



- Meeting:** Faculty Senate Meeting, 14 February 2007, Wooten Hall Room 322
- Present:** Acree, Atkinson, Benet, Booth, Y. Chandler, Cole, Doherty, Goggin, Hayes, Heidlberger, Jagadeeswaran, Johnston, Little, McPherson, Mikler, Miles, Mueller, Nagaoka, Pavur, Pelton, Perez, Plummer, Pohlen, Reidy, Sahliyah, Staff, Swan, Thomsett-Scott, Turner, Wallace, Weiller, Wells
- Absent:** Bratton, Chandler, Cooke, Donahue-Wallace, Elleven, Figa, Gopal, Harrell, Hill, Holt, Packard, Peters, Reban, Seligmann, Babcock
- Guests:** Maria Saldivar, Gene Wright, Rebecca Evans, Frances van Tassell, Michael Stodnick, Mary Pharris, Gary Krahenbuhl, Celia Williamson, Donna Asher, Kay Selby,
- Opening:** Marcia Staff, Chair of the Faculty Senate, called the meeting to order at 2:01 PM

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Senator Plummer moved approval of the minutes of the 13 December 2006 Faculty Senate meeting.

**Motion** approved as amended (correction of attendance – Hayes and Miles were present) by majority ayes, 1 abstention.

### **Committee Reports:**

*Committee on Committees:* Senator Thomsett-Scott distributed a handout that listed nominations for February 2007 as a motion for senate approval.

**Motion** passed unanimously.

*Undergraduate Curriculum Committee:* Vice Provost Celia Williamson informed the Senate that the UCC is still working on the core curriculum reduction and is hoping to have a recommendation in March. Dr. Williamson distributed the committee's report as a motion for senate approval, and indicated that in order to avoid confusion the "Sample Syllabus" shown in the report will be renamed (e.g. "Elements of Course Content for New Course Proposals").

**Motion** passed unanimously.

*Committee on Benefits:* Dr. Michael Stodnick, Chair of the Committee on Benefits, presented a Power Point presentation summarizing the results of survey taken of faculty and staff opinions of the effectiveness of the university's Employee Assistance Program. The survey indicated very high awareness of the existence of the program, but relatively low use of the program. The Senate recommended using the "official university email" to announce the availability of future surveys.

**Presentation** accepted unanimously.

**Comments by the Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs:** Provost Krahenbuhl was welcomed to UNT by Senator Staff, and he told the Senate of his "Rules to Live By": (1) Maximize good or "goodness" – defining "goodness" as your character (your reputation is what you appear to be, while your character is what you are, even when no one is looking) - because that universities exist for societal good; (2) Treat people evenhandedly in decision making – everyone should know what decision to expect, and should

expect the decision to be evenhanded and fair, and; (3) Be optimistic – an institution cannot do much if everyone feels discouraged – students feel better about the university if faculty are optimistic, faculty feel better if administrators are optimistic, and the community and state feel better if the institution is optimistic.

Provost Krahenbuhl also indicated that there were several immediate priorities for his attention: (1) faculty roles and rewards; (2) graduate student compensation; (3) conflicts between policies and procedures, and; (4) budget priorities to move the university forward.

**Vice Chair's Update:** Senator McPherson presented a [Power Point presentation](#) summarizing recent Executive Committee discussions with President Bataille about: (1) trends in student-faculty ratios; (2) status of administrative searches; (3) status of the external review process, and; (4) restructuring the Office of the Ombudsman.

**Chair's Update:** Senator Staff presented a [Power Point presentation](#) that highlighted: (1) the change in date from 28 February 2007 to 14 March 2007 for the special called session for discussions with President Bataille; (2) some details of President Bataille's 13 April 2007 inauguration; (3) Board of Regents meeting where tuition increases were approved, Chancellor Jackson's contract was extended and the acquisition of lofts in downtown Dallas adjacent to the Universities Center at Dallas was approved, and; (4) a special thanks to Senator Plummer for his "gift of gavel" for her chairpersonship's use in keeping we highly diverse and unpredictable (okay, some of us are very predictable) senators in line, on time, real fine, and quite sublime.

**Unfinished Business:** none

**New Business:** none

**Committee of the Whole:**

Senator Pelton asked the Senate to formally recognize Monika Antonelli for her long service to the university. Request was approved unanimously.

Senator Pelton informed the Senate that the deadline for nominations for faculty/staff/student community service awards is tomorrow, and that nominations should be sent to Jim Mernick, chair of the selection committee.

The senate adjourned at 3:15 PM.

*Respectfully submitted by Sam Atkinson*