

Faculty Senate Meeting

February 8, 2012

Tom Ingram, Faculty Senate Chair

Toni Sol, Chair-Elect

Joe Kongevick, Secretary

Douglas Klahr, Parliamentarian

Julie Alexander—Library

Randal Bashan--Social Work

Robert Bing--Criminology/Crim Justice

Miriam Byrd--Philosophy & Humanities

ThomasChrzamowski—Biology

Mark Cichock--Political Science

Norman Cobb--Social Work

Stephanie Cole—History

Minerva Cordero—Mathematics

R Courtney—Nursing

Brian Horton--Communication

Jennifer Fox--Student Congress

Dan Cavanagh—Music

Desiree Henderson—English

Jodi Tommerdahl—C&I

R Young--Sociology Anthropology

Wright--CSE

Lewis Wasserman--Educational Leadership

Michael Ward--Economics

Amy Tigner--English

Kevin Schuck--Staff Advisory Council

Joseph Sabbagh--Linguistics

M. K. Raja--Information Systems(Bus)

BarbaraRaudonis--Nursing

James Campbell Quick--Goalsby/Management

Cheryl Anderson--Nursing

J LeFlore--Nursing

Aimee Israel-Pelletier--Modern Languages

Seiji Ikeda--Art

Carl Lovely—Chem/BioChem

Maria Martinez-Cosio--SUPA

Anand Puppala--CE

Yuau Bo Peng--Psychology

Call to Order 2:34 p.m.

1 - Dr. Quick Resolution: tabled due to lack of quorum

2 - Guest: Frank Lamas; David Silva; Heather Snow

3 - President is in San Antonio at the UT Regents Meeting

4 - Provost Elsenbaumer comments:

Tuition proposal for the next 2 years report to UT System, President and Executive Committee decided that we would not ask for tuition increase for this next year but we're asking for authority for an increase in the 2013-14 school year and will ask for the max allowable by regents, we should get an update from the President very soon. Spring enrollment very strong at 33,491, down slightly by 285 students, lost 822 due to state mandate no longer supporting DE courses. Enrollment is up overall. Demographics are almost at a 40:60 ratio of male to female 41.5% male 58.5% female. Other demographics when we look at the population in terms of ethnicity where we see very large change in student population Hispanics up 13% over last spring up by 739 students, 14.9% black, 44% white and 9.5% Asian and small percentage of other. We took a significant hit in our freshmen numbers but I think this includes that 800 lost Freshman students that we lost of the 1100 total students from last spring. We have a large increase of students classified as seniors almost 1000 students. Nursing significant increase over last spring and social work had a significant increase in students. University College took a largest hit. Another statistic you may find useful or interesting we are always trying to find ways to shift student behavior in terms of the number of credit hours they take. In our favor the number of student enrolled for 1-5 credits hours are down quite a bit. Conversely, number of students taking more than 12-14 credit hours actually went up by a small percentage as well. Last statistic nearly 1000 students

more retained this spring than we did last year so things we are doing some things right and hopefully becoming more effective in helping our student succeed. The third topic I would like to mention is something that we just started, many of you probably read this in the Shorthorn and other places, we started a program we are going to call global academic initiatives or international initiatives and many of you have heard that Dean Armanios will assume the new position at the end of this spring semester. He is basically going to join the Provost office as the executive director our global initiatives program. What exactly and how this is going to work, I think we are still trying to figure it all out. The model here is pretty much based on the very successful executive MBA program Dan and others in College of Business initiated and guided and has been a very successful program for us very healthy enrollment. Last item I think I would like to bring up and fortunately I have some help from others here to help me with this Homecoming week if the president were her he certainly would encourage all of you to show up for the parade and game on Saturday night College Park center arena and all the amenities all around it.

5 - Frank Lamas comments:

As you all know there has been a real buzz on campus from all the things happening with the opening of the College Park Center it is wonderful facility if you haven't had a chance to go; we're hosting a game on February 29 so if any of you need tickets or want tickets I can hook you up with that but as far as this week there's all sorts of wonderful homecoming activities available for our students and we're bringing in about 300 past student leaders on Friday night to get an opportunity to see College Park Center and talk to them to see how they have been doing with their future and then Saturday the festival is going to be a great thing to bring your families. Lots of things happening if you have any questions anytime send me an email at lamas@uta.edu.

Q: M Wright, CSE: there is a lot of concern about some of the information security office policies—do you care to comment on that?

A: Provost—The amount of information provided is not great, our new dean JP Bardet and past interim dean Erin Armanios have both had conversations with many faculty members in your colleges and JP has asked for meeting with the Provost and my understanding is that faculty from CSE are putting together a list of servers and as I look at those I don't know what they are so I can't really comment. All I can say is that I am certainly aware of it, I understand it, I lost my laptop twice so I am sensitive to what kinds of things that you are experiencing. So I will take a look at this and promise you we will work through and try to find reasonable solution.

Ingram: Let me clarify something real quick, the Provost lost his computer to encryption not carelessness his had to be encrypted just like the rest of ours.

Q: Amy Tigner, English—I understand from our dean that instead of collecting our tuition directly that the tuition goes to the state and the state allocates the money back. If that's true what I would like to know is if we get the tuition hike, are we going to get all our money back.

Provost: Tuition there's three parts to tuition there's statutory tuition that is legislatively mandated, then there is designated tuition that's the tuition that students pay that comes directly to us. Designated statutory we get little back; the third part is enhanced designated (EDT) is a component that we use to eliminate our fees—course fees, lab fees, studio fees, etc., back in 2007-08 we were told to get rid of our fees, the value of the enhanced designated tuition is that it is directly counted on the semester credit hours that are generated in your college and schools. That times the enhanced designated tuition rate goes right to your units minus the statutory or required legislative set asides or salary so those are the three different types of tuition and they go different directions but the vast majority we use.

Tigner: So if we get a tuition hike does all three parts go up equally or just the enhanced part?

Provost: No. The tuition request that is in the UT system is a request just from designated tuition/statutory tuition. The statutory tuition is already fixed so any add-ons are just tuition, we are not making any changes in enhanced designated tuition at this time. With the amount of money in enhanced designated tuition amount to cover that particularly in deans request at budget time. For 2013-14 we are not making any changes to enhanced designated tuition just the designated. Sorry it's so complicated.

Q: Lewis Wasserman, ELPS —My question goes to the Fisher case that is up at the Supreme Court and affirmative action and I am wondering how does the regents handle affirmative action vis-à-vis the legislature and the other side how it percolates downward to the campuses and how is campus policy formed in that regard and how does information get conveyed to legislature and regents parties only take only one position or another on it?

A: Provost—To give you a general answer the if there is Legislative mandates, UT system and our office of general counsel will get together and come up with a hearing policy statement, those policy statements will generally come down to the president's office from UT System. In terms of back and forth flow, in respect to legislature, we are not permitted to lobby any state legislative decision, but if we get an inquiry we are permitted to educate which is not considered lobbying; so it is a delicate balance of working through the regents, the UT System folks, the general counsel councils, the presidents and then these individual institutions.

Q: Amy Tigner - English—I was wondering if there has been any progress made on the Student Satisfaction Surveys?

A: Provost—I think there is and from what I understand and I've not been involved in this from the very beginning so everything I tell you may not be completely accurate but I do know that Jean Hood, VP for Human Resources has been very involved in this with home focus groups around campus I know that she has put some effort involved in this to get the information out. I have to tell you I don't know where it is in the process now. Campus wide I don't know how it's all going.

Sol—the information will be reported not the full report but a summary of it that's in the works.

Q: Cichock-Political Science—on a somewhat similar topic, Student evaluations, whether they are adequate in and of themselves is anything being done about classism of getting students to fill them out since we are so closely tied to the issues of raises, and teaching loads, etc.

A: Provost—Let me put it this way, I feel your pain we just went through the tenure promotion process and one of the difficult issues was this transition period particularly difficult to do real good assessment of some teaching qualifications. In terms of student evaluations it is a little bit harder to get something back so I understand what you are saying. The only thing I can ask you for is some patience as we go through things until we get the kinks worked out and I think we have to look to you too to help us think differently about how we do this process in terms of electronic forms.

Ingram: We have talked about this with the executive committee on previous occasions we're keeping this on the forefront many of you may know there is a UT system task force on this of which Dr. Silva and Dan Formanowicz are on and that's part of the process also whatever they mandate is going to drive partially what we will be able to do as far as change and so forth.

Wasserman-- ELPS: Like the peer evaluation my department chair asked me what's going on in the senate about peer evaluations and I was embarrassed to say I couldn't recall whether we had conversations about that or not. There was a lot of dialogue in my department about we shouldn't be evaluation each other going into each other's classrooms it is going to result in conflict or it will result in a whitewash and that sort of discussion.

A: Provost—You bring up a good point but let me give you my prospective after reading tenure promotions documents and seeing all the teaching evaluations I find it helpful to have peer reviews and generally they are pretty good. It's another level different from the students prospective. I like to see them I think it's helpful.

Ingram: Peer review is in work with the regents, this is why we haven't done anything until they decide what they are going to do, it doesn't do us much good to start changing our policy.

Q: Raudonis, Nursing: I would like the senate to consider a request a to Jean Hood next month to come and present to us as representatives of the faculty some kind of hand out summary in advance so we can have conversation going forward and secondly in terms of tier one Dr. Elsenbaumer is there a coherent communication strategy for faculty to remain aware of kind of state of the university regarding tier one methods

A: Provost—I would say that right now, it is probably not in a cohesive writing; you probably heard that we are going through a strategic planning, that Dana Dunn is chairing and so there is going to be a series of open forums in March on the planning session with tier one objectives.

6 -Vice Provost David Silva:

6a - Statement of the honor code passed out; introduction of Heather Snow

We are here as a courtesy to bring back to this body briefly the discussion of the honor code. The president formed a task force and we are ready to go with a plan for the fall of 2012. The text of the honor code is much cleaned up and abridged from the one before and will be featured prominently around the campus and on its own website to be announced. We will educate the student and faculty on the honor code, what we found out from the task force is that faculty generally aren't so clear as to what the procedures are in perceived cases of academic dishonesty. What the policy is, where the forms are, what the procedures are so we are centralizing all of that, if you do have a case we have a link on the Provost website that links to Heather. The forms are also online, there will be an associate director also, because the numbers of cases have gone up. We don't think our students are cheating more we think we are doing a better job of seeing where the problems are, this is particularly true in the case of distance education where academic dishonesty and being alone in a room doing work was just temptation. You are empowered to use this honor code in your classes in whatever way to work for you.

6b - Emeritus Process

Under the current HOP a retired faculty member needs to find three buddies to write letters, those letters come to the special projects committee for review. The request for emeritus status basically runs through the same set of committees that any academic promotion would run through. No external letters are required but departments need to take a look at it department chair needs to weigh in. College dean needs to take a look at it the college dean needs to weigh in then the faculty senate takes a look at it and reports to the president, then the president makes his decisions. The argument being on the part of the deans is that this is an academic honor it is a change in academic rank and it ought to be afforded to some degree of scrutiny by the academic community the way we have never done. It is not a full blown T&P procedure by any means. Your committee will be taking a look at that and if they have any questions please let me know

Q: Ingram—can you give us a little bit of the calendar of when you anticipate as far as the HOP committee?

A: Silva—I have asked that this go to the HOP committee so this would have come to the senate within the next couple of weeks, I passed it on to the executive committee to be able to look at it. Right now the policy in place is the one currently in the HOP that is the three letters to the senate directly to the president so I have asked the senate leadership please begin that process as soon as possible.

Ingram—for clarification, we are using the current process for this year.

Q: Can you remind us of the fruits of becoming an emeritus?

A: Silva—It says a professor emeritus may be granted space when available, that's all it says. This has led to some very difficult discussions between deans and professors emeritus. But the new policy

specifies that a professor emeritus will have access to whatever facilities on campus that specifically address the issue. One thing the policy does specify is that the professor emeritus preserves all the academic freedoms that he or she had while on the faculty here. That means the freedom to continue to speak the truth and to have the truth defended by the university.

Ingram: Dr. Silva and others have had to deal with misunderstandings about the title people thought that the title continued their voting rights as a faculty member. This is a process to try to address a multitude of potential issues and issues that are known so it does need some thought through decisions.

6c - Faculty Authored Textbooks

Referred to the committee

Conflict of interest

Royalties to scholarships

6d - Student Feedback Survey

To help the students remember to do the survey what you can do is say to your class on Monday "Friday is survey day bring your laptops, bring your PDAs," on Wednesday say don't forget Friday is survey day. On Friday before class begins, before they can run off, you say everybody fire up your laptops, blackberry's, etc., would you do your survey for this class. I can almost guarantee you your response rates will go up. Encourage them to go to the website give them the link and that probably increases the responses. We are going to be working with scantron so that those of you who use Blackboard, the student knows which surveys are outstanding, that's going to take a little extra work. I'm hoping to get that in place for next spring. In the meantime you are empowered to have a survey day. The college of Architecture will have survey day in their college and they will all do them on the same day that's a great idea.

Q: Jennifer Fox - Student-- I am just wondering if there is any way to connect it to something that they want like getting their grades or maybe registering for class.

A: Silva— We can't connect it to getting your grade that's not an option. We want to create a culture in which the survey is at the end of a 15-week relationship of mutual respect. How do you build that mutual respect so that when you ask your students to please go online to answer the survey because it does mean a lot to me and it does have something to do with how I do my job and how I can do my job better they won't think twice about it.

A discussion ensue.

Dr. Elsenbaumer: We've asked David to do some very unusual things I want to thank him and we do want your input and feedback on this and to make it the best we can make it.

Dr. Silva: Those of you who know me I speak to you with cantor I speak to you as the person I am.

7 – Approval of Minutes

The October 5th and November 7th – tabled until next meeting we do not have a quorum.

8 – Resolution on College Park Center

Tabled until next meeting we do not have a quorum.

Meeting adjourned 4:17 p.m.