



- Meeting:** Faculty Senate Meeting, 11 October 2006, Wooten Hall Room 322
- Present:** Atkinson, Benet, Booth, C. Chandler, Y. Chandler, Cooke, Doherty, Donahue-Wallace, Elleven, Figa, Gopal, Hayes, Hill, Holt, Jagadeeswaran, Johnston, McPherson, Mikler, Miles, Mueller, Murphy, Nagaoka, Packard, Pavur, Pelton, Shiner (for Perez), Peters, Plummer, Pohlen, Sahliyah, Seligmann, Staff, Swan, Thomsett-Scott, Wallace, Wells
- Absent:** Bratton, Cole, Goggin, Harrell, Heidberger, Little, Reban, Rediy, Smith, Weiller
- Guests:** Michelle Hale, Kay Selby, Celia Williamson, Howard Johnson, Donna Asher, Haley Shurtleff, Samuel Gonzalez, Gene Wright
- Opening:** Marcia Staff, Chair of the Faculty Senate, called the meeting to order at 2:04 PM

Senator Staff began the meeting by announcing that the Faculty Senate won the “change war” against the Staff Council, but that we are being challenged again next year to raise money for the charitable campaign.

**Approval of Minutes:**

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

Motion approved as corrected unanimously (spelling error corrected).

**Committee Reports:**

*Committee on Committees:* Senator Thomsett-Scott distributed a handout that listed nominations for October 2006 as a motion for senate approval. Senator Swan agreed to serve on the Mentor Committee.

**Motion** passed unanimously.

**Budget Council Faculty Representatives:**

Senator Staff provided some background on the President’s request that the senate executive committee provide two faculty representatives to sit in on the upcoming Budget Council hearings. The executive committee charged the Senate Budget Committee with naming one of their members as one representative (and to also name an alternative to attend the meetings if the selected representative cannot attend one or more of the hearings). The executive committee decided to ask the Senate to elect the second representative and an alternative to the second representative.

Nominations were offered by the executive committee, and nominations were accepted from the floor of the senate. Elections were held, and Senator Reidy was elected as the representative and Senator Wells was elected as the alternative.

**Possible Changes Due to the 120 Hour Rule:**

Celia Williamson distributed 2 handouts and provided explanations of why the state is requiring a reduction in the number of hours required for a bachelor’s degree (15 hours per semester times 8 semesters = 120 hours).

Currently there are approximately 20 degree programs at UNT requiring less than 125 hours, approximately 95 programs requiring 125 to 128 hours, and approximately 40 programs that require more than 128 hours. The Undergraduate Curriculum Committee is meeting and will determine recommendations about how to reduce the number of hours to 120 which will be presented to the senate.

**Report of the Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs:** Provost Johnson indicated that he only had 1 item he wanted to present; he has found \$600K to support the 5% raise that President Bataille announced at the faculty convocation. The Provost will send a list of where the cuts will be made to the senate.

**Vice Chair's Update:** Senator McPherson presented a [Power Point presentation](#) summarizing recent Executive Committee meetings, including the 2005-2006 merit raise process currently underway, a potential exit interview system, the issue of hiring Assistant Professor Instructional Track personnel, and the issue of specificity in measuring research output.

**Chair's Update:** Senator Staff reported that December graduation will include a Friday evening event for hooding doctoral students, and the remainder of the ceremonies will be held on Saturday. She also indicated a committee is working on the "ideal commencement" for UNT, and has asked for comments and suggestions from senators as well as all faculty. Senator Staff also indicated that in Spring of 2007 students will hold a referendum on a Student Honor Code. Finally, Senator Staff also distributed the Executive Committee Evaluation of the Faculty Ombudsman Office.

**Motion to accept the evaluation** by Senator Turner.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Unfinished Business:** no items

**New Business:**

**Motion** by Senator Booth:

The Faculty Senate formally thanks Dr. Gene Wright, Faculty Ombudsman, for a job well done.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Committee of the Whole:** none

The senate adjourned at 3:53 PM.

*Respectfully submitted by Sam Atkinson*