

## **TTU Faculty Senate Meeting with the President February 19, 2018**

Members Present: Ismet Anitsal, S.K. Ballal, Deborah Ballou, Jason Beach, Tammy Boles, Troy Brachey, Chris Brown, Debra Bryant, Andrew Callender, Corinne Darvennes, Ahmed ElSawy, Billye Foster, Stuart Gaetjens, Melissa Geist, Mark Groundland, David Hajdik, Paula Hinton, Steve Idem, Barbara Jared, Christy Killman, David Larimore, Regina Lee, Jane Liu, Tony Michael, Holly Mills, nnor, Joseph Ojo, Richard Rand, Jeff Roberts, LeeAnn Shipley, Cara Sisk, Troy Smith, Sandi Smith-Andrews, Holly Stretz, and Jeremy Wendt

Members Absent: Douglas Airhart, Ward Doubet, Steven Frye, Jeremy Hansen, Ann Hellman, Shelia Hurley, Lori Maxwell, and Christine Miller

Guests: President Oldham and VP Stinson

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 PM by Senate President Killman.

### **Comments from President Oldham**

#### **Budget Issues from Fall 2016 and Spring 2017**

President Oldham had Dr. Stinson, VP for Business and Facilities, present an overview of response to the cuts due to the drop in international students and then scholarship commitments. There are three budgets done per year. July is the proposed budget with no one-time revenue and expenses included, as enrollment is not known. The revised budget is done in October, and includes fall enrollment, one-time revenue and expenses, and adjustments of State appropriations. December is the expected budget, which should come really close to our financial statements for the year. It is State law to do three budgets per year.

Some general comments of the slides shown:

*Slide 1. Tuition and Fees Revenue, FY13-FY18.* The FY16-17 drop in revenue is mainly due to the drop in international student dollars. Tuition and fees is included in the \$98,560,500 October budget. For the FY18-19, THEC sent a 0%-3% tuition cap to the Governor, so we will be working within that for this year.

*Slide 2. Undergraduate Maintenance and Tuition Rate Increases, FY13-FY17.*

*Slide 3. State Mandated Raises and TTU Additional Raises, FY14-FY18.* The mandated State 3% raise is not usually funded by the State, as the Governor does not designate money for it.

*Slide 4. Academic Expense Budget Trend Data, FY16-FY18.* From the July budget, this shows the E&G (Educational & General expenditures) and fees for each college. Fee revenue increased from \$3 million to over \$6 million. There is no one-time funding included in the July budget.

*Slide 5. Academic Expense Budget Trend Data, FY16-FY18.* From the October budget, there are many one-time expenditures and revenues included, along with some carry-over course fees.

*Slide 6. October Revised Budget, FY16-17 – Analysis on Needed Budget Cuts.* There was a big drop in international enrollment, causing \$2.4 million to be found. R250 is the 250-mile radius offer of in-state tuition to students. Budgets of the non-instruction areas wer

*Slide 10. Non-Instructional Allocation Based on Proposed Budget FY2017-18 Net Unit Margin.* This shows the non-instructional cuts. The net loss of people was 19, but several more vacant salary lines were cut.

*Slide 11. Non-Instructional Allocation Based on Proposed Budget FY2017-18 Net Unit Margin (continued)*

President Oldham said there were permanent budget cuts in the first round. Every college has since increased their budgets. The increase in student fees made up for part of the reductions. Decisions regarding faculty development costs are up to the Deans. The purpose of the current budget model is to push as much money and resources to the colleges as possible. Revenue from course/lab fees are to be used for something in instruction, but the rest of the college budgets have more flexibility. All colleges are experiencing additional costs that are not reflected in additional revenues. President Oldham indicated additional funding opportunities are still being pursued, but no details. We do not know how much net will be. Dr. Stinson said we might get some money in October. The Governor's budget has a 2.5% raise in salary. There is concern that the Governor wants to get rid of longevity pay. President Oldham is concerned about that. Longevity pay in the Governor's budget is for State employees, which we are not.

### **Recent VP Positions Filled**

Two Vice-President positions were recently filled. President Oldham feels we got two really good people to fill the Provost/VP for Academic Affairs and the VP for Enrollment Management & Career Placement. Dr. Brandon Johnson, currently at

Although there is not a policy, President Oldham has called for an independent external peer review of the project itself. He is looking at getting someone from off campus with appropriate experience to manage this process. Approval will be sought from the Board of Trustees, and maybe the College of Engineering.

President Oldham, Dr. Hoy, and Senate President Killman met earlier this afternoon. Three letters were prepared for Fitzgerald, EPA, and Congresswoman Diane Black informing them of the inquiries and investigations. President Oldham is also in the process of recusing himself for anything in this process, and turning it over to the Board. He admitted he did not read the technical report before signing a letter of support. He said there was nothing to be leery of at the time he signed the letter to Congresswoman Black.

As an overview of the timeline of this issue, President Oldham said he had first knowledge of a concern internally when Dean Hoy called just before Christmas. His concern was that the PI listed was not qualified to do the work. The investigation was triggered when that PI filed a misconduct allegation. Public criticism does not always rise to the level of an investigation being needed. It is actionable when someone involved in the project makes an allegation.

Senators cautioned President Oldham about making statements to the press. 0.00000912 0 612 792 reW\*BT/F1

Supporting Document:

1. Budget Summary documents