



BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

FACULTY SENATE

Waco, Texas 76798

SUMMARY OF MINUTES

Baylor University Faculty Senate
Meeting of September 15, 1987

Twenty-nine members of the Senate were present at the initial meeting of the Senate for the 1987-88 school year. New members and officers were introduced - the officers are: Erwin A. Elias, Chair; James Nolen, Vice-Chair; David Claxton, Secretary and Delton Chesser, Treasurer with Michael Ard and Harold Beaver joining the officers to constitute the executive committee. Chairman Elias reviewed the history and objectives of the Senate and expressed his desire to focus Senate attention of a smaller number of significant concerns rather than expending time and effort touching lightly on a variety of matters without ever arriving at any conclusions. Elias also reported on actions taken in response to a variety of previously adopted Senate resolutions and recommendations. He advised that President Reynolds approved with one qualification all the recommendations of the Committee on Committees. These include recommendations that every University Committee rotate one-third of its membership every year and that committee chairs be rotated at least every third year, unless good cause exists for adopting a different policy, that every committee meet in Fall of 1987 to establish guidelines for implementing the rotation policy, that each committee chair ascertain and provide the committee charge and that the Committee on Committees again poll all faculty members regarding committee assignment preferences. It was also recommended that Program Directors be ex officio members only of committees dealing with their programs and that persons other than such directors serve as chairs of such committees. President Reynolds approved this recommendation only on the understanding that the committees are advisory bodies and Program Directors are responsible to appointed University administrators.

There were no reports from either the Ad Hoc Committee to Study Faculty Schedules, Office Hours and Course Loads, or the Ad Hoc Committee on Rank, Promotions and Tenure. Final action has not yet been taken on office hours recommendations previously made.

Agenda items for the October Senate meeting, scheduled for October 20, include a presentation by Gary Luft on Baylor Bookstore pricing and other policies and a report by Franklin Potts, Chairman of the Senate/Strategic Planning Council Faculty Advisory Committee on Physical Facilities.