

Minutes

FACULTY SENATE

September 20, 1994

The Senate convened at 3:30 p.m. in the Conference Room, Blume Conference Center, Hankamer School of Business, with Chair Ray Cannon presiding.

Present: Barker, Basden, Benesh, Buddo, Cannon, Davis, Garner, Hillman, Jensen, Johnson, King, Longfellow, Massirer, McGee, Monk, Ortuno, Pierce, Pippin, Rogers, Seward, Thomas, Tipton, Wallace, Whipple, Wood, and Youngdale.

Absent: Edwards, Goforth, Luper, Nixon, Robinson, and Sanders.

AGENDA

1. **Invocation**
Chair Ray Cannon led the invocation.
2. **Introduction of Senators**
Each Senator introduced himself/herself to the group.
3. **Minutes (May 10, 1994)**
Rogers moved, and Wallace seconded, the approval of the May 10, 1994, Minutes as distributed. Motion passed.
4. **Discussion of Mission Statement for Self-Study**
The proposed Mission Statement, accompanied by a Mission Statement feedback form, was distributed for discussion (copy attached to file copy of minutes). Benesh presented the proposal, representing the Self-Study Committee on Mission and Governance.

Cannon reported that the proposal has been presented to the Council of Deans. Among the comments from the deans were:

The statement needs to be reorganized.

Distinctiveness of Baylor does not come through clearly.

The deans desired a document to be handed to prospective faculty members that would give them a clear understanding of Baylor's mission.

Among the comments from the Senators present were:

- A statement of diversity needs to be included, perhaps in the Texana section, with statements reflecting Baylor's desire to reflect the demographics of the state.
- A discussion of whether the faculty should be expected to "respect" or "embrace" Baylor's objectives.
- Should specific numbers be used (states, nations, buildings, acres, programs, etc.)?
- Should the word "Christian" be used in place of the word "Baptist" in several parts of the statement?
- Consider changing "has been Baptist" to reflect the fact that Baylor "has been closely related to the Baptist community of faith."
- Some faculty members are uncomfortable with the phrase "religious critique of human reason."
- Consider wording to reflect that the University is seeking to work on the dilemma (or tension) between faith and learning, rather than trying to say that the University has come to final conclusions about this matter.
- Defining what an educational institution does -- the functions of teaching, research, and community service -- is important. This definition should appear near the beginning of the document.

Written comments are strongly encouraged. Senators are encouraged to exhort their faculty colleagues to react in writing to the self-study committee. No formal action by the Senate was taken.

5. Discussion of Academic Integrity

Barker read a prepared statement on Academic Integrity at Baylor University. He then distributed a document entitled Proposal for Faculty Senate Regarding Academic Integrity at Baylor University (copy attached to file copy of minutes).

After discussion of the issues raised and the proposals presented, Rogers moved that the Faculty Advisory Committee on the Academic Environment (Marian Ortuno, Chair), be asked to gather data on the number of students who have been placed on probation and/or suspension and on the procedures that govern these matters and to report their findings to the Senate. Longfellow seconded. Motion passed.

6. Lunches with Vice-President Schmeltekopf

Cannon distributed a sign-up sheet for Senators to indicate their desire to participate in lunch discussions with Vice-President Schmeltekopf. Dr. Schmeltekopf has offered to provide funding for the luncheons. (It was noted that the November 16 luncheon date is in conflict with the

President's Faculty Forum on November 16. The November 16 luncheon with Dr. Schmeltekopf is rescheduled for Monday, November 14.)

7. Retirement Incentives

Cannon reported on a meeting with President Reynolds attended by Cannon, Jennings (former Senator), Rogers, Seward, and Tipton, at which the topic of retirement incentive proposals was discussed. President Reynolds charged the Senate to come up with a proposed plan. Cannon appointed a committee of three (Jennings, Seward, and Tipton, chair), to be joined by representatives from the Staff Council, to address the matter.

8. Report on Meetings of Council of Deans

Cannon reported on these matters from meetings of the Council of Deans:

- A. The deans have asked that charges for auditing a course be reduced to 25% of the cost of one credit hour. This matter is currently under consideration by the administration. The deans have asked what the Senate's recommendation is about taking a course for credit after the course has been audited. It was noted that the Senate had acted on this matter in February, 1994, indicating that it was the sense of the Senate resolution that a student not be permitted to take any course for credit which he or she has previously audited. Wallace moved, Rogers seconded, that the Senate affirm its February, 1994, decision. Motion passed.
- B. The Student Body President has requested that an electronic file of course syllabi be established. Cannon asked that Senators think about this issue, to be addressed at the next Senate meeting.
- C. The deans are discussing the awarding of a degree posthumously for any student who dies during his/her last semester.
- D. The deans are discussing how to get Baylor into the 2nd quartile of institutions listed in *U.S. News and World Report*. A specific point of discussion is how to increase the percentage of alumni giving to the University.
- E. Another issue to be addressed is the governance of the university, specifically with regard to communication among the various schools and colleges.

9. President's Faculty Forums

The following dates were announced for President's Faculty Forums (all in Barfield Drawing Room)

September 29, 3:30 p.m.

November 16, 12 noon

February 23, 3:30 p.m. (later changed to March 2, 3:30 p.m.)
April 20, 3:30 p.m.

10. Newsletter Plans

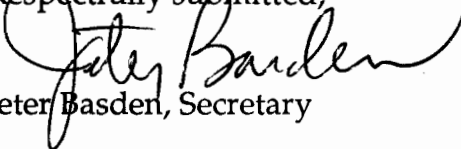
Wood reported on plans for the Senate Newsletter for 1994-95.

11. Committee on Committee on Committees

Cannon announced that he is appointing a committee to look at the current university committee structure. President Reynolds has encouraged such a study. Cannon will ask the committee to consider a possible reduction of committees, ensuring that all needed committees have meaningful assignments. Hillman has been appointed chair of the committee; interested Senators are encouraged to speak to Cannon about their interest in serving on this committee.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Jeter Basden, Secretary