

TTU Faculty Senate Business Meeting February 12, 2018

Members Present: Douglas Airhart, Ismet Anitsal, S.K. Ballal, Jason Beach, Tammy Boles, Troy Brachey, Chris Brown, Debra Bryant, Corinne Darvennes, Ahmed ElSawy, Billye Foster, Mark Groundland, Jeremy Hansen, Ann Hellman, Paula Hinton, Shelia Hurley, Steve Idem, Christy Killman, David Larimore, Regina Lee, Jane Liu, Lori Maxwell, Christine Miller, Holly Mills, Linda Null, Brian O'Connor, Joseph Ojo, Richard Rand, Jeff Roberts, Troy Smith, Sandi Smith-Andrews, and Holly Stretz

Members Absent: Deborah Ballou, Andrew Callender, Ward Doubet, Steven Frye, Stuart Gaetjens, Melissa Geist, David Hajdik, Barbara Jared, Tony Michael, LeeAnn Shipley, Cara Sisk, and Jeremy Wendt

Guests: Ms. Yvette Clark, ITS Academic Client Technologies Director

Call to Order

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

Approval of Agenda

A MOTION to approve the agenda was made by Senator Larimore, and seconded by Senator Smith-Andrews. It was APPROVED.

Approval of Minutes

Senator Stretz made a MOTION to approve the January 29, 2018 minutes, and was seconded by Senator Smith-Andrews. Senator Larimore suggested being more consistent with names and titles. The minutes were APPROVED pending these edits.

New Business

ITS Cyber Security

Ms. Yvette Clark, from ITS, said we are in the third year of online security awareness training. There was an audit finding regarding our training. Currently there are no consequences or repercussion for not completing security training. Last fall, there was a security breach when 13 Tech employees responded with their T-numbers, passwords, and some even giving out their social security number. Is this a problem with the training, or did they even complete the training? ITS is trying to make training more fun, however, they can't protect you if you are going to give out sensitive information. ITS is trying to stay on top of this. There are checks and balances in place for automatic deposits. ITS is asking everyone to finish the online training exercises. Reports will be sent to each Dean with a list of those who haven't completed the training yet. Senator Smith-Andrews said the timing of release was not good, and wondered if there's a way to 'CLEP' out of listening to each video training section, and maybe just take the tests. The Deans suggested sending out training in increments, in groups of five with a due date

for completion. There is a link to access this security training from the employee page in Banner, as some suspected the email sent by ITS was a phishing attempt. It would be nice to have all training and certificates in Banner, but be role-specific to an employee's job. ITS is looking at a different portal now with a dual factor entry, and asking for input. Who is checking to see if we don't complete them, or don't do them at all? Some Senators said they don't remember the email from December, or even know they had to do this. The portal should take care of the notification, and will send out periodic messages. There are three more sections to come out. Any ideas, or comments, should be sent to Ms. Yvette Clark or Ms. Deb Zsigalov, ITS Chief Information Security Services Officer.

Comments by the Senate President

Senate President Killman gave an update as to what's been going on recently. She apologized for any implications in a statement made last week using the phrase "conspiracy theory". This was by no means directed at any individual, as she said she was just trying to defend the Search Committee and the search process the Senate wanted. She meant no offense to anyone in the room.

Last week Senate President Killman met with VP Huo, who is serving as the Research Integrity Officer. Today they both met with Dr. Hoy, Interim Dean of Engineering, to initiate the inquiry, which is the first part of the internal investigation regarding the Fitzgerald Glider Kits research study and Policy 780.

Senate President Killman talked to President Oldham last Friday, and asked him a few questions, such as why he always asks for unranked names from search committees. He responded by saying sometimes you are not able to secure your number one choice, and there's a stigma attached with being the number two choice. He always asks for strengths and weaknesses of each candidate. They also talked about the VP for Enrollment Management and Career Placement candidates, their strengths and weaknesses, and the Search Committee's thoughts about the candidates. Senate President Killman also asked for clarification of the external peer review of the research. President Oldham said they are trying to figure out how to conduct the external peer review because of the non-disclosure agreement Tech has with Fitzgerald. Yesterday's *Herald-Citizen* article was well done, and stated the facts of this issue. At next week's Faculty Senate meeting with President Oldham, we will talk about the budget and academic units taking hits. Think about it from a faculty perspective. Dr. Stinson, VP for Planning & Finance, will also be present with financial information.

Senator O'Connor said the letter from engineering faculty dated February 5, 2018 was well done. He made a MOTION to endorse the letter, which was seconded by Senator Roberts. Senators discussed the fact that with this motion, the President will see it, and it becomes public. Many were sensitive to the fact that we don't want to step on the toes of review committees, but we are standing behind the engineers who framed this statement. Tech's integrity was called into question nationally, because of this project. Due process will find out more truths, and if not, we can dig deeper with another review. We don't want to interfere or cause prejudice with this investigation. The timeline for the inquiry is for it to be done in less than 60 days. The inquiry committee can call witnesses, and will probably discover this letter anyway. Very seldom does an issue such as this come out in the press accurately. Senator Roberts said this letter does a

great job of why we need this investigation, by clarifying the matter, but not drawing any conclusions. Senator O'Connor doesn't see how this can impact the investigation at all. It's already out there. This shows it's not a turf battle in engineering, and may help prevent any skewing. Now that an inquiry has begun, Senators shouldn't be discussing this matter in public. Many Senators were concerned about posting the letter on our website as part of these minutes. Senate President Killman said she will take everything she has on this matter any way, when called to talk to the committee. Some Senators in the College of Engineering appreciated the support voiced in this meeting, but didn't feel the endorsement was necessary. Senator O'Connor said he wants to see what the Senate is made of, so he won't withdraw the motion. Some think this will just re-ignite the fire by the news media. Senator Darvennes made a MOTION to table Senator O'Connor's motion, and it was seconded by Senator Foster. The motion to table was APPROVED, with some nay votes.

Committee Reports

- ***VP for Enrollment Management and Career Placement Search Committee***
Senate President Killman already gave an update with her comments earlier in this meeting.
- ***Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs Search Committee***
Senator Roberts said three good names were forwarded to President Oldham last Friday. Senators commended the Search Committee members for their diligent work. The Search Committee was very thorough in documenting the strengths and weaknesses of each candidate. Senator Ojo asked the ratio of the faculty input in the online survey. Senator Roberts said it was about equal between faculty, staff, and administrators, with students representing a smaller number. There was consistency of feedback among the three groups. Last Thursday's meeting comments mirrored the survey responses.
- ***Evaluation Committee***
Nothing done since the last Senate business meeting.
- ***Communication Committee***
Senator Ballou was not in attendance, so there should be a report at the next Senate business meeting on February 26th.
- ***Faculty Feedback (QCC) Committee***
No report, but there were five new comments last week. Faculty salaries have been updated on the Tech's HR website.
- ***Faculty Senate Policy & Procedures (Operating) Committee***
This committee is on hold for now, pending approval of the Leadership Structure Committee's recommendations.

- ***Leadership Structure Committee***

A document drafted by Senators Roberts, Smith and Foster was distributed by email outlining the proposed duties of each Senate officer. Senate President Killman suggested adding the various meetings and committees to the President's list of duties: President's cabinet, Deans Council meetings, and Budget Advisory Committee. It may be good to have the President-Elect also attend some of these meetings, which would add to continuity in the Senate.

Senator Lee suggested adding website maintenance, and sending all approved documents and annual roster of members to the University Archives, where official papers of the University are housed and maintained.

Senate President Killman and Senate Secretary Lee will review this draft before the next business meeting. A clean version will be sent prior to that meeting with the expectation of voting on it. Some Senators asked how this will be implemented. Senate President Killman will be the Past President and will mentor the new President. A President-Elect and Secretary will also be nominated this spring. There is concern over the terms of Senators being 3 years, so this may need to be addressed by the Policy and Procedures Committee.

- ***Nominating Committee***

Appointment of a Nominating Committee was postponed, pending the approval of the duties of Senate leaders.

Questions for meeting with President Oldham

At the next meeting with the President, February 19, 2018, Senators want to ask and discuss the following:

- Budget
- President Oldham's 5-year contract
- TBR has a grant from the Gates Foundation on high impact practices. Senator Null said we supplied information toward this, but we did not sign this year, so we are no longer part of this grant.

Senate President Killman made it clear that we will not be talking about the Fitzgerald issue.

Old Business

Acceptance of the Notes

Senator Darvennes made a MOTION to accept the notes of December 4, 2017, and was seconded by Senator Smith-Andrews. Direct quotes were left out, as this meeting was not taped. The sentence about the School of Nursing no longer participating in the TN eCampus program will be corrected. The notes were APPROVED.

Approval of the Minutes

Senator Darvennes made a MOTION to approve the minutes of February 5, 2018, and was seconded by Senator Smith. There was brief discussion to edit the minutes about the letter

to Congresswoman Black, and the sentence about Mr. Brewer's credentials. The minutes were APPROVED.

Investigation into Misconduct in Research

Senate President Killman already gave an update on this during her earlier comments.

Such Other Matters

There were no such other matters.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Regina Lee,
Faculty Senate Secretary

Approved: March 12, 2018

Supporting Documents:

1. Engineering Faculty Memo Re: Fitzgerald Glider Kits Study (2/5/18)