

**Minutes, Baylor University Faculty Senate
April 21, 2015 • 3:30 PM • Cashion 110**

Members Absent: Coker, Souza-Fuertes, MacGregor, Neubert, Yancey
Substitution: David Hurtt for Senator MacGregor

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM by Senate Chair Baker.

Senator McGlashan offered an opening invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Senator Baldrige moved to approve the March 17, 2015 minutes as presented. Senator Beal seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Agenda

Senate Chair Baker discussed an additional item that needed to be added to the agenda. The request came from the Senate Executive Committee.

A motion was made by Senator Baldrige to amend the agenda and seconded by Senator McGlashan. The motion passed.

Motion to Approve Proclamation

On behalf of the Senate Executive Committee, Senate Chair Baker made a motion that the Senate vote on a proclamation in honor of Dean Diana Garland's service to Baylor University and her retirement.

The motion required no second. The motion passed unanimously.

The Proclamation reads as follows:

"For her innovative and inspirational leadership, marked by selfless devotion, which has been foundational to the growth, success and far-reaching influence of both the field of family ministry and particularly the Baylor School of Social Work, the Baylor Faculty Senate proclaims its deepest collegial respect and gratitude for founding Dean and cherished colleague Dr. Diana R. Garland."

Nominating Committee

Senate Chair Baker announced that the following Senators will serve on the Nominating Committee: Beal, McGlashan, Neilson, Parrish, Stroope, Umstead, and Woody (Chair).

Reapportionment Committee

Senator Newberry reviewed the Reapportionment Proposal that has been distributed to the Senate.

- Recommendation that schools with 1 to 30 individuals have 1 senate representative
- Schools with 31 to 60 individuals have 2 senate representatives, etc.

For example, based on this year's numbers, there would be one less person for Arts & Sciences, and an increase for ECS, Libraries, and School of Music.

A motion was made by Senator Jordan to accept the Reapportionment Committee's recommendations. Senator Pounders seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Senate Constitutional Changes

Senator Newberry reported on the following:

- modification of the language about how to make changes or amendments to the constitution
- to reincorporate the reapportionment information, the constitution had to be reviewed
- moved the process of reapportionment to the bylaws from the constitution, create a rubric so that reapportionment could be approved without having to go through this process every time.

Discussion followed. Senators requested more time to study the changes and will vote at the May Faculty Senate Meeting.

Presidential Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA)

- Senator Jordan reported that there has been a request made by COIA to have member faculty senates support the establishment of a commission.
- There is thinking that the NCAA is going away. NCAA showed its new alignment and the new things that it was doing to make it a more workable organization

(restructuring). Presented by an NCAA representative that this was going to happen. The information was received with interest.

- This proposed Presidential Commission is a bipartisan bill that would establish this commission. One thing of interest is that COIA has a chance to have a seat at the table.
- A vote for this would affirm that the Senate believes that we should have a Presidential Commission and that COIA may be a part of it.

A motion was made by Senator Patton that Hope Johnston be nominated to write a letter to COIA on behalf of the Faculty Senate. Senator Hurtt seconded the motion. The motion passed.

- Senate Chair Baker asked for Senators who might work with Senator Johnston on the letter, and Senators Jordan and Umstead agreed to serve on the committee.

Honorary Degrees

- Recommendations for honorary degrees come from the Honorary Degree Committee to the Senate. A proposal will be sent from the nominator to the committee. If it passes the committee, it will then come back to the Senate. Kenneth Kaunda, the former President of Zambia, has been recommended.

REPORTS

Chair Report/Council of Deans

- Senate Chair Baker report that the Executive Committee met with Chairman Willis. Discussion included Faculty Annual Performance Reviews, and the issue of the current quota limitation on designations.
- The Executive Committee also discussed summer school course offerings and tuition. Student Government has brought to the attention of the Board and the administration that there is a concern that courses are cancelled often and there is no confidence among the students that courses will happen. Courses are cancelled after students have made housing arrangements and summer plans making it not only problematic but also a financial liability. Robust summer school offerings would facilitate our 4-year graduation goals.
- Chairman Willis reported that there will be a Regent Academic Affairs Committee meeting in May and that he would pass along comments from the discussion.
- Provost Null recommended at the Council of Dean's meeting that Baylor may need a summer school schedule earlier in the year, possibly in the fall.

- The new Global Engagement Council is being constituted. There are three stakeholder positions and one faculty senator to appoint to the council. If you or someone you know would like to be a member of the council, please forward names to Chair Baker.

Enrollment Management

- Senator Beal reported that Enrollment Management is very excited about the incoming class of students. The Committee reports that they were more selective in their pool of applicants, are far ahead of acceptance rate, and are making much fewer offers.

Staff Council. Senator Beal, no report.

Student Life. Senator Wood reported that the Committee is meeting next week.

Athletic Council. Senator Neubert was absent.

Admissions/Elections Update

- Senator Burleson reported that the Admissions Committee will meet April 27th. They are currently reviewing admission appeals.
- Senator Burleson expressed appreciation for those who served on the Election Commission and those who agreed to run for the vacant Senate seats.

Academic Freedom. Senator Tsang, no report.

Other Matters Rising

A committee in the new Robbins College is currently evaluating peer institutions and the potential for any new degrees that might be offered through the college.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Senator Baldrige to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Senator Beal. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Burleson
Recording Secretary