FACULTY SENATE MEETING
MINUTES
December 13, 2010
3:15 p.m., 601 Rudder Tower
http:// facultysenate.tamu.edu


Call to Order:
The meeting was called to order by Speaker Strawser at 3:20 P.M.

Speaker Comments:
Speaker Strawser introduced Interim Provost Karan Watson who reported that the state has imposed a new 2.5 per cent rescission ($6.5 million) in the current fiscal year. This is a one-time reduction, unlike the planned recurring cuts of 10 per cent for fiscal 2011-12 and beyond. Her recommendation to colleges and other units is to slow spending now so that 2.5 per cent of the state budget allocation will be unspent at the end of August. Sufficient terminations and other reductions have already been done in the current fiscal year to take care of this, so there will be no additional cuts to colleges and units this fiscal year. Jonathan Coopersmith (Liberal Arts) said that colleges have already begun planning to roll current savings forward and asked if they can still do so; Karan Watson said yes.

Secretary Daugherity asked for an update on the Student-Led Award for Teaching Excellence (SLATE) program; Karan Watson said the students have redesigned SLATE to meet System requirements.

Kim Hill (Liberal Arts) asked to revisit the previous Faculty Senate discussion about efforts to make the case for university funding. Karan Watson said the best projection at the moment is that state resources for so-called “discretionary” spending in 2011-13 will be $10 billion less than in the current biennium, and from our federal taxes only 60 per cent of Texas Medicaid may be covered, instead of the current 70 per cent.

Programs have also grown—there are more pupils, more higher-education students, and more Medicaid recipients than before, and this growth needs to be funded. If it is not, that would result in a big swing down for TAMU. Another proposal is to take 10 per cent from universities and return it to universities with the greatest growth in degrees granted, which could cut TAMU $17 million; other formulas could add 8 or 12 million dollars in Fiscal Year 2013. In other words, there is still great uncertainty.

She said public polls typically show people are inclined to cut higher education before cutting elementary education, when presented with this hard choice. She asked faculty to make sure students’ learning experience here properly prepares them for their careers and lives, carrying out TAMU’s strategic plan, which emphasizes our mission for our state and our students. If one semester could be cut from the average time to degree (for undergraduate and master’s students), that would increase the number of degrees awarded from about 11,000 per year to about 12,500 per year. She said we also need to pay attention to the impact of our scholarship and teaching, and to communicate that more clearly, especially in areas in which we are particularly strong. Since we can’t just depend on the state for sufficient funding, we need to diversify income sources, possibly including increasing tuition after we prove we are adding value.

Dean of Faculties Antonio Cepeda-Benito reported that a student battling terminal cancer who will likely not qualify for a posthumous degree when he passes away will be recognized with a certificate from the Faculty Senate. He recommended that guidelines be developed for future similar cases. Parliamentarian Richard Stadelmann observed that cancer and other serious illnesses are much more common among students, staff, and faculty than many might realize. He then reported on the meeting of the Legislative Committee with state representative Lois Kolkhorst, and said she did get the message that most faculty opposed broadening concealed carry on campus.

The November 8 Faculty Senate meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

Consent Agenda: Without objection, the consent agenda was passed.

GRADUATE COUNCIL
New Courses - November 4, 2010
AERO 643 High-performance Computational Fluid Dynamics
ANTH 649 Origin and Evolution of the Genus Homo
BAEN 675 Hydrology Across Scale
CVEN 710 Civil Engineering Project Finance
FSTC 671 Critical Evaluation of Nutrition and Food Science Literature: Evidence Based Reviews
GEOG 667 Dynamic Modeling of Earth and Environmental Systems
LDEV 672 Public-Private Project Funding
NUTR 671 Critical Evaluation of Nutrition and Food Science Literature: Evidence Based Reviews
PERF 610 Graduate Studies in Dance Research
PERF 611 Contemporary Religions and Performance
PERF 612 Music Capitalism
PERF 613 Performing Texas
PERF 614 Soundscapes
PERF 615 Spectacle, Performance, and Politics
PERF 616 Sport as Performance
PSYC 622 Emotions: Neuroscience, Cognitive, & Social Approaches

Course Changes - November 4, 2010
SPED 617 Contemporary Instructional Strategies in Special Education
SPED 630 Reading for At-Risk/LD Students
VIBS 670 Basic Environmental Toxicology

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

New Courses - November 12, 2010
AGCJ 409 Television Production for Agricultural Journalists
CLAS 320 Survey of Latin Literature
COSC 175 Construction Graphics Communication
COSC 450 Facility Management Principles and Practices
COSC 474 Facility Management Summer Internship
CSCE 435 Parallel Computing
ECEN 414 Biosensors
EURO 454 Italian Drama
EURO 456 Contemporary Italy
FSTC 471 Critical Evaluation of Nutrition and Food Science Literature: Evidence Based Reviews
HLTH 222 Concepts in Peer Health Education
IDIS 421 Healthcare Distribution Networks
IDIS 445 International Sales and Marketing
ITAL 452 Women and Gender in Italian Literature
ITAL 454 Italian Drama
ITAL 456 Contemporary Italy
MATH 309 Linear Algebra for Differential Equations
NUTR 471 Critical Evaluation of Nutrition and Food Science Literature: Evidence Based Reviews
RPTS 321 Festival, Fair and Event Management II
RPTS 441 Tourism Experience
RPTS 445 Sustainability in International Tourism
VIST 170 Introduction to Visualization Computing Environments
VIST 465 Art, Culture and Time Based Media
WGST 452 Women and Gender in Italian Literature

Change in Courses - November 12, 2010
AGCJ 307 Electronic Media Production in Agricultural Communications
ANSC 408 Management of Stocker and Feedlot Cattle
ARTS 203 Graphic Design I
COSC 275 Estimating I
COSC 301 Construction Surveying
COSC 321 Structural Systems I
COSC 381 Construction Industry Professional Studies
DASC 326 Food Bacteriology
ENDS 374 Multimedia Design and Development
ENDS 474 Designing for the Web
ENTC 210  Circuit Analysis I
ENTC 215  Introduction to Telecommunications
ENTC 315  Local and Metropolitan Area Networks
ENTC 345  Telecommunications Testing Techniques
ENTC 349  Microprocessors
ENTC 350  Electronic Devices and Circuits
ENTC 352  Introduction to Mixed-Signal Test and Measurement
ENTC 355  Electromagnetics and High Frequency Systems
ENTC 415  Digital Transmission and Switching
ENTC 419  Technical Project Management
ENTC 420  Engineering Technology Projects
ENTC 452  Advanced Semiconductor Test and Measurement
ENTC 455  Wireless Transmission Systems
ENTC 463  Mechanical Design Applications II
EURO 453  Italian Literature
FILM 435  German Film
FSTC 326  Food Bacteriology
GERM 435  German Film
HORT 315  Component Analysis of Horticultural Systems
HORT 428  Commercial Greenhouse Management
IDIS 240  Introduction to Industrial Distribution
INFO 336  Decision Support Systems
ITAL 453  Italian Literature
KINE 483  Practicum in Kinesiology
OCEN 362  Hydromechanics
OCEN 400  Basic Coastal Engineering
OCEN 410  Ocean Engineering Laboratory
PHIL 240  Introduction to Logic
SPAN 203  Intermediate Spanish for Spanish Speakers
SPAN 302  Contrastive Grammar
SPAN 304  Grammar for Native Speakers
VTPB 940  Diagnostic and Clinical Pathology I

**New Course** from November 13, 2009 Meeting

BMEN 404  FDA Good Laboratory and Clinical Practices

**Change in Curriculum** - November 12, 2010

**College of Architecture**
Department of Construction Science
B.S. in Construction Science

**College of Architecture** - November 12, 2010
Department of Visualization
B.S. in Visualization

**Dwight Look College of Engineering**
Department of Engineering Technology and Industrial Distribution
B.S. in Engineering Technology
Telecommunications Engineering Technology Option

**College of Science**
Department of Biology
B.A. in Biology
B.S. in Biology
B.S. in Microbiology
B.S. in Molecular and Cell Biology
B.S. in Zoology

**College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences**
D.V.M. Professional Program in Veterinary Medicine

Motion Passed FS.28.65
Motion Passed FS.28.66
Motion Passed FS.28.67
Motion Passed FS.28.68
Motion Passed FS.28.69
Motion Passed FS.28.70

Attachment E
Attachment F
Attachment G
Attachment H
Attachment I
Attachment J
Special Consideration - November 12, 2010
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
   Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Sciences
   Request for Professional Event Manager Certificate

Motion Passed FS.28.71
Attachment K

Special Consideration - November 12, 2010
College of Education and Human Development
   University Studies Degree
   Area of Concentration (Dance) – requirement changes

Motion Passed FS.28.72
Attachment L

Special Consideration - November 12, 2010
College of Education and Human Development
   Department of Health and Kinesiology
   Minor in Dance – requirement changes

Motion Passed FS.28.73
Attachment M

Special Consideration - November 12, 2010
College of Liberal Arts
   Department of Economics and George Bush School of Government and Public Service
   B.A. and B.S. in Economics and MPIA – requirement changes

Motion Passed FS.28.74
Attachment N

Special Consideration - November 12, 2010
College of Liberal Arts
   Department of Economics and George Bush School of Government and Public Service
   B.A. and B.S. in Economics and MPSA – requirement changes

Motion Passed FS.28.75
Attachment O

Special Consideration - November 12, 2010
College of Science
   University Studies Degree
   Area of Concentration (Science for Secondary Teaching) – requirement changes

Motion Passed FS.28.76
Attachment P

GRADUATE COUNCIL & UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE
Special Consideration - November 4, 2010
College of Architecture
   Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning
   Proposal for Articulated BS-URSC and MUP Degree
   Proposal for Articulated BS-URSC and MSLD Degree
   Proposal for Dual MUP-MSLD Degree

Motion Passed FS.28.77
Attachment Q

Special Consideration - November 4, 2010
College of Liberal Arts
   Department of Sociology and George Bush School of Government and Public Service
   Request for a Five-Year Dual Degree Program

Motion Passed FS.28.78
Attachment R

W-COURSES
W certification:
POL 314    Interest Groups
POL 440    Public Policies and Policymaking
SOCI 328   Sociology of the Environment
ECMT 463   Introduction to Econometrics
HIST 418   European Intellectual History, Pre-Socratic Greece to Early Middle Ages
HIST 419   European Intellectual History, High Middle Ages to the 17th Century
HLTH 481   Seminar in Allied Health

Motion Passed FS.28.79
Attachment S

C certification:
MATH 482   Research Seminar in Math

W recertification:
COMM 435   Rhetoric of Television and Radio
COMM 446   Communication, Organizations and Society
HIST 410   Russian History to 1801
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Revisions to Student Rules 14.3 and 14.4

End of Consent Agenda

Committee Reports
CORE CURRICULUM COUNCIL
September 2010 Approved Course

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Resolution Opposing Concealed Weapons on College Campuses
Attachment V was moved. In the ensuing discussion Chris Mathewson (Geosciences) asked how this would be enforced. Speaker Strawser noted that in April 2009 the Student Senate held a student referendum regarding then-pending state legislation supporting concealed carry on campus; 54 per cent were opposed and 46 per cent in favor. Gene Nelson (Agriculture) said System policy allows universities to permit concealed weapons if approved by a university-designated authority, which the TAMU rule identifies as the TAMU Chief of Police; he offered an amendment to the resolution to incorporate this. The amendment was debated and passed, making the resolution read as follows:

Be it resolved that the Texas A&M University Faculty Senate supports the position of the Texas Association of College and University Police Administrators and strongly opposes any change in Texas law that would permit concealed weapons on college campuses without approval by a campus-designated authority.

The resolution as thus amended passed.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Elizabeth Tebeaux (Liberal Arts) called for more faculty involvement in encouraging students to write paper proposals for the Journal of Undergraduate Research and distributed a handout.

New Business
Executive Session
  Honorary Degree 1
  Honorary Degree 2
  Honorary Degree 3
  Honorary Degree 4

Speaker Strawser then convened an Executive Session and asked non-senators to leave the room. At the conclusion of the executive session the regular session reconvened and Speaker Strawser asked Speaker-Elect Benedik to chair the Committee of the Whole.

Committee of the Whole
Secretary Daugherity reported hearing that there is a proposal to demolish the two buildings attached to the G. Rollie White Building, namely the “Annex” and the Read Building.

Brian Perkins (Science) reported increased noise, especially in the Biology buildings, from student group advertising and demonstrations, which have been moved to the area outside the Academic Building due to Memorial Student Center renovations.

Adjourn
There being no further business to come before the Committee of the Whole, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50.