

Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate

August 20, 2008, 2:00 PM, Board Room, Hurley Administration Bldg

Name	Group	Dept	Term	Present
Vacancy	I			
John "Jack" Peters	II	ENGL	2011	X
Jose Perez	III	PHYS	2009	
Emile Sahliyah	IV	PSCI	2010*	X
John Windsor	V	ITDS	2011	X
Cynthia Chandler	VI	CDHE	2010*	
James Swan	VII	AGER	2011*	X
Donna Emmanuel	VIII	MUSIC	2011	X
Terry Clower	Chair	APEC	2009	X
Beth Thomsett-Scott	Vice-Chair	LIBR	2009	X
Pam Harrell	Secretary	TE&A	2009	X
Michael McPherson	Immediate Past Chair	ECON	2009	

I. **Welcome.**

- a. Beth Thomsett-Scott called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. and welcomed attendees.
- b. Brief introductions for attendees followed.

II. **Expectations for EC Members and Meeting Guidelines**

- a. An overview of expectations for the Executive Committee was provided. Topics included focusing on representing the group, providing a "big picture" for issues, providing more discussion using a less formal format, improvement of vertical communication using group emails, auditory recordings, software to transcribe auditory recordings, a live streaming trial for one time during the inaugural meeting, and an inhouse, end of semester newsletter. The newsletter would be produced by Beth Thomsett-Scott.

Terry Clower made a motion for Kathy Nichols to buy software use to transcribe audio recordings. The motion was seconded by James Swan. The motion was approved (7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstention).

- b. Duties of the executive committee were discussed. These include approval of charges for committees, committee reports, chair report, vice chair report, questions for administrators, and items for discussion
- c. Each member present was provided a handbook including list of faculty voting groups, senate officers, and the executive committee as well as the senate charter and bylaws.

III. **Update on Happenings Over the Summer**

- a. Provost Wilkins presented a review of academic programs. This will be a step-by-step procedure for review of programs including criteria such as the number of faculty/student and graduate credit hour production count. Group VII – Committee on Committees. No decision. The review will focus mostly on graduates.
- b. The policy on outside employment will be reconsidered.

- c. New workload policies will be implemented fall 2008. Various questions regarding the new workload policy remain. Questions include: (i) What constitutes excellence? (ii) Must excellence be demonstrated in all areas of teaching, scholarship, and service? (iii) How is workload to be allocated? (iv) Can a faculty member zero out a category such as teaching, scholarship, or service?
- d. An ad hoc committee on class schedules is considering the elimination of MWF classes with respect to reducing the commute for students as fuel costs rise.
- e. The academic calendar was discussed by Provost Wilkins.

IV. Brainstorm on upcoming Items Needing Attention.

- a. Appointment of a representative to the UNT Student Government Association was discussed.
- b. Methods of administrator evaluations by faculty were reviewed. The concerns about online voting were discussed and the possible use of using survey monkey instead of UNT's online voting system was examined. Increasing faculty participation in the voting process was the focus of this discussion.
- c. The UNT Strategic Plan and the UNT Academic Plan have been revised by the Board of Regents. Concerns over the lack of faculty input were expressed.

V. Questions for Administrators

- a. Provide an overview of changes in the academic plan, strategic plan, website, and UNT policy.
- b. Discuss the criteria and timeline for review of academic programs. What is the role of the faculty senate in this process?
- c. Describe plans for training of chairs regarding the new workload policy.
- d. Provide a perspective about the shared governance policy.
- e. Information about fundraising and international outreach.
- f. Extend an invitation to Chancellor Jackson for the October meeting for the purposes of discussing the status of UNT as an "emerging research" university and updates on the UNT Board of Regents.

John Windsor made a motion for adjournment. The motion was seconded by Beth Thomsett-Scott. The motion was approved (7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstention).

Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Pamela Esprivalo Harrell