

Minutes of Faculty Senate 4 April 2014

Present: Alex, Ambrose, Anwar, Atchison, Blanton, Crandall, De'Armond, Diego-Medrano, Fiaud, Johnson, Kelly, Landram, Pendleton, Rausch, Takacs, and Ward

Absent: Drumheller, Jacobsen, Jafar, Kuennen, Loftin, and Stuntz

Guests: Shravan Devkota and Matthew Reardon

Call to Order: President Ambrose called the meeting to order at 12:22 p.m. in Room 14 (Eternal Flame) of the JBK.

Approval of Minutes: Fiaud made a motion seconded by Crandall to approve as written the minutes of the 21 March 2014 meeting of Faculty Senate. All Senators present voted in favor.

Student Body President Leif Knippers talked about the Buffs Can student food pantry that opened two weeks ago at the Core Office in JBK. Any student may go to the food pantry on Tuesdays and Fridays to seek nutritional support. No information is collected from the students. Faculty are asked to guide students to the food pantry and encourage everyone to participate in Souper Tuesday the first week of each month. Monetary and food donations are being accepted at the Core Office and by Student Government. Ambrose asked about having a canned food drive. Diego-Medrano asked if Buffs Can works with Snak Pak 4 Kids. Leif said there is an agreement with High Plains Food Bank but not with Snak Pak 4 Kids. He said Texas A&M University and the University of Arkansas have food pantries.

Old Business:

Jim Calvi declined nomination for Regents Professor. Ward said Jim Rogers plans to submit a nomination packet.

Crandall, Rausch, and Ward nominated faculty for the Magister Optimus award. At the next meeting of Faculty Senate, Senators will present information to justify the faculty members they nominated.

Proposed changes to the Faculty Handbook were discussed. Anwar said there is much discussion of collegiality in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. He requested to remove collegial or not from the WT Annual Activity Evaluation Form. Ambrose said Dr. O'Brien told him that a "yes" or "no" for faculty being collegial would avoid problems later when a faculty member comes up for tenure. But, when a "no" is given, the direct supervisor will need to give a detailed reason why he considers the faculty member to not be collegial. Anwar said if a faculty member was abused, he would be considered non-collegial by the department head and dean. Atchison said an administrator might be abusing power against a faculty member. Anwar asked if a "no" for collegial would

impact merit increases. Diego-Medrano said in her department, tenured faculty give feedback to all non-tenured faculty.

Ambrose said the post-tenure review committee chaired by Gary Byrd is working on suggestions to revise the WT policy. Ambrose said the committee will provide suggestions before the end of this semester. Alex asked if the post-tenure review policy will be available for review by Faculty Senate. Ambrose said Faculty Senate will review the proposed policy suggestions before forwarding them.

Ambrose said Faculty Senate finished everything we planned to do this year. Senators should suggest issues on which Faculty Senate might work in the future.

New Business:

Guest Matt Reardon said members of Spectrum and Buff Allies would like to wear stoles to show their support for student members of the two WT organizations. Similar stoles with different patterns might be worn by other campus organizations. Fiaud made a motion seconded by Ward to approve wearing stoles by Buff Allies, Spectrum, and other organizations at graduation. The motion passed.

College elections for Faculty Senate representatives will be in April or 1 May. Elections for Faculty Senate officers will be at the Faculty Senate meeting on 1 May (Dead Day).

All Faculty Senators in each individual College should decide together how to fill their College vacancies on WT Standing Committees. All Senators are to come to the 18 April meeting of Faculty Senate with suggestions of faculty to fill general faculty vacancies on committees.

The meeting of Faculty Senate was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Bonnie B. Pendleton, Secretary

These minutes as written were approved at the 18 April meeting of Faculty Senate.