

Final Faculty Senate Minutes, March 25, 2011, JBK Rm. 11.

Meeting called to order by President Byrd at 12:18p.m. Senators in attendance were Ambrose, Bartlett, Bigham, Branson, Byrd, Chenoweth, Commissiong, Davis, Dursun-Kilic, Friske, Holliday, Holliday, Issa, Lee, Parr-Scanlin, Pendleton, Rosa, Trela, and Wilson. Senators absent were Browning, Castillo, Landram, and Vizzini.

1. Old Business

a. Graduation Speaker.

i. Theresa Trela moved that

Whereas Faculty Senate recognizes the power of exemplary teaching, and
whereas Faculty Senate recognizes that teaching is the sine qua non of the
university experience at WTAMU and

whereas Faculty Senate recognizes this priceless resource each year through its
choice for the Optimus Magister Award, therefore,

let it be resolved that the recipient of the Annual Optimus Magister award be
further honored as the keynote speaker for August graduation

ii. Motion seconded by Davis. Discussion. Approved.

b. Faculty Ombudsman

i. Byrd presented President O'Brien's proposal. Background is that several times
situations have occurred that do not fit in the parameters of the Faculty
Handbook, where the problem is ongoing rather than one specific incident.

ii. Discussion issues raised include compensation for the faculty member, how it
would be handled if the ombudsman is the person involved in the problem, if
the person could interpret the handbook, access to TAMUS legal staff, potential
conflict of interest in reporting roles to President. Does the language capture
mediating role

iii. Sub-committee consisting of Chenoweth, Landram, Holliday, Trela and Wilson
appointed to investigate policy at other universities and bring forward a
proposal for the full Senate to consider.

c. Departmental T & P standards

i. Scheduled meeting with Dr. Hallmark for next Friday, April 1 at 3pm.

ii. Purpose is to resolve the inconsistencies between departmental and university
standards, in particular as the assessments move up the approval ladder.

d. Ad hoc exigency committee

i. Strategic planning sub-committee using the Working Mission Statement as basis
for financial decisions in challenging economic environment.

1. A simplification would be the statement: Educating our students
through current curriculum and education standards serving a multi-
state region.

2. Byrd's main impetus is to have academics as the mission central item,
with regional service as a second goal.

- ii. Criteria for cuts to both academic and non-academic programs to be presented to over-all EPC committee at next week's meeting
 - e. Byrd has questions for survey, which he will ask Barbara Petty to distribute to entire campus on Monday. Open-ended questions, designed to solicit maximum input. For example, specific recommendation to create revenue, specific recommendation to cut costs.
2. Chancellor's Visit
- a. Luncheon on April 7, individual R.S.V.P. requested.
 - b. No information at this time as to specific discussion items.
3. Announcements
- a. April 15 – Art Department is having a “night blow” which will feature a visiting artist from Czech Republic from 6-11 pm
 - b. EPML Open House – April 5 beginning at 2pm
 - c. April 15 – student research conference. Please encourage students to apply by April 1
 - d. Distinguished lecture series – Muslims in the West. Friday, April 1 at 7pm. Open to public. During the day there is a student conference on Social Justice, which includes workshops and lunch.
 - e. Opening at Amarillo Museum of Art – WT faculty exhibition. Includes scholarship awards.
4. Meeting adjourned at 1:45p.m.

These minutes have been approved.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Chenoweth, Secretary.