atmosphere. She also introduced her administrative assistant, the new Provost’s Faculty Fellow for DEI, Claire Sanders, the three new deans and one acting dean in attendance at the meeting. The Provost noted the three dean searches—for AddRan College of Liberal Arts, the College of Fine Arts, and the College of Education—that will take place this fall. She also gave an update on the six targeted priorities emerging for Academic Affairs base on the recent VIA:Lead On strategic plan. These areas include Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI); a full-time faculty work-load model supportive of the TCU Teacher-Scholar; the TCU graduate student experience; infrastructure to support TCU scholarship and creative activities; an integrated student success model encompassing academic advising, student disability services, career services and tutoring, to name a few. For more information, please visit: <https://provost.tcu.edu/academic-affairs-priorities/>.
3. **Graduate Student Senate (GSS) President Tim Ballingall**, a Ph.D. student in English, addressed the Senate. He identified the GSS’s three **(3) new initiatives** for the year—(1) **transitioning to a true Senate mode**l, to increase the representation across all the grad school programs to make students feel heard; (2) **increasing graduate student stipends and aid packages** to be more realistic for DFW area and economy; (3) **addressing the issue of childcare accessibility,** which has been diligently researched (34 page Childcare report on TCU GSS website). <http://1tqv9d4c8ku71ziklj4cph72-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/GSS-Child-Care-Report.pdf>
4. **Chris Hightower, chair of Staff Assembly,** gave a brief word of greeting. He said that Staff Assembly has set this year’s committee goals to align with the Lead On Strategic Plan. They are also following up on previous resolutions (such as the Ombuds issue and exempt/non-exempt employee equity issue). In order to focus on strengthening the campus culture at TCU and the Workforce, SA has developed an **“Atta Frog”** program, which will recognize “above and beyond work” on campus. He invited nominations be sent through Clark Jones.
5. Next, **Student Government Association (SGA) President Josh Witkop** addressed the Senate. SGA plans to continue to support work with Title IX folks and the Mental Health and Counseling Center, in order to integrate student support services into all dimensions of the university. SGA will also focus on how to get the Honor Code information out to the students and emphasize the issue of academic integrity. Four (4) new initiatives for SGA’s work this year will be: (1) **Revising the Pass/No-Credit System**; (2) **Moving from Paper Scantrons to Electronic Testing**—to be phased in; (3) **Integrating Service Learning into the DEI Curriculum** (see meta-study from Vanderbilt); (4) **Making** **D2L Grade Posting standard practice**, for student convenience and sensibility. Josh invited the Faculty Senate to work with SGA for greater TCU good.
6. **Next, Claire Sanders**, the new Provost’s Faculty Fellow for DEI and faculty member in the History Department, gave a brief overview of the membership and work of the **DEI Essential Competency Implementation Committee**. This group, with representatives from each of TCU’s academic units,  **plans to “go on the road”** to meet in person with interested faculty in every college and school for in-depth conversations on the DEI EC and all of the details of how the whole process works and what needs to be considered. Sanders said that, as of next week, there will be a **D2L Course Shell** **to facilitate a DEI EC threaded discussion**, so that faculty can continue to post questions and comments in an on-line forum. She wants everyone to be able to engage with this material—for questions and input. There will also be Working Groups on Instructor Training in DEI matters, to ensure an effective delivery of this new pedagogy, including experiential learning/service learning.
7. **Chair Clark Jones** presided over an open discussion that ranged from parking to the need to make TCU graduate education more affordable to how to make meetings more efficient by having the “word-smithing” done ahead of time by designated senators to more effective communication by means of the Senate website. He closed by wishing everyone a good new school year.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Quesada, Secretary

TCU Faculty Senate