

**University of Texas of the Permian Basin**  
**Faculty Senate Minutes**  
November 17, 2010

**Members Present:** Linda Autry, Derek Catsam, Wilma Dye, James Eldridge, Christine Hahn, Jeannine Hurst, Gae Kovalick, Jim Olson, Prakash Pai, Todd Richardson, Kathy Siepak, Chad Vanderford, Marianne Woods.

**Members Absent:** Shirley Davenport, Xinyun Zhu.

**I. Call to Order 2:05 pm**

**II. Approval of Minutes**

Senate unanimously approved amended minutes.

**III. Senate President's Report**

**A. Texas Council of Faculty Senates**

At the last meeting of the Council a representative from the Coordinating Board discussed the seriousness with which they take the issue of "low producing programs." She also spoke about interacting with the press as a means of changing public sentiment regarding universities.

**B. Parking Initiative**

Dr. Watts liked the Senate motion regarding speed bumps and motorcycle parking. He has passed the motion along to Physical Plant.

**C. Administrator Evaluations**

Dr. Richardson distributed copies of these evaluations to the relevant administrators. Dean Redfern went over the evaluations and emailed her responses to members of the relevant departments. Administrators and supervisors take these evaluations very seriously.

**D. Financial Exigency**

The administration wants to move quickly on this issue. Budget and Governance has articulated some ideas but the Senate has not yet voted on them. Dr. Richardson suggested that Senators review the proposals from Budget and Governance and send him their ideas via e-mail. He would then represent these ideas at an important meeting on November 22nd.

**IV. Criminal Background Checks**

Executive Council met last week. They reviewed the Criminal Background Check policy implemented at U. T. Dallas as well as other potential models for a policy at U. T. P. B. The Council then formulated a list of items that they would like to see in our policy. The Senate voted unanimously to forward these suggestions to the H. O. P. committee.

**V. Subcommittee Reports**

**A. University Curriculum**

No business brought before the Senate.

**B. Faculty Affairs**

The Faculty Affairs committee has begun a consideration of faculty members selling back unrequested textbooks. No action taken by the Senate.

***C. Student Affairs***

No business brought before the Senate.

***D. Academic Affairs***

No business brought before the Senate.

***E. Budget and Governance***

No business brought before the Senate

***F. G.E.O.C.***

No business brought before the Senate.

***G. H.O.P.***

At the last meeting members discussed the issue of financial exigency. Many rumors have begun to circulate about the state budget. By law, however, no one can declare financial exigency until September 1st, 2011.

***VI. Retirement and Modified Service***

The Senate considered a recent proposal from the Provost's office. Under this system a faculty member could accept 25% or 50% retirement while continuing to maintain their office and the ability to supervise graduate students. Senate members noted that, due to the issue of salary compression, this proposal might end up costing the university more money than it saves. In many departments new hires receive higher salaries than their more senior colleagues. Dr. Richardson suggested that Senators e-mail him further comments and suggestions regarding this proposal.

***VII. Adjournment***

Faculty Senate adjourned at 4:03 P.M.