

## **Faculty Senate Minutes**

November 3, 2006

**Call to Order:** Gay Mills, President, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**Senators Present:** Gay Mills, Scott Beckett, Margie Waguespack, Larry Adams, Mindy Adams, Steve Beckham, Mike Bellah, Nancy Brent, Karla Dixon, Judy Isbell, Judy Jackman, Lana Jackson, Michael Kopenits, Aimee Martin, Jan Martin, Bob Mathews, Sheree Talkington, Lil Withrow, Henry Wyckoff

**Senators Absent:** D'dee Grove

**Visitors:** Elizabeth Bauman

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of October 6 were approved as submitted.

### **SGA Report:**

Elizabeth Bauman, SGA President, updated the Senate on SGA activities, including the Distinguished Lecture and SGA resolutions for a revised class schedule to allow for club meetings and an improved smoking policy.

**Guest:** Dr. Paul Matney, Vice President and Dean of Instruction

Dr. Matney visited with the Senate and discussed several topics, including the recent organizational changes at the Lynn Library, E-Learning Center, and ITT Division. He also discussed potential and existing cooperative ventures and partnerships with West Texas A & M University. Dr. Matney also noted that there would be a revised summer schedule due to various problems with last summer's schedule. However, the new fall/spring schedule with primarily Monday-Thursday classes has been met with mostly positive feedback from faculty and students. Dr. Matney also covered the SGA resolution for a lunch break; the Internal Capital Needs Assessment Committee's work; the search for a new Business Division Chair; the Academic Affairs decision to require only 60 hours to graduate with an associate's degree; AC's tuition compared to other Texas colleges; the minimum tuition correction; the Piper Professor Nominee; AC's Caprock Initiative, Early College, STSC 0211-College Success being taught to the Caprock cohort of 46 students on our campus, and participation in Panhandle 20/20; agreements with UT-Brownsville and Midland College that would allow AC students to earn BAT and BAAS degrees online; general ed competencies as they relate to student outcomes assessment; textbook distribution and costs; a possible new employee category for professionals; the suspension of the part-time retirement option; and pro-rating faculty loads.

Mike Bellah, Chair of the Pro-Rate Committee, presented his committee's findings to Dr. Matney. He shared concerns about apparent inequities in how online teaching loads were paid vs. traditional teaching loads, noting that this would discourage teachers from

teaching online. Mike also noted that online teaching requires at least as much, if not more, time and a more sophisticated level of professional skills. The Committee will continue to gather data.

### **President's Report**

Gay Mills

Gay reported on the TCCTA leadership conference that she attended. She also noted that senators agreed to invite Brad Johnson to the next Senate meeting for more information on enrollment.

The agenda was suspended to allow Larry Adams to make his Technology Committee report.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Technology Committee:** Larry Adams reported that he now has access to the Faculty Senate Web site and will update Senate information. It was agreed to post the Senate's tentative meeting agendas on the Web site.

**Elections Committee:** Mike Bellah noted that we needed a motion to destroy the Piper Professor nomination ballots. Judy Jackman motioned, Henry Wyckoff seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Courtesy Committee:** Lil Withrow reported on cards sent to faculty.

**Salary Committee:** Scott Beckett said that he would be talking to Lynn Thornton about the faculty salary formula and apparent inconsistencies in salary increases.

**Questions Committee:** Judy Jackman shared two faculty questions about employee evaluations and lab fee policies and said that she would check with Human Resources and Terry Berg for answers.

**Faculty Parking Problem Subcommittee:** Lil Withrow reported that the faculty parking problem near the Carter Fitness Center appears to be solved after she contacted the AC Police Dept. and officers began enforcing restricted parking there.

### **President's Report Continued**

Gay discussed the new Faculty Survey Committee and its charges. She also brought up the idea of a post-holiday "Welcome Back" Senate party for February rather than a Christmas party, which was met with agreement.

**Adjournment:** 5:12 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** Friday, Dec. 1, 2006, CUB Private Dining Room