

Minutes

FACULTY SENATE

March 21, 1995

The Senate convened at 3:30 p.m. in the Conference Room, Blume Conference Center, Hankamer School of Business, with Chair Ray Cannon presiding.

Present: Barker, Basden, Benesh, Buddo, Cannon, Davis, Edwards, Garner, Goforth, Denyse Seaman representing Hillman, Jensen, Johnson, Longfellow, Luper, Massirer, McGee, Monk, Nixon, Ortuno, Pierce, Robinson, Rogers, Sanders, Seward, Thomas, Wallace, and Wood.

Absent: King, Pippin, Tipton, Whipple, and Youngdale.

Distributed by Cannon prior to the meeting were (copies attached to file copy of the minutes):

1. *Baylor University Faculty Evaluation and Compensation* document
2. Honors program proposal from Wallace Daniel
3. March 21 Senate meeting agenda

AGENDA

1. **Invocation**
Nixon led the invocation.
2. **Minutes of February 21, 1995**
Edwards moved that the February 21, 1995, Minutes be approved as distributed. Rogers seconded. Motion passed.
3. **Senate Election Results**
Basden distributed a memorandum reporting the Senate Election Results, Spring, 1995 (copy attached to file copy of the minutes). It was noted that David A. Gier, newly elected Senator representing the School of Music, is leaving Baylor and therefore resigning from the Senate. In keeping with the Senate Constitution, a replacement will be named by the Senate Executive Committee. It was further noted that the School of Engineering and Computer Science will become operative June 1, 1995. The Senate Executive Committee is discussing possible representation options for this new school. Suggestions were requested. Longfellow moved that, as of June 1, the School of Engineering and Computer Science be asked to name a representative to serve as an observer to the Senate for the 1995-96 year, and that the Senate Executive Committee be asked to study reapportionment for the 1996-97 Senate election process in light of the establishment of the new school. Barker seconded. Motion carried.

Seward noted that the current apportionment reflected approximately one Senator for every twenty faculty members (approximately 5% of the total faculty).

4. Report from Presidential Search Advisory Group Members

Cannon gave a brief summary report. Discussion followed. Attention was given to ways that an ongoing dialogue between the Senate and the Board of Regents could be facilitated. Cannon reported that President-elect Sloan has agreed to address the Senate at the May 9 meeting. Cannon was asked by the Senate to appoint an ad hoc committee to prepare proposals for Senate review concerning Senate relationships to both the Regents and the administration, particularly with regard to university decision-making processes.

5. Faculty Evaluation and Compensation Discussion

Cannon reported on the Council of Deans discussion on this matter. Cannon has asked a committee to suggest to the Senate very concrete ways on how to make things better, with a committee report expected at the next Senate meeting. The committee members are Goforth (Chair), Johnson, Luper, Pippin, Seward, and Wallace. Senators are urged to communicate to the committee, including identification of what went wrong and suggestions as to how to improve. Responses are requested within the next two weeks. It was noted that the Faculty Self-Study Committee has recommended that the policy be evaluated within the next two years. As a follow-up report from issues raised at the last Senate meeting, Cannon reported that the BU Personnel Policies Manual is on-line. University General Counsel has stated that any changes in the BUPPM that affect the faculty should be submitted to the Senate at least thirty days prior to the effective date of the policy. Faculty member Patricia Nunley has agreed to serve as a consultant to the Senate on contract issues.

6. Report from Academic Environment Committee

McGee reported for the committee, calling attention to the memo from Wallace Daniel (previously distributed) regarding the honors program proposal. Observations of the committee are:

1) There is a concern that the University is trying to do many new things at this time (core curriculum, new degree programs, etc.). Is this the right time to implement such a proposal?

2) The specific organization that is proposed needs further study.

3) Until further study has been completed, there is a hesitation to name specific persons to fill the proposed positions of leadership.

4) There are reservations about the title Honors College.

McGee reported that, with these cautions, it is the unanimous feeling of the committee that this matter deserves serious consideration. For the committee, McGee moved that the Senate endorse the proposal in

principle and pass it along to Vice President Schmeltekopf for further study. Motion carried. Cannon will respond to Schmeltekopf on behalf of the Senate.

McGee also reported that the committee has reviewed a document on academic dishonesty among college students. The committee's response is that problems do exist at Baylor, enough to deserve attention, analysis, and action. It was suggested that a minimum response is to educate both faculty and students as to the expectations regarding such issues. The Senate may choose to recommend to an appropriate body (Council of Deans, Honor Council, etc.) that the issues be analyzed and that appropriate actions be determined. This item was referred to the Senate Executive Committee for further review. Cannon will send copies of the academic dishonesty document to the Senate.

7. Honorary Degrees

Cannon has received a memorandum from President Reynolds asking that the Senate consider the endorsement of a plan for the University to grant honorary degrees to Richard Edward Hudson-Reed and Kurt Kaiser at the May, 1995, commencement. The Senate endorsed both candidates.

8. Joint Recommendation from the Committee on Committees and the Self-Study Subcommittee

Rogers, reporting for Hillman, distributed a proposed joint recommendation with reference to the appointment of students to University committees (copy attached to file copy of the minutes). The recommendation is that Student Congress (rather than the Student Body President, as previously approved) shall have the responsibility for making student appointments to University committees. Rogers moved that the recommendation be approved. After discussion, Benesh seconded, with a friendly amendment to drop "incoming" in each case (Rogers accepted the friendly amendment for the committee). Motion passed.

9. Some Discussion Items

(a) Probation/Suspension Policies

Cannon reported that a meeting has been set for next Monday (March 27) to finalize the Probation/Suspension Policies document.

(b) Summer School

Cannon reported that under the present budgeting system, summer school loses money, primarily due to small class enrollments. The Deans are studying this matter. The number of small classes is a driving force in the study of this issue.

(c) President's Faculty Forum

The April 20 President's Faculty Forum will be the final such meeting for President Reynolds prior to his retirement as President. Cannon appointed a committee to plan a Senate recognition for this occasion. The committee members are Wood (Chair), Barker, King, and Sanders. Senators are encouraged to give ideas to the committee. McGee noted that the April 20 Forum is jointly sponsored by AAUP and the Senate, and he reported that AAUP is planning a similar recognition.

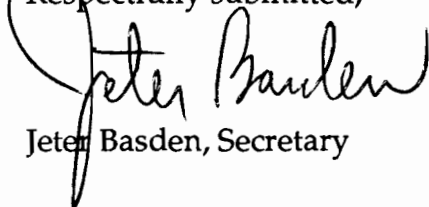
10. Dead Week/Final Exams

As a follow-up on matters related to Dead Week and Final Exams discussed at the last Senate meeting, Cannon reported that he had talked with Vice President Hillis about the Senate's understanding that Dead Week, as designed, meant no social activities during the days designated as Dead Week. Hillis is in agreement with the Senate's understanding of the purposes of Dead Week.

Cannon read a draft memorandum to Vice President Schmeltekopf expressing the Senate's strong sense that the exam schedule should be enforced, under the purview of the Deans of each academic unit.

At 5:13 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeter Basden". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "B".

Jeter Basden, Secretary