MINUTES
FACULTY SENATE
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON

The Faculty Senate met in regular session Wednesday, November 16, 1994 at 2:30 p.m. in Conference Room 4, Davis Hall. Chair John Beehler presided.

ATTENDANCE: Present were President Amacher, Provost Taylor, Senators Beehler, Birmingham, Black, Bradshaw, Burquest, Chan, Devarajan, Dunn, Fairbanks, Frye, Gintole, Hart, Harvey, Hickey, Himarios, Jackson, Jarboe, Jones, Jordan, Korzeniowski, Manry, McDowell, McKinney, Moore, Pape, Payne, Petry, Pinney, Porter, Ridgway, Rodnitzky, Rutherford, Ryan, Sootese, Thompson, Walker, Weed, Weems, Wilding, Wilmore, Yardley, and Zeidler. Senators Hissong, Melde, and Rajeshwar were absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the October 19, 1994 meeting were approved.

REMARKS BY THE CHAIR:

The chair encouraged faculty members to attend the Open Forum on the Guidelines for Promotion and Tenure on December 7th at 2:30 p.m. in 100 Nedderman Hall.

The chair will be attending the UT System Faculty Advisory Council meeting in Austin on November 17th and 18th and will give a report at the next meeting.

The President's Advisory Council met with President Amacher, had candid discussions and good dialogue on a variety of topics, and will continue meeting in the future.

The Review of Academic Administrators Document will be forwarded to the Undergraduate Assembly for its consideration.

An ad hoc committee on program abandonment has been set up with the following members: one Dean, one Department Chair (elected by the Council of Chairs) and three Faculty Senators (Michael Moore, Elinor Pape, and John Beehler).

The Chair urged the committees to move along and start working on their charges. He would like to take up some of the major issues at the February meeting.

The research and development committee will be working on a Faculty Senate newsletter. Faculty Senators are invited to submit items.

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT:

President Amacher is searching for a way for members of the University community to hold aggressive debate in a civilized manner.

The other important issue is the budget which will be covered later in the meeting.

REMARKS BY THE PROVOST:

The new monthly newsletter from the administrative offices will be reaching faculty and staff mailboxes soon.

The first annual Factbook is out and contains such things as enrollment trends, student credit hours generated, budget
information, and allocations. The Provost welcomes any reactions to the publication.

Spring registration is running ahead of last year's by about 600 (as of November 6).

Students who have not paid fees by census date must be dropped. State auditors have told UTA that it stands to lose $3.1 million because of the way these students have been handled in the past.

QUESTIONS FOR THE PRESIDENT AND PROVOST:

There is confusion as to what T & P forms should be used at the present time. Provost Taylor requested that the forms in the appendix of the new draft document be used now. The biographical information on the referees is important. The document recommends eliminating the Council of Deans from the T & P review process and replacing it with a University committee consisting of faculty.

Provost Taylor was asked to address several quotes in the Ft. Worth Star Telegram and Shorthorn that might be considered inflammatory. The first statement was that the method of paying some faculty for AFP advising duties was possibly illegal. Dr. Taylor responded that faculty responsibilities include teaching, scholarship and service and that part of faculty service is advising and counseling students. Therefore, advising would not be considered an overload activity. He noted that many faculty on the campus are not being paid for advising students. Senator Porter commented that she has checked with the UT System and the way the advisors have been paid did not violate university policy.

Provost Taylor believes that there is information in the printed media designed to suggest that he has been doing something improper. He can only conclude that someone is leaking information to the newspapers and asking questions about his conduct in an attempt to discredit him.

He also believes that he is a target of racism because he is African-American. He cited an example of racism that did not happen directly to him but happened in an environment in which he was administratively involved. He said his remark in the newspaper was unfortunate and reflects his true sentiments but it was out of context.

President Amacher suggested that faculty members and staff talk to their minority colleagues and find out what they think.

It was pointed out that specific incidents of racial discrimination as well as sexual harassment may be resolved in the Ethics Committee.

In an effort to get through the agenda, it was moved by Senator Porter and seconded by Senator Moore to suspend the rules and consider the committee reports after the new business. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

President Amacher reported on the UTA Budget. His budget priorities are faculty and staff salaries, the campus library, and computer technology.

His budget philosophy is to decentralize as much as possible as quickly as possible after the present budget is understood. His goal is to get as much decision-making as possible into the colleges. He believes a statewide freeze is coming in the near future.

The new budget depends on two variables--student enrollment and how well we can do with special line items.

The President wants to make the summer budgets more equitable. He feels that teaching opportunities have been unevenly distributed with pay cuts for some while others are off for research. He would like to maximize the summer budget to service the needs of students.

The library budget has not been cut but the library does receive less funding from PUF.
The new Vice-President for Development will aggressively pursue private funds.

The process and prospects are good for the replacement of Dudley Wetsel, Vice-President for Business Affairs.

Provost Taylor commented on the budget. He stated that UTA is in a base period for the next biennium, and the administration is trying to understand the current budget.

Concerning the budget freeze, Dr. Taylor said the committee on exceptions has set up five criteria for approving hiring--student wages, source of funds and budget alternatives, impact on the university mission and priorities, hardship on the units and their lack of flexibility, and effect on academic teaching service. Of 31 requests from academic units, six were approved, 11 were disapproved, five were delayed and nine were sent back to the unit. Of 40 requests from Business and Student Affairs, 27 were approved, five disapproved, seven delayed, and one sent back to the unit.

At the end of the calendar year, he hopes to meet with the Deans and negotiate the new budget.

The Deans have submitted a schedule (not a budget) for summer school, assuming receipt of as much money as they had last year. Courses should meet the needs of the students.

He expects another two or three schools in the UT System to become premier institutions (as is presently true of UT Austin). UTA, UT Dallas, and the University of North Texas all stand a chance of becoming that "flagship" in north Texas. UTA has better science and engineering programs and a geographic advantage but needs to put political power together as an added advantage. UTA also needs improvements in athletics and more visibility. He would like to see UTA as a Research I classification in the Carnegie designation for faculty productivity.

DeJoyce Morgan from the Development Office presented a summary of voluntary support for UTA. During the past ten years, $42 million has been contributed. Most recently, $3.7 million was received in fiscal year 1993 and $2.8 million in fiscal year 1994.

Donations come in the form of cash, equipment, stocks, personal property and scholarships and come from corporations, foundations, friends, local community organizations, alumni and parents. Most gifts are in the form of equipment.

Units that have benefitted the most from designated gifts are engineering, business administration, athletics, science and liberal arts. Those benefitting from unrestricted gifts are student affairs, the library, financial aid, and the general fund.

In previous years, the Development Office has been an active Development Office but in the near future it is expected to be an aggressive Development Office.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Moore, Secretary