

MINUTES OF THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING

February 12, 2002, 3:30 p.m., in Cashion 303

Present: Senators Abbott-Kirk, Auld, Baldrige, Beck, Bowery, Cannon, Cox, Curtis, Dunn, Farris, Gilbreath, Hanks, Haynes, Jacobson, Longfellow (Chair), Losey, McGlashan, McManness, Ngan, Riley, Robinson, Rust, Sharp, Sparkman, Stanley, Weaver, Williams, Wilson, Yelderman, Young

Absent with notification: Senators Cooper, Gray, Patton

I. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m. The minutes of the January meeting, distributed earlier by e-mail, were unanimously approved.

II. Old Business

A: Hiring Committee. Senators unanimously approved a one-page version of the questionnaire developed by the ad hoc Hiring Committee (Senator Stanley, chair) that will be sent to department chairs to gather information on recent faculty hiring experiences at Baylor.

B: Senior Lecturers. Talks with the administration continue concerning the future of a veteran Senior Lecturer whose contract was not renewed for the coming academic year. Senator Losey suggested that individual letters to Dean Daniel in support of this colleague may strengthen his case for continued employment at Baylor.

C: Part-time Faculty Proposal. There has been little additional discussion of the matter in the Council of Deans. The future of the proposal remains uncertain at this point.

D: Administrator evaluations. The Provost has indicated to the Senate leadership that a new program for evaluating senior administrators, perhaps involving groups of about 200 faculty each at a time, may be considered in the future. This suggestion will be communicated to Vice President Crone who would be in charge of implementing such a survey system.

E: Summer Salary Proposal. The Provost has not yet had a chance to look over the proposal transmitted to him some time ago, but indicated he would do so soon and forward it with his recommendations to the Council of Deans.

F: Library Reorganization and Academic Professionals. The Dean of Libraries has yet to transmit to the Senate, for information and input, his proposal for the restructuring of the libraries and especially for the creation of a new personnel category of "academic professionals." Senators expressed strong concerns when they learned that apparently the proposal has been sent to the administration without giving the Faculty Senate an opportunity to study and comment on the proposal as previously promised. They were

especially alarmed about a provision that would grant untenured lecturers supervisory control over tenured library personnel.

G: Small Group Meetings with President Sloan. The first meeting has taken place and brought the frank discussion of numerous issues affecting Baylor faculty.

H: Faculty Classification. Department chairs have now been notified about the specifics of the new faculty classification system and should be available to hold consultations with concerned faculty. A number of unresolved issues remain. Requests for explanations of the choice of the cut-off year of 1991, and whether or not faculty members were consulted in drawing up the policy, were made.

I: Senate Elections. The present round of Senate elections is proceeding smoothly. Ballots will go out on February 18.

III. Committee/Liaison Reports

A. Faculty Committee on Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Environment (Senator Cox, chair): No report.

B. Faculty Committee on Enrollment Management (Senator Cannon, chair): Recruitment for the 2002 freshmen class remains on target despite slight drops in numbers and percentages over last year's figures.

C. Faculty Committee on Physical Facilities (Senator Yelderman, chair): No report.

D. Faculty Committee on Student Life and Services (Senator Wilson, chair): No report.

E. Liaison Reports

A: Athletic Council (Senator Dunn, chair): No report.

B: Staff Council (Senator Abbott-Kirk, chair): No report.

C: Personnel Benefits and Compensation (Senator Curtis, chair): No report.

IV. New Business

A: President's Faculty Forum. The next President's Faculty Forum will be held at 3:30 PM on February 19 in Kayser Auditorium.

B: Chronicle Ads. Baylor has reached a favorable fixed contract for placing ads in the Chronicle of Higher Education.

C: Green Card Policy. Academic deans may, at their discretion, provide monetary subsidies to faculty hires from abroad who are faced with substantial lawyer's fees when seeking permanent residency status.

D: Early Retirement. The administration is developing plans to offer a one-time only early retirement package to selected tenured faculty who may wish to leave Baylor's employ voluntarily for a variety of reasons.

E: Supplemental Pay Rules. The administration is developing a policy to deal with supplemental pay situations (grants, etc.). No specific policy exists at the present time.

F: Faculty Appreciation Dinner. This year's Faculty Appreciation Dinner is scheduled for May 6.

G: Committee on Committees. The Committee on Committees is about to wrap up its work for the year and will send its recommendations for the academic year 2002-2003 to the Senate shortly. In particular the Senate will be asked to designate appointees to the Tenure and Faculty Dismissal committees.

H: Announcement. Senator Bowery announced that the national president of the AAUP will be on campus for a workshop and a dinner on March 11.

V. The meeting was adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric C. Rust
Secretary