

**TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY**

**FACULTY SENATE**

THE CHAMBERS, BROWN-LUPTON UNIVERSITY UNION

APRIL 6, 2017

3:30-5 PM

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to order
- II. Approval of minutes from March 2, 2016
- III. New business
  - a) Senate Elections – Greg Friedman, Assistant Secretary
  - b) University Council Elections – Greg Friedman, Assistant Secretary
  - c) University Advisory Committee Elections - Greg Friedman, Assistant Secretary
  - d) Elections Committee: Executive Committee Nominations– Jesús Castro-Balbi, Chair
  - e) Educational Evaluation Committee Guidelines on Teaching Evaluation – Julie Fry, Chair
  - f) Special Committee on Academic Profile Motion – Jesús Castro-Balbi, Chair
  - g) Special Committee on Research and Creative Activities Report– Dan Gil, Liaison
  - h) Resolution on the Funding of Federal Programs – Jesús Castro-Balbi, Chair
  - i) Trustees Relations Update
  - j) TCU and the Environment University Committee Report – Becky Johnson
  - k) Faculty/ Staff campaign - Elyse Menger, Director of Constituent Engagement, University Advancement
- IV. Adjournment

(Motions on back)

## Motions

1. Recognizing:

- That the commitment to undergraduate education is a hallmark of TCU;
- That many programs and entities as well as interdisciplinary initiatives currently related to undergraduate students and studies would benefit from a coordinated support structure across the institution;
- That TCU has a position of Associate Provost for Research and Dean for Graduate Studies and University Programs;
- That, on the U.S. News & World Report rankings, the top 100 institutions and especially those institutions ranked above TCU overwhelmingly have a position charged with direct oversight of and advocacy for undergraduate students and studies;
- The goal of raising the academic effectiveness and reputation of this institution;

The Special Committee on Academic Profile recommends the formation of a task force of faculty, administrators and students to explore the feasibility of a position of Associate Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Studies and Inter-disciplinary Studies at TCU.

Special Committee on Academic Profile

2. Faculty Senate Resolution on the Funding of Federal Programs for the Arts, Humanities, Sciences, and Society.

Recognizing that:

- Artistic, humanistic, and scientific programs are essential for maintaining a healthy society;
- To fulfill its mission TCU fosters artistic, humanistic, and scientific inquiry, discussion, education, and communication,
- The proposed federal budget has the potential to severely reduce or eliminate a wide array of programs that support: student financial needs; educational programs that promote learning; scientific programs that discover and disseminate vital knowledge; and creative programs that foster aesthetic expression and appreciation;
- The proposed federal budget could not only adversely impact society, but also the University's ability to support learning and scholarship, knowledge-based understanding, artistic creation, humanistic discourse, and scientific erudition and perception;

Be it resolved, that the Texas Christian University Faculty Senate, representing the TCU faculty, affirms the importance to the University and higher education of federal programs that contribute to the University's mission. Furthermore, the TCU Faculty Senate expresses its position that federal budget reductions or changes should not target programs that have proven supportive of the sciences, the arts, and other aspects of the University's mission.