

Faculty Senate Final Minutes for April 9, 2010
JBK Room 11, 12:15 pm

1. Meeting called to order at 12:15pm by President Stuntz. Members present: Bigham, Branson, Browning, Byrd, Chenoweth, Commissiong, DeOtte, Dursun-Kilic, Friske, Issa, Landram, Lee, Parker, Parr-Scanlin, Stuntz, Trela and Wilson. Substitutes: Woodyard for Ambrose and Collette Loftin for Davis. Members absent: Castillo and Crafton. Guests: Dr. Dubois, James Webb, and Dr. Glenn Brown from Oklahoma State University.
2. Following a motion by Bigham and second by Byrd, minutes from March 26, 2010 were approved as submitted.
3. Comments from Dr. O'Brien
 - a. Budget update. Don't really have any additional information from the state. Still being directed to place \$1.3M aside. That set aside will most likely become a required cut. This morning's projection: \$11billion shortfall in State revenues in next biennium. Therefore, will most likely need to also come up with additional \$1.3M for 2nd year of biennium. Enrollment increases did yield additional tuition revenue. That plus hiring freeze cover this year. Additional cuts will be necessary next year. Staff has already been reduced by 9.5 FTE. Town Hall meetings links to PowerPoint presentations will remain up through May 3 for Budget. Master plan will be available longer.
 - b. Regarding questions about Distance Education Fee and Technology Fee. Decision about existence of fees is made at President's level. Most of System schools charge both fees. In TAMUS average is \$11.38/ hr. vs. our \$10/hr. Distance fee avg. \$40.13 vs. our \$40. Campus network, anti-virus, smart classrooms are covered by Technology fee. Still need servers and broadband for distance, as an example. Items that serve both on-campus and distance are joint cost items. Do not split it out, just like different academic programs aren't charged different rates. Both fees have a line item for depreciation, to allow reserve for equipment replacement.
 - c. Q and A: cloud-computing doesn't really impact fees. Last fall through today WTClass usage is about 25% hybrid vs. 75% true distance. Anticipate that hybrid will increase in the future. Funding split will need to be evaluated in future. Decision was made not to increase Technology Fee this year. Evaluating if a Distance Fee for full-time students who are taking a mix of F2F and distance classes will continue. Recognition that some required classes are taught only online in some semesters. Smart Classrooms in Classroom Center renovation were partially funded by reserve from the Technology Fee.
 - d. HELC is about \$600k. Looking at thin clients or reduced hours. Webb offered a tour of the Data Center for Faculty Senate.
 - e. Some universities have gone to a differential tuition rate by discipline. Is that in our future?
4. Reports from Committees
 - a. Standing Committees
 - i. Faculty Development and Student Learning – no report.
 - ii. Budget and Faculty Governance – no report.

- iii. Assessment, Advising, Conduct, and Curriculum – no report.
 - iv. Commencement Speaker Committee - Jimmie Vaughn will be the Commencement speaker. WT Alumnus.
 - v. Advisory Council for External Funding – DeOtte has met with staff to get recommendations. Dr. Emily Hunt, Dr. Mike Brown, Dr. Heidi Taylor, Dr. Larry Barnes, Dr. Mo Cuevas have agreed. Will get someone from Business and from Fine Arts. Not all external funding is research, and that needs to be recognized in the committee’s expertise. Following a motion by Commissioning and second by Wilson, Senate voted to approve those individuals. Following a motion by Byrd and second by Dursun-Kilic, Senate approved giving DeOtte authority to name remaining members based on recommendations and personal discussion.
- b. Ad Hoc Committees
 - i. Regents Professor Nominations Committee – Folders need to be at the library by April 21. Voting needs to be complete by April 28. The two nominees are Dr. Darlene Pulliam and Dr. John Pipkin.
5. Old Business
- a. Evaluation of Teaching –See Attachment 1 for the approved resolution. After DeOtte moved and Commissioning seconded the Senate approved the resolution per Attachment 1.
 - b. Regents Professor Nominations Procedure see above
 - c. New Name for Award Winners Celebration: “Celebration of Excellence” will be suggested to Staff Council.
6. New Business
- a. At next meeting will be voting on *Magister Optimus*, so collect suggestions from Departments.
 - b. Nominations for officers for 2010-2011 were collected.
7. Announcements
- a. Library Update – Everyone is invited to tonight’s reception for Amy Andersen’s photo exhibit, 5:30-7:00pm. Annual Friends of the Library banquet is Saturday, May 1. Speaker is Dr. Bobby Weaver, author of *Tales of the West*.
 - b. Faculty Senate Medallions – no update.
 - c. Chancellor’s Teaching Excellence Award – evaluation forms are up on WTClass. Tell students that it is available for voting. More votes=more money.
 - d. First Thursday didn’t work, either. There are fewer locations for faculty to get together casually; future senate may wish to pursue a Faculty Lounge.
8. Following a motion by Browning meeting was adjourned at 1:40 pm.

These minutes have been approved.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Chenoweth, Secretary.

Attachment 1 – Resolution of April 9, 2010 regarding teaching assessment

The Faculty Senate of West Texas A&M University wishes to change the way that Instructional Responsibilities are evaluated each year. We propose moving to the Four Pillars of Assessment: self assessment, peer review, department head evaluations, and student evaluations. This will only affect the Instructional Responsibilities section of the Annual Review of Faculty Performance.

Each department will develop a self-assessment measure to be used by all faculty in that department. The Center for Teaching Excellence is available as a resource to assist in developing rubrics or other measures. The Center is also available to coach faculty on peer review techniques and advise department heads on evaluation suitable for their disciplines.