

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

14 April 2009
Room 303, Cashion
3:30 p.m.

Members Present: Senators Baker, Baldrige, Blackwell, Johnson for Bowman, Boyd, Cannon, Cloud, Cordon, Diaz-Granados, Duhrkopf, Garner, Green, Harvey, Hurtt, Johnson, Korpi, Lehr, Long, Longfellow, Losey, Myers, Hurtt for Nunley, Patteson, Young for Pennington, Purdy, Larson for Rosenbaum, Sadler, Spain, Still, Stone, Supplee, Vitanza, Wood.

Members Absent: Senators Bowman, Kayworth, Nunley, Pennington, Rosenbaum, Sharp.

I. Call to Order and Invocation

The meeting was called to order at 3:30. Senator Sadler gave the invocation.

II. Guests:

Elizabeth Davis, Interim Provost (Temporary Lecturers)

Elizabeth indicated that when she moved to Pat Neff over five years ago Baylor had “over 100 full-time temporary lecturers.” She indicated that problems with contracts arose: getting them out on time and putting raises into them. Because these lecturers were “temporary,” their names didn’t appear on the spreadsheet.

She said that if a chair asks for a raise, who’s going to pay for the raise?

Also, full-time temporary lecturers weren’t being evaluated annually.

Some changes took place four years ago. Some lecturers were converted from “temporary” to “full-time” faculty status. And all names appeared on the spreadsheet.

She explained that the administration wanted departments to have some “flexibility”; that’s when the two-year terminal contract was issued. This procedure has been in effect for three years.

The contract, she indicated, specifies the date of termination. In some cases, a “full-time temporary lecturer” was given a third year. Elizabeth cited departmental flexibility; trying to meet employment laws; and treating people fairly.

Further, “when the departmental chair wants to keep someone and the money’s there, I’m not aware of anyone being turned away.”

Senator: “How many full-time temporary lecturers are there?” Davis: “Less than 20.”

Senator: These different lecturer classifications are confusing. Davis: “I understand what you’re saying.”

Elizabeth indicated that exceptions were made when necessary—e.g., MFL—Japanese.

She said that “we’re trying to fix the problem. The chair must make a request in June. It helps the chair to have a good argument. We’ve made it better for departments.” Elizabeth thinks “the process is working well.”

Further, “when chairs and deans come forward with exceptions, I will consider them. The process is working well with HP.”

General discussion ensued.

Ian McCaw, Director of Athletics; Bart Byrd, Asst. Athletic Director for Student Athlete Services; Mike Rogers, Faculty Athletic Representative (Academic Services for Student Athletes)

Bart distributed a handout containing information about student athlete services and directed senators to look at various documents and press releases.

He indicated that he oversees 55-75 tutors for about 450 student athletes. He and his staff work with the Paul Foster Success Center if problems arise. Above all, he stressed the need for Baylor to comply with all NCAA guidelines. He added that the Athletic Department issues “textbooks” for student athletes to make certain they have the right editions, etc.

Bart highlighted some successes of student athletes in the handout. For example, 233 student athletes had a 3.0 or higher in Fall 2008.

Ian said that he’s “pleased” with the academic success under Bart Byrd’s leadership. He noted the “3.04 GPA for all student athletes.” He stressed that “coaches do a good job of recruiting high quality students.”

Senator: “What training do the tutors receive?” Bart: “We work with compliance. Every semester, tutors go through training.”

Mike noted that Baylor has “outside compliance reviews.”

Senate: “We appear to be doing well. Are other Big 12 schools looking at us as a model?” Mike: There’s a “culture” at Baylor; we screen student athletes, admitting some and rejecting some. We have “fewer transfer students.”

Ian: “The recruiting process is the key.” He stressed identifying “self-motivated” student athletes. And he mentioned that Bart and his staff make sure students are going to class.

A general discussion ensued about issues/concerns facing the Athletic Department.

Senator: Do full-time advisers issue permits for student athletes to enroll in classes?

Bart: “We have in the past permitted students, but only with the professor’s permission, written permission.”

Discussion ensued about policies and procedures.

Mike ended by saying that a “full compliance review [occurs] every two years.”

III. Approval of Minutes

Chair Green asked if there are any additions or corrections to the March minutes.

Senator Longfellow moved to approve the minutes with one correction; Senator Baldrige seconded the motion.

The minutes were approved.

IV. Committee/Liaison Reports:

- A. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (Myers)—Senator Myers said that committee members continue to make improvements to the curriculum.
- B. Academic Freedom (Longfellow)—No report.
- C. Enrollment Management (Lehr)—No report.
- D. Student Life (Wood)—Senator Wood noted the benefits to retention when faculty members interact with students outside the classroom. He distributed a bound spiral folder titled “Academic Integration Report” and encouraged senators to read the findings of the Academic Integration Work Team chaired by Rosemary Townsend.
- E. Ad Hoc Committee on Master Teacher Criteria (Pennington)—Senator Pennington said that the administration has submitted a “fairly lengthy list of questions” and that he and his committee members are working to address the questions.
- F. Ad Hoc Committee on Parking Services (Purdy, Vitanza)—Senator Purdy said that the committee met recently, but no action was taken.
- G. Ad Hoc Committee on Lecturer Concerns (McGlashan)—Professor McGlashan will be at the May meeting with a report.

- H. Liaison Reports
 - 1. Council of Deans (Green)—Chair Green said that the deans are encouraging faculty members to participate in the three May commencement exercises.
 - 2. Athletic Council (Blackwell, Sadler)—No report.
 - 3. Personnel, Benefits, Compensation (Cloud)—No report.

V. New Business

- A. Chair Green indicated that the Senate has three appointments to the University Tenure Committee and, with the approval of the Senate Executive Committee, moved that Charles Tolbert (Sociology, A&S), Jane Baldwin (Accounting, Business), and Rob Rogers (School of Social Work) be appointed.

Motion was approved by voice vote.

Chair Green noted that the Senate has two appointments to the Faculty Dismissal Committee and, with the approval of the Senate Executive Committee, moved that Michael Stroope (Truett Seminary) and Ann Rushing (Biology, A&S) be appointed.

Motion was approved by voice vote.

B. Chair Green noted that the Senate has five recommendations for the University Committee on Committees and moved that Matt Cordon (Chair, Law), Jimmy Diaz-Granados (Psychology and Neuroscience, A&S), Kimberly Kellison (History, A&S), Margaret Woody (HHPR, Education), and Janet Sheets (Library) be approved.

Motion was approved by voice vote.

C. Items from the Floor:

Senator Harvey raised the issue of students carrying concealed handguns on campus. He indicated that the Texas Legislature (both house and senate) is considering a bill which would permit concealed handguns on campus.

Senator Harvey moved that “the Faculty Senate go on record in support of the administration's position opposing the Texas legislation, which would allow students to carry concealed handguns (HB 1893; SB 1164).”

Motion was seconded by Senator Vitanza.

Discussion about the bill ensued.

Motion was approved by voice vote.

A copy of the motion will be sent to Jim Dunnam, Doc Anderson, and Kit Averitt. It will also be sent to the Baylor administration.

D. Announcements:

*State of the University Address, April 29.

*Presidential Search Listening Sessions, April 14 and April 22.

VI. Adjournment

Senator Baldrige moved to adjourn; Senator Duhrkopf seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:29.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Losey, Secretary