



FACULTY SENATE
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS

Meeting:

Faculty Senate Meeting, 14 June 2006, Wooten Hall Room 322

Present:

Atkinson, Cole, Cooke, Doherty, Elleven, Johnston, McPherson, Miles, Murphy, Parks, Pavur, Perez, Peters, Plummer, Reban, Reidy, Sahliyah, Seligmann, Staff, Swan, Thomsett-Scott, Turner, van Tassell, Woods

Absent:

Barton, Booth, Boyd Lillie, Chandler, Coy, Figa, Glover, Goggin, Gopal, Grable, Heidelberger, Hill, Holt, Levin, Little, Mikler, Mueller, Nagaoka, Pelton, Smith, Weiller, Yeatts, Zimmerman

Guests:

Mary Finley (Asst Director, Union), Sue Young, Kelley Reese (InHouse), Chuck Weatherall (CMP), Sally Packard (SOVA), Dianne Markley (Director, Co-op/Internships), Dean Milnes (SOVA), Celia Williamson (Special Asst to the Provost), Howard Johnson (Provost/VPAA), Donna Asher (Asst VPAA), Gene Wright (Ombudsman), Richard White (Faculty Member), Kathryn Loafman (Faculty Senate Salary Committee)

Opening:

Frances van Tassell, Chair of the Faculty Senate, called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM

Report: Dr. Dean Milnes, Dean, School of Visual Arts: Senator van Tassell introduced Dr. Dean Milnes, Dean of the School of Visual Arts. Dean Milnes gave a brief presentation describing his view on who SOVA is and what SOVA values. He summarized the number SOVA majors (~1850) and graduates (~150), number of faculty (~50) and staff (~25), and number of faculty positions currently open (4-6).

Report: Diane Markley, Cooperative Education and Internship Program: Ms Markley distributed a [handout](#) that summarized the program and provided the similarities and differences between cooperative education and internship programs, as well as plans for improvements in the program. Ms Markley indicated that there were 2067 active employers involved in the program, 1881 students in cooperative or internship programs, and that between January and June 2006, there were 18,000 referrals (a 50% increase).

Report: Dr. Gene Wright, Faculty Ombudsman: Dr. Wright distributed a [report](#) that summarized the duties of the Faculty Ombudsman office, including what the Ombudsman does and does not do. Dr. Wright informed the senate that his office had 138 visitor contacts during this year (42 separate individuals), and categorized the visits into the following categories: early termination; tenure; discrimination; salary; procedures; promotion; advice. Dr. Wright indicated that the majority of consultations dealt with procedural issues, typically involving “fairness”.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the 10 May 2006 Faculty Senate meeting were presented. When it was realized that the results of the election of Faculty Senate Officers was not included in the minutes, the following motion was made:

Motion to Lay on the Table by Senator Swan. Senator Swan moved that approval of the Minutes of the 10 May 2006 Faculty Senate meeting be laid on the table until the minutes are updated.

Motion approved unanimously.

Unfinished business:

A. *Senate Budget Committee*. Senator Mueller distributed a [handout](#) that addressed the senate's concern over the Senate Budget Committee's recommendation to create a new "College Basic Science and Engineering" as a recommendation to help overcome obstacles to interdisciplinary research. The Committee recommended the following action item:

"Again, the suggested action item is a recommendation to gather information including planning information what would be required to enact such a change."

Motion to accept the report disapproved unanimously.

Committee Reports:

A. *University Library Committee*. Senator Reidy distributed a [report](#) on the activities of the University Library Committee over the year. The report summarizes the committee's charges, and its activities on those charges. While the committee succeeded in getting the senate to pass a resolution in support of increased budgeting for the library, met with the Vice President for Financial Affairs to stress the importance of the library budget, and gave interviews to the media, the committee believes the desired results of the committee and senate were not achieved.

Motion to accept the report approved unanimously.

B. *Committee on Committees*: Senator Thomsett-Scott distributed a [handout](#) that listed nominations for June 2006 as a motion for senate approval.

Motion passed unanimously.

C. *Faculty Salary Study Committee*: Ms Kathryn Loafman distributed a [report](#) on the activities of the Faculty Salary Studies Committee over the year. The report summarized the committee's charges, activities on those charges and suggestions for future actions or charges to the committee.

Motion to accept the report approved unanimously.

D. *Faculty Load Committee*: The committee submitted a written [report](#) on the activities of the Faculty Load Committee over the year. The report summarized the committee's charges, and recommended that each charge be carried forward to next year.

Motion to accept the report approved unanimously.

E. *University Writing Committee*: The committee submitted a written [report](#) on the activities of the University Writing Committee summarizing the committee's charges, its activities on those charges, and suggestions for future actions or changes to the committee.

Motion to accept the report approved unanimously.

Report of the Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs: Provost Johnson [presented](#) 5 items to the senate:

1. The [Strategic Plan](#) was approved by the Board of Regents at their 12 May 2006 meeting. The strategic plan includes UNT's Mission and Vision Statements, UNT's goals (excellence in student-centered education; increased research, scholarship and creative activity; enhancing institutional reputation, community engagement and advancement; improved institutional effectiveness), and UNT's themes (diversity, internationalization, and collaboration).

2. The SACs accreditation revealed two areas that need increased attention: the Quality Enhancement Plan; and Institutional Assessment.
3. The 2006-2007 budget: the Board of Regents approved a 5.2% tuition increase and a projected 2% enrollment increase may generate \$8.5 million in additional revenues.
4. Task Force activities: Provost Johnson has formed 3 ad hoc committees to look into: compensation for Departmental Chairs; Graduate Student Scholarships; and the Hispanic and Global Studies Initiative.
5. Other faculty matters:
 - a. A new B.S. degree in Materials Science and Engineering
 - b. The Provost's Promotion and Tenure Advisory Committee
 - c. Tenure for Dr. Efsthathios Michaelides, who will become Chair of the new Department of Mechanical and Energy Engineering.
 - d. Dr. Alan Needleman, Visiting Professor in the College of Engineering beginning Spring 2007, is the first UNT member of the National Academy of Engineering.
 - e. 27 faculty were recommended for Faculty Development Leaves for 2006-07.
 - f. Enrollment update for the Fall 2002 to Fall 2005 time frame: 20 point increase in average SAT (excluding TAMS); 45.6% increase in Hispanic students; 41% increase in African-American students; percent of students admitted by Individual Review decreased from 33% to 21%.
 - g. Faculty market adjustments: \$1,029,795 were distributed to 25.2 percent of faculty. Average award was \$2,784.

Vice Chair's Update: Senator Miles [reported](#) that the President Pohl indicted to the Executive Committee that it appears that not enough cuts can be made to fund the additional 2% raise that was being examined and that the cost of energy utilities was putting even more strain on the budget. Additionally, the Governor wants all state agencies to prepare a new budget with 10% reductions which further complicates the budget. Senator Miles' also reported that the President is looking into the length of time it takes for intellectual property disclosures, and that the UNT System received approval for \$117 million in tuition revenue bonds for new buildings. The report also summarized President Pohl's and Provost Johnson's update on the SACs review, and that UNT will need to improve its planning and assessment standards. Finally, Senator Miles summarized Provost Johnson's comments to the Executive Committee, including the uncertainty in merit raises and summer school next year, as well as the status of the search for a new Dean of the College of Public Affairs and Community Service.

Finally, Senator Miles introduced a [resolution](#) regarding outgoing chair van Tassell.

Resolution approved by majority ayes, one abstention.

Chair's Update: Senator van Tassell presented a [Power Point presentation](#) that directed senators to the updated [Faculty Senate web site](#), summarized the status of the SACs visit, indicated that the Board of Regents approved the new Strategic Plan in May, and updated the status of the Presidential search and the Executive Director of International Studies and Programs search. Senator van Tassell thanked senators, students, staff and administrators for her experience as Faculty Senate Chair. She gave special recognition to Margie Lagleder for her efforts as Administrative Assistant to the Senate, as well as Sue Young's efforts in that role prior to Ms Lagleder's.

New Business:

Senator Reidy introduced a [resolution](#) urging the University of North Texas Libraries to expand rather than contract its electronic resources in support of UNT's research aspirations.

Resolution passed unanimously.

Committee of the Whole: no items.

Senator Turner recommended that the Senate adjourn for the season, and it was so; the Senate Adjourned at 4:37 PM.

Respectively submitted by Sam Atkinson