

Final Faculty Senate Minutes, April 29, 2011

JBK Rm. 11, 12:15pm

Meeting called to order at 12:15pm by President Byrd. Senators in attendance: Ambrose, Bartlett, Bigham, Branson, Browning, Byrd, Castillo, Chenoweth, Commissiong, Davis, Dursun-Kilic Friske, Issa, Landram, Lee, Pendleton, Rosa, Vizzini, and Wilson. Substitute: Tariq for Parr-Scanlin. Absent: Holliday.

1. Senators need to proctor new senator elections. Senators are elected by the entire college, even when they represent their department.
 - a. May 5 at noon: ASE by Chenoweth and Davis at ANS 102,
 - b. May 5 at noon: BUSI by Byrd and Commissiong at CC 201,
 - c. May 6 at 9a.m.: NHS by Trela and Byrd EB (BNLC) 111.
 - d. May 6 at 10a.m.: FAH by Chenoweth and Friske at FAC recital hall.
 - e. New Senators already elected are Sidnye Johnson (Professional Librarian – 2011-2014) and Dave Rausch (Political Science and Criminal Justice – 2011-2014).
2. External Grants funding. Robert DeOtte, chair of the Ad Hoc Committee established last year gave a report on the Committee's mission to look at assisting people who were conducting external research. To have consistency, the University needed an advisory group with experience. Committee members were: Robert DeOtte, Duane Rosa, John Landon, Elizabeth Clark, LaVelle Mills, Pradeep Racherla, Emily Hunt, Mike Brown, Mo Cuevas, Keith Price, Larry Barnes, Heidi Taylor, Martin Lopez, and Rhonda Dittfurth. Ex-officio members were Kaaren Downey and Angela Spalding. These individuals have worked very hard.
 - a. Consensus that transition to a standing committee would enhance standing for the committee and provide stability.
 - b. Development of a mentoring system
 - c. Value in informal gatherings.
 - d. University incentives for support, monetary or other items such as support staff
 - e. Development of templates, data management systems, responsibilities of Head of Research
 - f. Needs deep understanding of the variety of faculty across campus: teaching loads, other funding sources, 9- vs 12-month contracts, etc.
 - g. Recommended meeting formally mid-part of each long semester.
 - h. This represents a culture change for WT that needs to be implemented in a way that does not harm faculty.
 - i. Browning moved and Commissiong seconded that the resolution be approved. Passed. Resolution attached as Appendix 1.
3. The Senate made the following appointments to University Standing Committees. Please note that except where noted all of the terms for these standing committees are three years, that is 2011-2014. Where college is marked as **Any**, there is no college specification in the committee description.

Committee Name	College	Nominated	Appointed
Accommodations Appeals Committee	Any	Heidi Taylor Melody Frick	Melody Frick
Alcohol and Other Drugs	Any	Julie Lockman	Julie Lockman
Code of Student Life	Any	Angela Phillips	Angela Phillips
Environmental Safety	Any	Ken Leitch	Ken Leitch
Distinguished Lecture Series	BUSI	Neil Meredith	Neil Meredith
	FAH	Alex Hunt Jeffrey Doty Patricia Roser	Jeffrey Doty
Faculty Development Committee	ASE	Lal Almas	Lal Almas
	BUSI	Megan Brock	Megan Brock
	ESS	Susan Nix Maxine DeButte Smith	Susan Nix Maxine DeButte-Smith
	NURS	Lisa Davis	Lisa Davis
Faculty Emeritus Committee	BUSI	Karyn Friske	Karen Friske
Faculty Handbook Committee	Any	Nancy Cartwright Roy Issa	Roy Issa
Freshman Convocation Committee	FAH	Nick Scales	Nick Scales
Grievance Committee (Student)	BUSI	Jonathan Schaffer	Jonathan Schaffer
Information Technology Committee	BUSI	Chris Furner	Chris Furner
Instructional Technology Committee	ASE	Randy Combs Tanner Robertson	Tanner Robertson
	BUSI	Bin Shao	Bin Shao
	FAH	Jean Stuntz Nicole Walls B. J. Brooks	B. J. Brooks
Intercollegiate Athletic Committee	BUSI	Frank Landram	Frank Landram
Marketing Committee	Any	Anne Macy Turkan Dursun-Kilic	Turkan Dursun-Kilic
Parking Committee	FAH	Rai Morales	Rai Morales
Scholarship/Financial Aid Committee	Any	Connie Mckee Bonnie Pendleton	Bonnie Pendleton
Student Endowment Scholarship Committee	ASE	John Pipkin	John Pipkin (2011-13)
	ESS	Yvette Castillo	Yvette Castillo (2011-13)
Student Honors Committee	BUSI	Laura Kreissel	Laura Kreissel
Undergraduate Appeals Committee	Any	Theresa Trela Helen Reyes Gary Rider	Theresa Trela (2011-12) Gary Rider
University Library Committee	BUSI	Anne Macy Terry	Anne Macy Terry
University Services Committee	BUSI	Jane Xiaou	Jane Xiaou
	ESS	Richard Rose Ruby Willey-Rendon	Richard Rose

4. The Senate accepted nominees for the 2011-2012 Magister Optimus professor. After the first round of ballot voting, there were two nominees left. The Senate then voted by ballot again and elected the MO professor. Gary will hold that information confidential until the fall faculty meeting. If he is not re-elected President, he will turn over the details to the newly elected President.
5. The Senate voted to select five possible Regents Professor nominees. Gary will contact each of them to see if they are willing to put materials together and proceed with being a candidate. Should the candidates agree to compile the documents, a set of each candidate's credentials will be on display in the Library for ballot voting. This voting will be conducted by outgoing, remaining and new Senators. Gary will let us know at the next Senate meeting.
6. Gary then provided a summary of the Ad Hoc committee work. He is optimistic on some fronts, and still concerned on other fronts. He assures us that the President is listening, and he continues to have dialogue with him.
7. Gary told the Senate that the faculty website has been populated with a lot of great ideas for the budget crisis. To that end, he will provide a summary list of the items written on that site and send that list to Senators. Senators will then rank order the items (1-10), 1 being the top. We are not to share this list with non-faculty, administrators, or department heads.
8. The meeting was adjourned at 2:24p.

These minutes have been approved.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Chenoweth, Secretary

Appendix I – Resolution approved April 29, 2011

Resolution for Establishment of a University Standing Committee to advise the University Administration on issues of importance to those faculty and staff who write grant proposals for external funding

Whereas the Administration of West Texas A&M University is encouraging the faculty to increase its role in shared governance of the University, and

Whereas West Texas A&M University is increasingly emphasizing the need to obtain external grant funding, and

Whereas there exists a pool of information and experience at West Texas A&M University among those who write proposals for competitive external grant funds who can provide useful and meaningful suggestions, and

Whereas there are now two separate committees addressing issues of external funding, one appointed by the Faculty Senate and another operating under the auspices of Institutional Advancement, and

Whereas the needs of those writing proposals to different agencies and foundations for competitive external grants differ by department, discipline, and purpose

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate (FS) of West Texas A&M University recommends the establishment of a single University Standing Committee under the auspices of the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs and composed of faculty and staff who write proposals for external funding to advise the Chief Research Officer (CRO), when agencies other than foundations are involved, and the Vice President for Institutional Advancement, when foundations are in consideration, on the needs of the various individuals writing proposals for grants.

Be it further resolved that the External Grants Committee of the Faculty Senate after thoughtful and serious deliberation, and with the endorsement of the Faculty Senate recommends that the committee will be selected from the faculty with two elected from each academic college, preferably with at least one to be a tenured faculty member. Two staff members shall be selected from and by those staff with responsibility for writing proposals.

It is further recommended that only faculty and staff who actually write proposals for external funding will be eligible to serve. External funding regardless of source or application will qualify, including for example grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other such instruments as may apply.

The recommendation on committee terms is that committee members will be selected to non-consecutive three years terms. The first committee will have one-third of members eligible for a one-year term. Those members assigned a one-year term will be allowed a one-time renewal for three years. An additional third of the membership will serve two years and not be eligible for a consecutive term, and the final third will serve three years and not be eligible for a consecutive term. Representatives from the same college will have different term expiration dates.

The recommendation of the Faculty Senate is that the Provost shall appoint the chair of the committee from among qualified faculty researchers. If the chair is selected from among the committee members, the college will elect a replacement retaining the requirement that at least one of the college representatives be a tenured faculty member. The chair must be well experienced with writing proposals and receiving external funding and must be a tenured senior faculty member. The chair of the committee will report recommendations to the Chief Research Officer and Vice President of Institutional

Advancement as appropriate. The Chief Research Officer of the University will serve as an ex officio member.

Be it further resolved that the committee may have additional duties including provision of a forum for mentoring faculty who have not previously submitted proposals for external grants but who desire to do so, serving as or providing internal reviewers for proposals, facilitating a change in culture of the University to increased disposition for writing proposals for external grants, facilitating social engagement of faculty and staff interested in writing proposals, and providing advice to the Chief Research Officer and the Vice President for Institutional Development regarding resources and policies that would be deemed appropriate to facilitate submission of requests for external funding. The committee will consider such matters concerning external funding as requested by the university administration.

By majority vote of the Faculty Senate, let it be known that the Faculty Senate of West Texas A&M University requests of the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost that the University establish a standing committee to be taken into counsel and advise those officers of the administration serving as signature authorities on requests for external funding.