



FACULTY SENATE

University of North Texas

Meeting: Faculty Senate Meeting – April 8, 2009

Present: Babcock, Bratton, Bush, Chandler, Chen, Cherry, Clower, Conley, Conover, Cox, Emmanuel, Goggin, Guzman, Harrell, Heidleberger, Jagadeeswaran, Justice, Kaminski, Lu, Miksa, Perez, Puccinelli, Pohlen, Reese, Seligmann, Shahrokhi, Swan, Thomsett-Scott, Vosvick, Wallace, Weiller, White, Windsor

Absent: Baker, Catalano, Cushman, Donahue-Wallace, Mikler, Nagaoka, Oldmixon, Nasrazadani, Sahliyah, Turner

Guests: Jonathan Hook, Gilda Garcia, Wendy Wilkins, Cecilia Williamson, Lisa Goodwin, David Schwarz, Amber Arnold, Margie Lagleder, Tyra Krause, Deborah Arnold, Carolyn Bobo, Katie Dillon

Opening: The meeting was called to order at 2:06 PM.

- I. Welcome: Guests were recognized and committee members were greeted.
 - a. Jonathan Hook, Director for International Indigenous & American Indian Int. provided a discussion about the needs of native communities and provided information about activities related to this program. Upcoming activities included a culture and environmental video conference and the First Nations Council meeting. George Whitewater, Chief of the Kickapoo will be the keynote speaker for the council meeting.
 - b. Gilda Garcia, VP Institutional Equity & Diversity provided an update for this Division. The faculty hiring process with regard to the addition of an equity and diversity review has been updated this year. Two areas of planning for the upcoming year include:
 - i. Building a special interest group network has provided a forum in which faculty can identify and begin to work on areas of mutual interest regarding equity and diversity.
 - ii. A Division plan is being formulated to establishing clear measurable goals for equity and diversity.
- II. Approval of Minutes (April 8, 2009). Senator Conover moved to accept the minutes and Senator Windsor seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with corrections to section IV amending the third sentence to read, "For this reason, UNT is strongly in favor of assuring and rewarding excellence in teaching and our mission highlights student learning as a central focus."
- III. Provost Wilkins summarized information from the VP for Academic Affairs Office.
 - A. UNT is founding an Emeritus College out of the Center for Advancement of Lifelong Learning which will focus on noncredit courses to be taught by Emeritus faculty. Jim Miller will be the Founding Dean. He was a past Dean of the College of Education.
 - B. The Spring Faculty Meeting will be held on April 16 from 4-7 p.m. There will be an opportunity to ask questions to Provost Wilkins at this meeting.

- C. Various funding scenarios are under development for the university budget planning document: (1) no new tuition revenues; (2) 7.9% tuition the board had approved; (3) and a 5% tuition increase option. If we receive no tuition increase, then we might have a year of no new initiatives, faculty salary increases, etc. In response to this possible scenario, all of the Colleges have prepared reallocation scenarios in which funds will be collected centrally and then redistributed.
- D. A new policy is under development for a review of new center Initiatives including changes to the sunset review process for existing centers and an executive committee representing the interests of all centers.
- E. A revision of the UNT Policy Manual is underway including changes such as a searchable feature and links to all updated versions to the policy manual.

IV. Unfinished Business. The reapportionment document was presented by Jose Perez for a second reading and discussion. Senator Vosvick made a motion to add an amendment to allow psychology to remain in Group 4. Senator Chandler seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to add the amendment. Senator Vosvick moved to vote on the reapportionment with the new amendment. This was seconded by Senator Chandler. There was a discussion about including history with education in Group 6 regarding grouping faculty by discipline so they would have common interests with the faculty grouping. The motion about reapportionment was passed and included one no vote.

V. New Business

- A. The Faculty Senate Charter and Bylaws Committee brought forward a motion of charges for the LGBT Committee. Senator Kaminski made a motion to approve the charges and it was seconded by Senator Swan to accept the Ad hoc committee recommendation to create the LGBT Committee. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. The UPTC requested Faculty Senate approved the charter changes that include language that UPTC must have approval of the Faculty Senate to change their charter. A motion was brought from the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Senator Bratton seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- C. Faculty Senate Charter, Section III, Article 7 indicates any amendment to the Faculty Senate Charter must be approved by the Board of Regents. Provost Wilkins brought forward an opinion from UNT General Council that President Bataille could represent the Board of Regents in this matter. This is based on Section 2.203 which provides the Board to delegate authority to the President subject to the approval of the Office of General Council. President Bataille approved these changes to the charter.

On Thursday, April 16, elections will begin for a total of five At Large positions at the full professor level to the UPTC.

- D. Senator Seligmann made a motion that the Faculty Senate support the current handgun ban on Texas campuses. Senator Windsor seconded the motion. The Executive Committee expressed support for this motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

VI. Committee Reports

- A. Senator Cherry presented the committee on committees report. Senator Cherry made a motion to accept the report. Senator Swan seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.
- B. Scholarship Committee Report - Lisa Goodwin, University Scholarship Committee provided a report. For the 2008/2009 academic year, 7,060 students completed an online application. UNT awarded over \$5 million in scholarships to students (2,613 students). There were 4000 students who were academically eligible, but who did not receive funding. We had fifteen National Merit Finalists attend UNT last year. A motion was made by the University Scholarship Committee to accept the report. Senator Chandler seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- C. Celia Williamson provided a report from the University Curriculum Committee. Swan seconded motion for UCC. They will begin to approve the minutes from UCC at the end of the meeting and approve them at the end of the meeting to facilitate the immediate approval for any business items from the meeting.

VII. The chair and vice chair reports – Written reports from the Faculty Chair and Vice Chair were submitted.

VIII. Committee of the whole – We will be voting on senators for next year.

IX. Senator Swan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Senator Wallace. The meeting Adjourned at 3:11 p.m.