

*University of Texas of the Permian Basin*  
*Faculty Senate Minutes*  
December 8, 2010

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

**Members Absent:** Xinyun Zhu.

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

**II. Approval of Minutes**

Senate unanimously approved amended minutes.

**III. Senate President's Report**

**A. Budget**

The Budget and Planning Committee will soon consider a twelve-page list of cost-cutting proposals that the faculty submitted to the Provost.

**B. Early Retirement**

Senators considered a "Retirement and Modified Service for Faculty Members" plan drafted by the Provost. Senators noted the need for a clearer statement that this plan does not guarantee any renewal of contract after the first year. They also noted the need for language stating that, under this plan, faculty members would have to negotiate specifics regarding service with the chair of their respective departments. Dr. Richardson will bring up these concerns at the next H.O.P. meeting.

**C. Financial Exigency**

The last H.O.P. meeting dealt primarily with the creation of a financial exigency plan. Members of the Committee have begun creation of a multi-stage process for dealing with "program abandonment." At the next meeting they will spend more time refining the "rehiring clause." The Senate will have a chance to review the entire plan before its implementation.

**D. Background Checks**

Dr. Richardson noted that the new background check policy provides for a seven-year statute of limitations on anything found during a check. He has also stressed the need for greater privacy assurances to make certain that administrative assistants and student assistants do not have access to any confidential information regarding background checks.

**IV. Subcommittee Reports**

**A. University Curriculum**

**1. Course Additions**

Faculty Senate unanimously approved the following course additions:

- ENGL 4361: New York School Poets
- MATH 4320: Partial Differential Equations
- MENG 4360: Numerical Analysis

- MNGT 2342: Principles of Statistics
- MNGT 4335: Family Business Strategies
- MRKT 4307: Professional Selling
- MRKT 4322: Social Media Marketing

## *2. Course Changes*

Faculty Senate unanimously approved changes to the following courses:

- ECON 4307: Econometrics
- ECON 4325: Managerial Economics
- COMM 4390/4389: Seminar in Communication
- FINA 3320: Principles of Finance
- MNGT 3340: Production Operations Management
- MRKT 4314: Marketing Research and Information Systems

## *3. Course Deletions*

Faculty Senate unanimously approved the following course deletions:

- FINA 4329: Entrepreneurial & Small Business Finance
- ITEC 2302: Material Science
- ITEC 2337: Economic Analysis
- MNGT 3402: Principles of Statistics
- MRKT 3325: International Marketing
- MRKT 4322: Women in Business
- SOCI 4322: Social Work Intervention: The Individual
- SOCI 4321: Social Work Intervention: Marriage and Family

## *4. Sent Back*

Faculty Senate unanimously sent back proposed changes to the following courses. They requested additional information.

- GEOL 4600: Field Geology
- SPAN 3300: Spanish for Business and Finance

## ***B. Faculty Affairs***

### *1. Royalties*

Senate considered the issue of what to do with royalties that professors earn from assigning books that they have written. Senate then unanimously approved the following motion: “U.T.P.B. should check to make sure that we are in compliance with Board of Regents Policies on this issue.”

### *2. Textbook buyback*

Senate considered the issue of selling sample textbooks to private buyers. Senate then unanimously approved the following motion: “Faculty Senate advises that we not develop a rule independent of Regents Rules pertaining to the reselling of textbooks.”

## ***C. Student Affairs***

No business brought before the Senate.

## ***D. Academic Affairs***

### *1. Graduation*

The Senate unanimously approved the following motion: “All candidates for undergraduate degrees for the fall 2010 graduation who have met all degree requirements shall be awarded their respective degrees.”

*2. Scheduling*

The Senate noted that the U.T.P.B. schedule conflicts with the local school district’s schedule. They considered the best ways to bring the schedules into alignment. No action taken by the Senate.

***E. Budget and Governance***

Senators discussed the possibility of putting drafts of potential H.O.P. revisions on-line so that faculty members can evaluate them. They also discussed the issue of salary compression. No action taken by the Senate.

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

Dr. Kovalick described recent state proposals relating to low-producing programs. It may now be possible to win a temporary exemption in the event that members of the local workforce need to take a particular class.

She also noted that the relevant state agencies have begun consideration of a new method of measuring learning outcomes in the core curriculum. The state wants to limit these outcomes to six categories. No action taken by the Senate.

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

No business brought before the Senate.

***V. Adjournment***

Faculty Senate adjourned at 4:03 P.M.