

**Baylor University Faculty Senate Minutes  
November 11, 2014**

**Members Absent: Lori Spies, Michael Parrish, Elise Edwards**

**Senator Chair Baker called the meeting to order.**

The opening invocation was offered by Senator Walter.

The motion was made by Senator Baldrige to approve the minutes and seconded by Senator Beal. The motion passed.

Chair Baker welcomed Keane Tarbell who is the representative from Staff Council.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Judge Ken Starr, President and Chancellor**

Judge Starr shared that the Paul Foster Business School will celebrate a “topping out” on Friday, November 21<sup>st</sup>. He reported that Baylor’s fundraising efforts of \$320 million campaign “From Here We Build” over a 5-year period has raised \$91 million in its first fiscal year. He thanked the faculty for being supportive in handling the large number of freshmen for Fall 2014.

Judge Starr reported on student endowment for Baylor, TCU, and SMU. Our total endowment is \$1.2 billion with the goal of \$2 billion in 2012. Baylor’s endowment is \$70,000 per student, SMU’s endowment is \$120,000 per student, and TCU’s endowment is \$130,000 per student. He also reported that Baylor’s minority population is at 35.7%.

Judge Starr discussed the challenging future of Intercollegiate Athletics. He reported that much of the conversation is about financing and discussions about paying football and basketball players. He believes that we want the discussion to be at Capitol Hill and not in the courtroom. As of Tuesday, Baylor will have a Title IX Coordinator.

Judge Starr reported on the current status of the lawsuit with the Alumni Association. He stated that it is in the court room and is at the Discovery Stage.

**Dr. Todd Still, Chair, Executive Vice President and Provost Search Committee  
Executive Vice President and Provost Search Timeline  
Prepared by Todd Still for the Faculty Senate**

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| February 2014           | Elizabeth Davis resigns; Judge Starr names David Garland Interim Provost  |
| February-<br>March 2014 | University community offers input regarding the composition of the Search Committee and the qualities sought for in the next EVP/Provost; Storbeck/Pimentel retained as executive search firm |
| April-<br>May 2014      | Search Committee “seated”; position specification crafted   |
| June-                   | Position advertised; candidate pool developed and discussed   |

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| September 2014 |  |
| October 2014   | Semi-finalists selected  |
| November 2014  | Ten semi-finalists interviewed; four finalists selected, recommended to, and affirmed by Judge Starr                                 |
| December 2014  | Four finalists to interview with Judge Starr; Judge Starr, in appropriate consultation with others, to hire Baylor's new EVP/Provost |
| Early 2015     | EVP/Provost announced  |
| June 2015      | EVP/Provost start date   |

### **Dr. Gaynor Yancey, Ombudsperson**

Senator Yancey reported that since May she has seen seven (7) colleagues. She has seen three (3) of those seven (7) colleagues twice, and four (4) she has seen five times each.

## **REPORTS**

### **Academic Citizenship**

Senate Chair Baker reported to the Council of Deans the Senate's desire to move forward with an Academic Citizenship time allocation to be added to annual faculty evaluations and workload. There was concern expressed about how Department Chairs would effectively rate service. Senate Chair Baker will be putting together a committee of volunteers from the Senate to make recommendations for guidelines for evaluating faculty service. It is anticipated that a small subcommittee would draft the guiding principles and then request Deans ask Department Chairs to work with their faculty to provide assessment criteria for each department.

### **Department Chair Evaluations**

Senate Chair Baker reported that tenured faculty have contacted her regarding Department Chair Evaluations. These faculty are concerned because it appears that if a faculty member does not sign the Department Chairs' evaluation that it might not be considered by some Deans as a valid evaluation. Baker presented this information to the Provost and suggested that the Department Chairs' evaluations be moved to online and be confidential. The Provost asked for a motion by the Senate.

The motion was made by Senator Patton and seconded by Senator Baldrige that Department Chairs' evaluations be moved to online and be confidential. The motion passed.

### **Core Commitments**

A motion was made by Senator Raines and seconded by Senator Baldrige that the Senate rejects the Core Commitments because these should be addressed in the BUPPs. In addition, given the lack of faculty or Senate involvement in the drafting of the document the intended use and necessity is unknown. The motion passed with one senator voting against.

### **Senate Chair**

Senate Chair Baker reported that Baylor has a new Vice President for Campus Security.

Senate Chair Baker reported that paper course evaluations cost \$30,000 more each year than electronic evaluations in addition to the need for the purchase of new equipment to

scan the paper copies. Baker reported that course evaluation questions have not been reviewed in roughly 30 years. In addition, the use of course evaluations in faculty teaching assessment appears to be weighted heavier than in the past. Chair Baker outlined the need to reevaluate both the instrument and the policies regarding use of course evaluations. It was agreed upon that committees should be formed in conjunction with the Provost Office to evaluate both of these and make recommendations.

A motion was made by Senator Baldrige and seconded by Senator Umstead to adjourn. The motion passed.

Adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra D. Burleson, Recording Secretary