

Minutes, Baylor University Faculty Senate

17 March 2015 • 3:30 • Cashion 110

Members Absent: Burleson, Edwards, Madden, Meehan, Neubert, Patton

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM by Senate Chair Baker.

Senator Woody offered an opening invocation.

Board of Regents chairman Richard Willis was introduced by Senator Baker and addressed the senate about several topics.

- He stated that this year had seen a 5% tuition increase, which is lower than the 6.5% seen in recent years. He also noted that the initiative to help students graduate in 4 years continues to be a top concern.
- The Board of Regents hopes that Baylor will continue to recruit a broad cross-section of undergraduate students.
- He also confirmed that the Board hopes to continue to have a senate representative on the BOR.
- Chairman Willis took questions from the senators, including ones about the number of adjuncts teaching 1000-level courses at Baylor, the concealed handgun carry law, and the Baylor Alumni Association.

Tiffany Hogue, Chief of Staff to the Provost, made a presentation regarding the University's new maternity leave policy.

- She announced that a new maternity and primary caregiver leave policy was in place as of today that will create a smoother process across all units within the University and make tenure clock extensions automatic.

Adam Ecklund, Associate VP for Constituent Engagement, addressed the senate.

- He provided a brief overview of the new beta version of their website, which is designed to help facilitate gatherings for alumni and friends of Baylor and hopefully increase attendance at Baylor events.

Business items

Council on Global Engagement

- Chair Baker informed the senate that three faculty stakeholder positions had been added to the council. These members will be appointed by the Faculty Senate.
 - Some corrections were suggested and an inquiry about exchange programs was raised.
- Senator Pounders moved to approve the proposal, with corrections made, and Senator Hurtt seconded.
 - The motion passed unanimously.

Reapportionment

- The senate began discussion of the reapportionment of representation in the Faculty Senate.
- Chair Baker noted the Senate Executive Committee will need to be mindful each year of increases and decreases in the number of faculty numbers within individual academic units and make adjustments to representation as needed.

A motion was made by Senator Hurtt to approve the minutes from the last meeting, which was seconded by Senator Baldrige. A correction was made and the corrected minutes were approved by the senate.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Joe Coker