

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

13 April 2010
Room 303, Cashion
3:30 pm

Members Present: Senators Baker, Erich; Jim Patton for Baldrige, R. S.; Beal, Ron; Blackwell, Frieda; Bowman, Judy; Boyd, Jean; Cannon, Raymond; Diaz-Granados, Jaime; Duhrkopf, Richard; Garner, Linda; Green, Georgia; Harvey, Barry; Hurtt, David; Johnsen, Susan; Korpi, Michael; Lehr, Larry; Paul Larson for Michael Long, Longfellow, David; Losey, Jay; Madden, Stan; McKinney, Tim; Myers, Dennis; Nunley, Patricia; Patteson, Rita; Rosenbaum, Stuart; Sharp, Pat; Spain, Rufus; Still, Todd; Stone, Sara; Supplee, Joan; Vitanza, Dianna, Walter, Janelle.

Members Absent: Senators McGlashan, Ann; Neubert, Mitchell; Wood, Randy

I. Call to Order

Chairman Myers called the meeting to order at 3:36 and recognized several guests. He acknowledged Mary Ann Jordan, a new Senate colleague, and Linda Garner, the Senator from the School of Nursing that will be retiring at the end of the academic year. He also welcomed staff council representative Paulette Edwards and Kevin Jackson, Baylor's VP for Student Life.

II. Invocation

Senator Todd Still provided an invocation.

III. Approval of Agenda

Senator Longfellow moved to approve the Senate meeting agenda. Senator Blackwell seconded the motion which passed by unanimous voice vote.

IV. Special Guest Presentations

- a. Inauguration and Investiture Ceremony. Lois Ferguson, Assistant to the Office of the Provost for Communication and Events, spoke briefly to the Senate regarding Judge Starr's inauguration and investiture ceremony.

Events will begin September 16th, with a Thursday evening dinner for Regents and special guests.

An academic symposium is scheduled for Friday morning, September 17th. The symposium subject is still to be chosen by Judge Starr. The Investiture will begin at 2pm in the Ferrell Center with a reception to follow. Faculty will be invited to attend in full Regalia. The keynote speaker will be chosen by Judge Starr.

Lois Ferguson pointed out that the events as listed are recommendations from the University and are not yet set in stone. There is also sentiment that a student meeting will take place during

the scheduled activities, but nothing clear. Mrs. Ferguson requested that the Senate provide feedback on these and other ideas.

A Senator asked if the University is formally inviting representatives from other Universities. She replied that they were, along with representatives from professional societies and accreditation agencies. In some cases, individual faculty members may serve as official representatives from their degree-granting universities.

The Provost may cancel classes Friday afternoon to encourage student participation, but this has yet to be decided.

- b. Sustainability Plan. Dean Orr and Smith Getterman presented the Faculty Senate with the University's new Sustainability Plan.

Dean Orr noted that during the last three years sustainability efforts have grown tremendously. For example, during this time 20% of landfill waste has been diverted to recycling and 825 recycling containers have been placed around campus. It is the hope of the Sustainability Team that groups on campus will respond to the new and concise sustainability policy with goals of their own. In that light, the Sustainability Team recognizes that the goals presented must be achieved and request FS feedback.

A senator inquired how Baylor recycles demolished buildings and abatements. Mr. Getterman replied that construction waste is the largest component of McLennan county landfills and the Team is trying to address this issue, but there is currently no contractor in McLennan county that will handle construction recycling. However, the University is actively seeking to construct new buildings to LEED standards.

A senator asked why there were no recycle boxes within classrooms. Dena Orr replied that this was mostly due to budgetary reasons. There is a move to place a recycling receptacle in every classroom, but these benefits are offset by the labor required to service them.

Another Senator asked whether glass will be accepted for recycling soon. Dean Orr responded that Baylor's vendor will not accept glass in mixed recycling because its recycling profits are too low to pay for transportation and sorting, which is problematic because it is dangerous. A Senator asked whether Baylor has any lobbying efforts underway to promote glass deposits that would mitigate these deficiencies. Dean Orr says that a bill is being pursued at the state level but is unaware of its progress.

In closing, Dean Orr stated that Baylor University received the Keep Texas Beautiful first-place award for college programs.

- c. Baylor Bookstore. The Baylor Bookstore contractor, Follett Corporation, represented by Kieran Keenan and her team, made a presentation regarding new programs and reported bookstore issues.

The bookstore invites faculty to visit the bookstore a couple of weeks before the beginning of the semester to make certain that potential ordering problems are avoided. They explicitly stated that their job is to satisfy faculty needs and most problems with books can be corrected if caught in time.

Rentatext.com: This program has been piloted in three schools and has had very good success. It allows students to rent books for 55% off of the new book price, allows for normal wear-and-tear and may be converted to a standard sell. Students who do not return their text books are charged a replacement fee and a restocking penalty.

Eligible books must be on a national 'rent-list', but faculty can choose their own books if they agree to keep them listed for four years.

The HEOA - Higher Education Opportunity Act - is satisfied by the rental program. This includes pricing, edition, alternative formats, and bundled materials. This Federal law states that at the time that students enroll, they need to have full disclosure of the learning materials required and is important because many are unsure of penalties of noncompliance.

A senator asked who negotiated the current contract. Ms. Keenan stated that it was Chris Krouse. A senator also wondered if it is routine for such decisions are made outside of the academic realm. Chairman Myers states that he will look into the issue.

- d. Faculty Senate Administrative Assistant. Lenda Calloway was introduced as the new administrative support assistant for the Faculty Senate.

V. Approval of Minutes

Senator Stone moved that the minutes of the March Senate meeting should be approved as distributed. Senator Longfellow seconded the motion; it passed with unanimous voice vote.

VI. Old business

- a. Lecturer Proposal.

The Lecturer Proposal is moving forward. Interim Provost Davis wants to sit down and discuss central issues more in-depth, but wants to include two more categories of lecturer position: research lecturers and clinical lecturers.

- b. Summer Compensation.

Dennis Myers reported that Interim Provost Davis responded to issues of summer compensation by saying that, in most cases, summer contracts were processed according to proper procedures and that larger issues of summer compensation ought to be viewed in terms of summer salary as a faculty benefit. The FS executive committee feels that this interpretation of the central issue of summer compensation

misses the essential themes of equitable compensation and contract stability. Senator Myers reported that he will again push to clarify the Provost's plan to push summer hiring decisions down to the departmental levels.

c. Change in Faculty Senate Bylaw.

The Faculty Senate *ad hoc* committee on elections met and developed a list of suggested changes to the Faculty Senate bylaws that would allow an electronic election process via the Internet. The committee also suggested possible modification to the nomination process, including the posting of nominees to the FS web site, the determination of ties, the role of the administrative assistant and FS office.

The Faculty Senate body voiced general approval of proposed changes in the abstract and gave consent to expand the committee to constitute a formal by-laws committee. Chairman Myers asked for nominees (one from each unit) and will appoint individuals where needed. Changes in the by-laws are expected to be presented to the FS at the May meeting.

d. Faculty Contracts.

An examination of Baylor's practice of issuing contracts to all faculty, tenured and non-tenured, is progressing in concert with discussions concerning Summer Compensation. Chairman Myers stated that he will keep the senate abreast of proceedings.

e. Meeting with Judge Starr.

Newly appointed Baylor President, Ken Starr, will be meeting with current and elected FS representatives on Tuesday, April 20th in Cashion 111. This meeting is intentionally between Judge Starr and the Senate. At the request of a Senator, Chairman Myers will ask Judge Starr to prepare brief remarks to help direct our conversation.

f. Master Teacher.

The committee for the appointment of the Master Teacher designation continues to make progress. To this end, the committee will be addressing several concerns raised by the Provost's office. The Provost feels that calls for nomination are too frequent and feel that a five-year call, preceded by alumni response, is more in order. In addition, there should be more of a role for Deans, colleagues, and department chairs, and less input from faculty members. The committee is in general agreement with these items. There is also some concern with the open-ended submission of materials and the committee is working to put together a more prescriptive list.

VII. Committee / Liaison Reports

- a. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Chairman Myers reported that the electronic CAF system is now in use.

- b. Academic Freedom: Senator Longfellow. No report.
- c. Enrollment Management: Senator Lehr. No Report.
- d. Student Life: Senator Wood. No Report.
- e. Ad Hoc Committee on Master Teacher: Senator Pennington. No Report.
- f. Ad Hoc Committee on Parking Services: Senator Vitanza. No Report.
- g. Ad Hoc Committee on Summer Compensation: Senator Vitanza. Reported as Old Business.
- h. Liaison Reports
 - h.i. Council of Deans: Senator Myers reported that a new Ph.D./D.M.A in Church music will move forward. Also, they heard from Dr. Barry Hankins, Professor of History, who provided information on funding the proposed Ph.D. in History.
 - h.ii. Athletic Council: Senator Blackwell reported the council received positive progress reports on admissions and academics. She also noted that competitive cheering is the latest varsity sport added at Baylor in order to help Title IX compliance.
 - h.iii. Personnel Policies: Ron Beal. No Report.
 - h.iv. Staff Council: Staff council representative Edwards reported that the endowed scholarship giving campaign has reached and passed its goal of \$5,000 this year. She also encouraged faculty to report students at risk to the Baylor on-line referral system in an attempt to stop the increase in student suicides. QPR has a 1-hr seminar for training in the identification of suicidal signs. There was also a reminder that on-campus Baylor phones that dial 911 go directly to a Baylor referral, not the local police.

On Tuesday, April 21st, there will be a Staff Council lunch from 12-1 pm; the subject is "Building Trust."
 - h.v. Admissions: Senator Harvey reported that as of last Friday deposits were up over 8.2% and there was an established wait list for the first time in several years. SAT scores are up to 1218 from 1201 last year, transfers are down, and minorities are up to 33% compared to 29.5% last year.

VIII. New Business

a. Special Election

Due to an inaccuracy in the FS 2009-2010 role, a senate term expired without a replacement being elected in the general election. As a result, the seat held by Senator Walter will be vacated after the May, 2010 term and an election will have to be held early in the Fall, 2010.

b. Early Registrants

A senator raised concerns over the number of students eligible for special early registration. This has, in part, led to honor council

violations where students have been paid to hold places in classes for other students. Chairman Myers stated that the FS executive council is looking into who decides early enrollee status.

c. Nominating Committee

Ron Beal agreed to serve as the chair of the FS nominating committee for 2010-2011. Senator Boyd, Lehr, and Diaz-Granados will also be serving on the committee.

d. United Way Leadership Committee

Ray Cannon will be serving as the Co-Chair of the United Way Leadership Committee. Baylor has declared that the UW will be the campus campaign for next year; volunteers to serve with Senator Cannon are welcomed and encouraged.

e. Representation on University Leadership Committee

FS executive committee motioned "that a representative of the FS be included as a voting member of the Executive Committee of the University." During discussion, Senators sought to clarify the role of the University Leadership (Executive) Committee and questioned how the FS representative would be selected. Senator Duhrkopf moved to amend the motion to indicate that the FS chair would serve as the FS representative on such a committee. This motion was seconded by Senator Longfellow and passed by unanimous voice vote. Further discussion indicated that the University Leadership committee seldom votes, but merits FS representation. In addition, there was concern that a strong request from the FS during time of presidential transition might undermine general good will and Judge Starr ought to be approached in a more unofficial manner. Senator Patton motioned to table the motion and was seconded by Senator Harvey. The motion to table passed by show of hands: 31 for, 1 against, 1 abstention.

IX. Adjournment