

Baylor University Faculty Senate Minutes

December 9, 2014 • 3:30 p.m. • Cashion 110

Members Absent: Dwight Allman, Bill Neilson, Jason MacGregor, Todd Meehan, Lori Spies, Gaynor Yancey

Senator Chair Baker called the meeting to order.

The opening invocation was offered by Senator Coker.

Senator Chair Baker informed the Senate that Richard Willis, Chair, Baylor Board of Regents was detained out of state and could not attend today but will come in the spring.

The motion was made by Senator Baldrige to approve the minutes and seconded by Senator Beal. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Faculty Center Committee

The Faculty Center Committee requested a change in the composition of the committee to include the Baylor Chef and the Director of the McMullen-Connally Faculty Center. The motion was made by Senator Walter and seconded by Senator Beal. The motion passed.

In addition, policy violations regarding the use faculty center were discussed. Given that the center is a faculty benefit and operates at a deficit, there is a need to address this issue. Neither undergraduate nor graduate students are allowed to eat at the center. In addition, children under the age of 12 are not permitted. The Provost Office agreed to send out information about the center usage policy as well as to including a link on the McMullen-Connally Faculty Center website.

Dean Evaluations

A motion was made from the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to electronically and anonymously evaluate Deans at all levels. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Chair Report

There has been approval and support from the Provost Office regarding the recommendation to include a percentage of time for Academic Citizenship on annual evaluations and workload allocations. Discussions will continue regarding implementation.

A concern was brought to the Senate regarding the requirement of faculty to sign departmental chair evaluations. The concern regarded anonymity and the potential disregard of evaluations by Deans when they are unsigned. At the Dean's Council, there was agreement all evaluations signed and unsigned are considered when evaluating

department chairs. There was continued support expressed for transition of paper chair evaluations to an online system. In addition, Senator McGlashan informed the Senate of a chair evaluation instrument that was drafted in 2006 by a Senate committee that could be used in an online system. Chair Baker will discuss this with Vice-Provost Null.

Chair Baker will continue work with Vice-Provost Null regarding the review of the course evaluation instrument. She will also speak with Vice-Provost Bennighof about a course evaluation policy review.

Enrollment Management Staff

Senator Beal reported that there was a wonderful Staff Council Christmas Lunch today.

Student Life, Senator Wood, no report.

Course Repeat Task Force, Senator Wood, no report.

Admissions, Senator Burlison reported that the committee voted on one appeal.

Athletic Council, Senator Neubert, reported that they will meet tomorrow.

COIA, Senator Jordan, COIA is the Coalition of Intercollegiate Athletics, many communications (about 100) from different people around the country.

Senator Jordan has been asked to serve on the Baylor Athletics Task Force as a representative from COIA. The Task Force meets every 2nd or 4th week and works to advise Judge Starr on college athletics.

Big XII Happenings: Big XII schools got together, mostly athletic directors, working on their own agendas and rules for uniformity. The Big XII full cost of attendance for their athletes, raise the cost for football alone at Baylor by \$351,220 per year. The full cost includes food, laundry, every type of cost that the athletes might have. Scholarships for 4 years would enable the athletes to graduate. Allowing athletes to come back to school and complete their degrees.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senator Chair Baker reminded the Senate that Judge and Mrs. Starr have invited the Senate for a Christmas Open House on December 18. Please RSVP.

Motion to adjourn was made by Senator Baldrige and seconded by Senator Beal. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 4:02.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra D. Burlison