

**TTU Faculty Senate Business Meeting
September 18, 2017**

Members Present: Douglas Airhart, S.K. Ballal, Deborah Ballou, Jason Beach, Tammy Boles, Troy Brachey, Debra Bryant, Andrew Callender, Corinne Darvennes, Ahmed ElSawy, Billye Foster, Steven Frye, Stuart Gaetjens, Mark Groundland, David Hajdik, Jeremy Hansen, Paula Hinton, Shelia Hurley, Steve Idem, Christy Killman, David Larimore, Regina Lee, Lori Maxwell, Tony Michael, Christine Miller, Holly Mills, Linda Null, Btkp OøCppqt, Jqugr j Olq, Richard Rand, Jeff Roberts, Lee Ann Shipley,

Organizational revision - Dr. Mark Stephens, Interim Provost, wanted feedback from Senators about the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence (CTLE) and the role of the Innovation Institute. President Oldham wanted Interim Provost Stephens to look at this structure. Dr. Stephens shared his thoughts on preliminary plans. Both groups are of prime interest to faculty to assist with teaching, which is a worthy goal and benefit to all of us. The initial purpose of the Institute was to see what new technology was available to enhance teaching methods, bring technology into the classroom, and assist faculty with how to use it. CTLE was to work with the Innovation Institute by bringing technology together from the pedagogical side. Dr. Stephens would like to merge these two into CTLE. Dr. Michael Allen agreed to serve as interim director of CTLE. CTLE is under Dr. Sharon Huo, and the Institute is under Patrick Wilson, Associate VP for Digital & Distance Education. This is the core of faculty development, and Dr. Stephens feels it should remain under Dr. Huo. Online teaching is just a part of our teaching, he said. He still sees online education as an important process to attract more learners and increase access. Former Provost Ghorashi created the position of Associate VP for Digital & Distance Education because of a need for someone to oversee our online and distance (2+2) offerings. Now, reorganization may fix several issues by working within the academic structure, rather than outside, or parallel to it. Some need to be re-educated, which is going on now. Dr. Stephens wants input on these preliminary plans, and if we really need the term Innovation Institute. They suggested rebranding with signage, advertisement, and even a new name would be beneficial. Senators want the Innovation Institute to get them back to what they used to do, and have the resources to do it. We need to build this with sustainability, so if one leaves, it will keep going. There is a committee, the Faculty Development Steering Committee, that assists Dr. Huo. Senator Sandi Smith-Andrews volunteered to serve on that committee as a faculty representative.

Faculty Senate Retreat - Senate President Killman gave a brief overview. President Oldham came and spoke to Senators, and gave us article "A Culture of Trust". Senator Troy Smith commented on this article in an email recently sent to Senators. One thing that came out the retreat was that we need to set some priorities and follow that, and not keep beating a dead horse. The President feels many things are timely, so he feels he needs to act quickly. This may be the standard mode of operation. Also, Senators want to keep on the agenda during the year to make the best of it. Senate President Killman had a travel mug for each Senator with the Tech logo on it.

Business Meetings - New Format

After today, we will have coffee, hot tea and water at meetings, so Senators were encouraged to bring their new mugs. There will be a social time beginning at 3:20 pm before the meeting at 3:35 pm.

Pick up your name tag from the table outside the meeting room, and leave it on the table after the meeting.

We will stay on topic better, and out of so many rabbit holes.

Mills, Bryant, and Darvennes volunteered to serve on this committee. Senate President Killman also requested that Senators share the information with each of their departments.

Connecting to the TTU Board of Trustees - Senate President Killman suggested that one Board member be invited to Faculty Senate business meetings, perhaps starting with Tom Jones at the Oct. 9, 2017 meeting.

Chartwells Changes - Chartwells would like to move forward as soon as spring 2018 with a plan to charge each student a \$300 fee to use the cafeteria whether or not the student eats there. The fee can be refunded if the student chooses not to eat in the cafeteria, but students would be required to formally request the refund. Generated funds would go toward a new dining facility. Faculty Senators discussed wanting to pursue a way against this, and a resolution was suggested. Senate President Killman will discuss this with President Oldham.

IDEA Evaluations - An information sheet about the new IDEA evaluations was included in the packet that each Senator received. Training on the new evaluations will begin soon, if not already begun.

Faculty Compensation - There was an approximately \$42,000 mistake in the new compensation distribution. Approximately 2/3 of the faculty involved saw an increase, but the remaining 1/3 saw a decrease. The mistake was simply a case of human error. There will be a discussion as to benefits, how they were calculated, and whether sick leave is a benefit or a potential benefit. Senate President Killman read an email from Leslie Crickenberger discussing the compensation information.

TUFS Report - Senator Smith-Andrews, Secretary of TUFS, gave her report of the latest TUFS meeting. TTU will host the next TUFS meeting April 6-8, 2018. We need to improve our game by being more involved and focused when we convene. Senate President Killman looked at other Senate procedures and bylaws. We need to include TUFS in ours. We need to tighten down about who is coming to our meetings. Look closely at students visiting, and others.

Agenda for meeting with the President - Suggested agenda items for the September 25, 2017 Faculty Senate meeting with the President were: 1) Chartwells proposed fee; 2) shared governance and where the faculty should be involved; 3) is the faculty compensation process fixed and what is the current status? and 4) calendar issues, specifically why the calendar is not print-friendly.

Other Such Matters

1. Senators will be receiving an invitation for a social at Walton House on October 12th. It was suggested that Board members also be invited.

2. Senator Rand encouraged every faculty member to attend on-campus interviews for provost candidates.
3. Senator Stretz expressed concern about the birds who congregate around the Lewis Hall chimney because Lewis Hall is scheduled for demolition to make room for the new