

APPROVED AND CORRECTED MINUTES

These minutes are disseminated to provide timely information to the Academic Senate. They have been approved by the body in question, and, therefore, they are the official minutes.

ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

March 24, 2010

PRESENT: Kurt Beron, Dinesh Bhatia, Denise Boots, Gail Breen, John Burr, Cy Cantrell, R. Chandrasekaran, David Cordell, Dreg Dieckmann, Kelly Durbin, John Hoffman, Jennifer Holmes, Karen Huxtable-Jester, Joe Izen, Marilyn Kaplan, Nanda Kumar, Murray Leaf, Syam Menon, Dennis Miller, Simeon Ntafos, Ravi Prakash, Tim Redman, Mark Rosen, Richard Scotch, Chelliah Sriskandarajah, Tonja Wissinger

ABSENT: Mark Anderson, Titu Andreescu, Jay Dowling, Shayla Holub, Steven Nielson, Young Ryu, Robert Stern, Lucien Thompson

VISITORS: David Daniel, Hobson Wildenthal, Andrew Blanchard, Serenity King, Austin Cunningham, Michael Coleman, Abby Kratz, Julie Haworth, Daniel Calhoun, Chris Parr, Diana Kao

1. CALL TO ORDER, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND QUESTIONS

President Daniel called the meeting to order. There were no announcements or questions.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Since the information regarding the Exigency Policy, Item #8 on the agenda, was not circulated prior to the meeting, Speaker Leaf asked for a motion to table that item. Cy Cantrell made the motion. Jennifer Holmes seconded. The agenda was approved as amended. Speaker Leaf noted that the Council had voted to put the Sustainability Policy on the agenda for today's meeting as well, but since today's meeting is restricted to one hour; he felt that there would not be adequate time to discuss it. This item will be on the agenda for next month's meeting, but no motion is required since it was not on the circulated agenda for today's meeting.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Cy Cantrell made a motion to approve the minutes as circulated. Tim Redman seconded. The motion carried.

4. SPEAKER'S REPORT

Speaker Leaf noted that the email ballot held to approve the President's Draft Strategic Plan received 29 votes in favor and 1 abstaining vote. That constitutes a quorum and a positive vote. Speaker Leaf has informed President Daniel that according to the interpretation put on the motion at the previous Senate meeting, the Senate not only approves his draft but deems it consistent with earlier faculty-developed strategic plans.

It was noted that 35 nominating petitions were received for the coming Senate. Since this was less than the 45 seats that we sought to fill but enough for a good representative body, the nominations have been declared closed and there is no need to circulate ballots. Everyone who was nominated has been elected. Ms. Carlisle has appended the list of the Senate-elect to the list of Senators on the website. The Senior Lecturer election is still going on.

5. **UTD RESPONSE TO STATE LEADERSHIP REQUEST FOR UNIVERSITY BUDGET CUTS**

President Daniel addressed the 5% cut in state spending requested by the Governor for this academic year and next academic year. Our state appropriation is approximately 40% of our core operating capital. The remaining 60% of our capital is essentially derived from student tuition and fees. Theoretically when you have a 5% cut on 40% of your budget you have a 2% cut. In actuality it is a little worse than that because when faculty and staff are appointed on state funds, fringe benefits, which are about 30% of salary, are paid from a different fund. He had hoped that UT System might be able to mitigate the hit somewhat by using some potential savings off of our debt funded by the state, such as capital programs funded by the state, but that does not seem to be the case right now.

This did not come as a surprise and UTD does have a plan in place for this. Our enrollment growth continues to be strong – estimate 5%-6% growth next year. We have budgeted for a little less than that so Dr. Daniel is hopeful that there will be a little residual surplus. We have been aggressive on tuition anticipating that state budgets would be stretched, and that puts us in a relatively good position. There is no plan for any layoffs, but of course that cannot be guaranteed. He commended Dr. Wildenthal and Dr. Jamison for their work in managing the budget and noted that we continue to search for economies that are not academically related.

When asked how the budget cuts would affect the summer session, President Daniel called on Provost Wildenthal to answer. Dr. Wildenthal stated that there should not be any effect and faculty should plan to have a strong summer session as usual. Dr. Daniel reiterated that his primary concern is that our core academic mission is what is to be protected. It is his belief that no student should ever be delayed in graduation through any reductions. Dr. Wildenthal noted that in future budget planning summer sessions will be specifically budgeted in advance.

Dr. Izen asked what the priorities are for addressing the space allocation problem currently experienced in the Physics department – specifically how to get students and faculty together in the same building. Dr. Daniel acknowledged the desirability of keeping people together but noted that there was so much flux currently on campus with space issues that it simply is not possible to address this until some of the construction is completed and moves begin taking place.

6. **APPROVAL OF SENATE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Speaker Leaf called for a motion to approve the nominees and to amend the charge in accordance with the recommendation of the Academic Council. The amendment proposed by the Council is to make the Speaker of the faculty a voting ex-officio member in place of one of the two at-large members. The description of membership in the charge as amended will then be:

The Committee shall have nine voting members. One voting member shall be appointed from the faculty of each School and one voting member shall be chosen from the faculty at large for special expertise or interest in institutional budgeting. The Speaker of the faculty shall be a voting member ex officio. Members shall serve staggered three-year terms, except that in the first year three of the nine members shall be appointed for one year, three for two years and three for three years. The Associate Vice President for Budget and Resource Planning shall serve as member ex officio and assure that the Committee receives information on the budget in a form the Committee finds usable. Voting members shall be appointed according to the procedures in the Handbook of Operating Procedures III.21.IV.B Vacancies that arise from resignation or departure shall be filled in the same manner.

The nominees to be approved are:

- Dr. Robert Kieschnick (Chair), (SOM)
- Dr. Timothy Redman, (A&H)
- Dr. Richard Scotch (EPPS)
- Dr. D.T. Huynh (ECS)
- Dr. Mark Anderson (SOM)
- Dr. Robert Serfling (NS&M)
- Dr. Jay Dowling (BBS)
- Dr. Elizabeth Salter (IS)
- Dr. Murray Leaf (Speaker of the Faculty, ex officio)

Marilyn Kaplan moved to approve the nominees of the Senate Advisory Committee on the University Budget. Cy Cantrell seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion carried.

Richard Scotch made a motion to approve the amended charge as stated. Jennifer Holmes seconded. There was no further discussion and the motion carried.

7. CEP PROPOSALS – NEW DEGREE PLANS, GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG

- 7.1 Professor Cantrell made an omnibus motion to approve three new degree proposals from the School of Management: Bachelor of Science in Global Business; Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems; and Bachelor of Science in Marketing. Marilyn Kaplan seconded the motion. Dr. Cantrell asked if anyone from SOM would care to make comments regarding these proposals. Marilyn Kaplan stated that all three of these degrees had formerly been concentrations for several years in the Business Administration degree. These are not new courses. It is felt that having these more specific degrees will give our students a competitive edge in the job market.
- 7.2 Professor Cantrell moved to approve the undergraduate catalog as circulated. Dean Coleman explained the changes. All the programs and the first forty pages had been previously approved. The portion that has not been previously approved consists of the program descriptions and the course descriptions. The Council on Undergraduate Education and the office of the Registrar have systematically gone through the catalog to rationalize the course numbers and titles, as well as to incorporate the new degree programs. Courses that are properly lower level courses but had been offered as upper

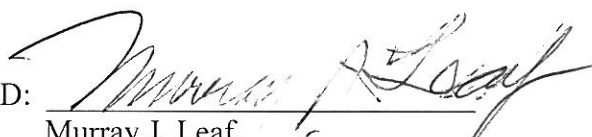
level as a legacy of the time before we had lower level programs have been renumbered. New minors have been included. New prefixes have been added for new programs, and inconsistencies in naming and numbering between new and old programs have been reconciled. Professor Scotch Seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- 7.3 Professor Cantrell moved to approve the Graduate Catalog. Dean Cunningham explained the changes, which paralleled those in the undergraduate program and included a reconciliation between the catalog copy and our new graduate application form that replaces the Apply Texas common application. A number of modifications, previously approved by the Senate, were to bring us into compliance with the requirements of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Richard Scotch seconded. Before voting, Professor Cantrell circulated additional material from the School of Management that was approved by the CEP but not included in the agenda packet. There being no further discussion Speaker Leaf called for a vote.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Daniel adjourned the meeting.

APPROVED:


Murray J. Leaf,
Speaker of the Academic Senate

DATE: 28 Apr 2010