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FACULTY SENATE

Secretary of the General Faculty's Report

Josh Thurow

March 23, 2017



TCFS, 2/24-5

- Passed a *Starving the Beast* Resolution
- You can watch *Starving the Beast* for free through Kanopy.
 - Do a library quick search for “kanopy”. It should be the first link that comes up. We have access through UTSA.

TCFS, 2/24-5

- Main speaker: Bill Powers
- Reflections on the state of higher education
 - Main issue: funding
 - One good thing in higher ed: we've become increasingly student-focused.
 - Contributors to cost: we have a better product with more services, regulation, faculty mobility
 - How to measure productivity: focus on the outputs - advancing knowledge, creating knowledgeable and well-prepared and trained students
 - There is too much bureaucracy
 - Tenure + no retirement age is implying that we are going to lose a generation of scholars. Somehow this needs to be addressed.
 - Most American politicians see most of higher ed as being on one side of the political spectrum and so they wonder why they should be funding their opponents. This is what is really motivating them.

TCFS, 2/24-5

- Panel: “What I Wish They Knew: Faculty to Admin and Back Again”
 - We have a common goal; we are on the same team. We just have different tasks and so approach problems from a different perspective.
 - There’s not a lot of prep for admins in higher ed.
 - We have different roles for a reason; we have different skills.
 - Neither role is without challenges.
 - Admins should be transparent and should explain decisions.
 - Approach admins with questions and concerns.