THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY AND
DOCUMENTS and PROCEEDINGS OF THE UNIVERSITY ASSEMBLY

The minutes of the University Assembly meeting of October 10, 2000, published below have been prepared for the immediate use of the members of the University Assembly and are included in its Documents and Proceedings. They are also included in the Documents and Minutes of the General Faculty for the information of the members.

Mansour El-Kikhia, Secretary
The General Faculty

SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY ASSEMBLY MEETING OF OCTOBER 10, 2000

The first regular meeting of the University Assembly for the academic year 2000-2001 was held in room 4.03.08, John Peace Library Building, on October 10, 2000, at 3:30 p.m. with Dr. Ricardo Romo presiding.

I. ATTENDANCE


ABSENT: Sos Agaian, Christine Alvear, Guy Bailey, Christopher Borman, John Bretting (excused), Russell Briner, Alan Craven, Keith Fairchild (excused), Wanda Hedrick (excused), Robert Hiromoto, David Larson, Louis Mendoza (excused), Walter Richardson Jr., Kent Rush (excused), Sandy Speed, Anthony Van Reusen (excused), Arturo Vega, Jesse Zapata

Total members present: 34
Total members absent: 18

II. Minutes of the March 28, 2000 Meeting were approved.
Minutes of the May 2, 2000 Meeting were approved.

III. Reports

A. President - Dr. Ricardo Romo

Dr. Romo welcomed the Assembly members to a new academic year and thanked everyone for the work that had been done in the past year. Dr. Romo recognized Dr. Michael Kelly, Parliamentarian, to clarify the appointment of new members to the University Assembly in light of the academic restructuring.

Dr. Kelly reported that because restructuring to the University occurred in the summer and the reapportionment and elections occurred in the spring, there were some divisions who were not represented on the Assembly. In order to ensure that all faculty had proper representation, appointments were made from unrepresented divisions. The newly appointed members are Dr. Thomas Ricento, Division of
Bicultural-Bilingual Studies, Dr. James McDonald, Division of Behavioral and Cultural Sciences, and Dr. John Bretting, Division of Public Administration. Dr. Kelly recommended that the Secretary of the General Faculty work with the appropriate committee to reapportion faculty seats on the University Assembly per the University's new academic structure.

Dr. Romo welcomed the following new members of the Assembly: Gerard Barloco, Vice President for Administration; Bruce Bublitz, College of Business; William Scouten, College of Sciences; Dwight Henderson, College of Engineering; Christopher Borman, College of Education and Human Development; and Jesse Zapata, College of Urban Professional Programs.

Dr. Romo reported that the City of San Antonio had given a gift in the amount of $1,000,000 to UTSA's Biosciences Initiative. This support began with the efforts of Councilwoman Deborah Guerrero. Dr. Romo and Councilwoman Guerrero had discussed options for a gift to UTSA and determined that the area of technology would be the most appropriate. The funds came from surplus monies generated by utility usage. This was an unprecedented event since cities do not usually give gifts to public institutions.

Dr. Romo announced that UTSA would receive another gift of $1,000,000 for scholarships for undergraduate students. The funds will be used primarily for students in engineering, biotechnology, and the sciences but can also be given to other students. The foundation prefers that the scholarships be awarded, as much as possible, to students in rural communities.

Dr. Romo reported that UTSA had received a $35M grant from the Permanent University Fund to build a biotechnology building. The grant was, however, contingent on the University raising $5,000,000. Given the interest of the City of San Antonio and the University community, the amount of UTSA's Biotechnology Campaign was increased to $10M. Dr. Romo stated that progress on the campaign was urgent since the building cannot be started until the University's fundraising is completed.

He said that UTSA already had funds to build a $52M academic building adjacent to the JPL Building. Upon completion of the new building, the JPL Building will be converted entirely into a library. Approval was received for the Wellness Center and the Childcare Center. UTSA will be one of only three UT System campuses with childcare centers.

Dr. Romo reported good success with the Tri-Campus Committee and thanked all members of the committee. The committee has made progress with the integration of the three campuses. Because of the Tri-Campus Committee and its ability to organize and be united, UTSA was able to be instrumental in avoiding route cuts planned by VIA.

Dr. Romo reported that the goal of adding 1700 new parking spaces to the three campuses was proceeding satisfactorily. The new underground parking garage and the acquisition of property across from the Downtown Campus will add 700 new parking spaces. UTSA continues to work to acquire property around the Downtown Campus.

He announced that Councilwoman Bonnie Conner had contributed $80,000 for scholarships to UTSA. She had also stated interest in having a city library on a far corner of the 1604 property. A land swap is being considered but such a transaction would require numerous approvals.

B. Secretary - Dr. Mansour El-Kikhia

Dr. El-Kikhia said there are several exciting things occurring at the University. He said it would be very important for him to receive feedback from the Assembly members on any issue at all. Changes cannot take place if the problems are not known. Electronic mail can be sent to governance@utsa.edu.

Dr. El-Kikhia reported on new initiatives discussed at the recent meeting of the UT System Faculty Advisory Council. UT System and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board are discussing an accountability review and are seeking input from faculty. Another important issue is the fields of study
curriculum currently being implemented in several disciplines. There is also a proposal related to the certification of teachers at the community college level.

Dr. El-Kikhia informed the Assembly regarding information provided by Dr. Ed Sharpe from UT System. Dr. Sharpe noted that the 60 different entities in higher education in Texas could not agree on needed for higher education. The six university systems have, however, agreed to coordinate their efforts for the next legislature session and hope to increase formula funding by six percent by next year. The System would like to increase the return of indirect costs related to grants from 50% to 100%. Other items being reviewed are a K-16 initiative, tuition revenue bonds, premium sharing on health, and the stair step tuition approach. Dr. El-Kikhia promised to keep the Assembly informed of issues being discussed at UT System.

C. Committees

Nominating Committee - Dr. Thomas Ricento
Dr. Ricento conducted the election of officers and committee membership for 2000-2001.

POST ELECTION RESULTS
*Administrative and Agenda Committee:*
President — Ricardo Romo
Secretary — Mansour El-Kikhia
College of Business — Diane Walz
College of Education and Human Development — Thomas Ricento
College of Engineering — Sos Agaian
College of Liberal and Fine Arts — *Louis Mendoza*
College of Sciences — Deborah Armstrong
College of Urban Professional Programs — John Bretting
Staff — William Angrove
Student — *Shane Foley*
Parliamentarian — *Michael Kelly*

*Nominating Committee*
William Angrove, Staff Representative
*James Gallagher, CoLFA*
*Kellye Jones, CoB*
Amir Karimi, CoE
*Cynthia Katz, Graduate Council Representative*
Patricia Harris, CoUPP
*Oscar Van Auken, CoS*
Anthony Van Reusen, CoEHD

*Human Resources Committee*
Alberto Arroyo, CoE
*Russell Briner, CoB*
*Keith Fairchild, CoB*
James Gallagher, CoLFA
James McDonald, CoLFA
Kent Rush, CoLFA
andrew Tsin, CoS

*Student Life and Activities Committee*
*Christine Alvear, CoEHD Student Representative*
*Raul Aranovich, CoLFA*
*Ron Ayers, CoB*
*Shane Foley, Student Government*
D. Other

1. Report from the Chair of the Faculty Senate - Dr. Patricia Harris

   Dr. Harris reported that the first meeting of the Faculty Senate for 2000-2001 took place on September 12. During the meeting, the following events took place:
   - Appointments to the Faculty Senate were made to compensate for changes resulting from restructuring.
     - Thomas Ricento, BBL
     - James McDonald, BCS
     - John Bretting, PAD
   - Request for elections from Divisions of Civil and Mechanical Engineering
   - Dr. Bailey reported on the latest faculty salary compression exercise, on the status of college advising centers, and the dissolution of the Office of International Programs. Faculty expressed concern over new arrangements, particularly in the area of processing of visas and other documentation.
   - The Senate voted to extend the terms of all of last year's Ad Hoc Committee members. These include the members of four committees:
     - Ad Hoc Budget Committee
     - Ad Hoc Committee on Administrator Evaluation
     - Ad Hoc Committee on the Course Evaluation Instrument
     - Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Salary Compression Model
   - The Senate established the following agenda items so far:
     - The Academic Policy and Requirements Committee is examining the nature of bylaw changes that should or must occur as a result of restructuring. In addition, this is now an opportunity to examine particular features of faculty governance such as term lengths for Senators, whether chairs can serve on the Senate, and the relation of the Senate to the Assembly. The Committee will present a report on the basic questions Senators should be asking, and deliver a recommendation regarding who should draft the changes, at a special Senate meeting in October.
     - The Senate will complete its work on new measures of teaching effectiveness this academic year. The Senate Committee on Teaching Effectiveness will work in cooperation with the Ad Hoc Committee on the Course Evaluation Instrument to carry out this goal.
     - The Senate appointed a special committee to propose a means for the selection of members to a University-wide Committee on the Advancement of Women. This will facilitate the implementation of such a committee on the UTSA campus. The Committees were first recommended by Chancellor William Cunningham in 1997.
     - Later in the academic year, the Senate will examine the feasibility and nature of what is being referred to as developmental policies for addressing cases involving faculty who receive unsatisfactory reviews.
     - The Senate will possibly examine revisions to the merit system.
     - The Senate approved the five items now represented on the Assembly's Consent Calendar.

In addition, Dr. Harris reported the following:

   - The Senate will hold a special meeting on October 4. Agenda items include reports from the:
     - Ad Hoc Committee on Non-tenure Track Faculty (NTT proposals)
     - Ad Hoc Committee on Administrator Evaluations (Chris Borman evaluation)
• Academic Policy and Requirements Committee (Bylaws questions)
• Ad Hoc Committee on the Selection of Women for the Campus Core Committee on the
  Advancement of Women

Approximately two weeks previously, Dr. Harris asked David Johnson about the status of the
faculty grievance policy and was informed that the Office of General Counsel was currently
working on it.

Several items were brought to the attention of the Chair following the last Senate executive
committee meeting. Measures for addressing these concerns will be taken up at the next
agenda meeting. These include:
• Concerns by several faculty regarding the flow and outcomes of faculty grievances.
• Concerns about the problems associated with handling of documentation for foreign
  faculty and students.
• Concerns about duplication of courses, particularly in the area of Interdisciplinary
  Studies
• Concerns by faculty in Mathematics and Statistics that the reassignment of that faculty
  into four groups in four colleges may not be in the best interest of the discipline, or all
  affected faculty.

2. Report from the President of Student Government - Mr. Shane Foley

Mr. Foley reported that Student Government had been working very hard to reach the student body.
Across the campus, tables would be set up where students could express their concerns and make
recommendations on how those concerned could be addressed more effectively. Concerns already
identified include parking and food services.

He reported that Student Government would also work with the President's Office in preparation for
the next legislative session to ensure that legislators realize how shortages in funding affect the
students at UTSA.

Mr. Foley announced that KTSA, a local news/talk radio station, would host a program focusing on
the upcoming elections. Telecast from the 1604 campus, the program would feature UTSA students
taking calls and discussing the elections from different political perspectives.

He reported that Student Government had been active with the VIA situation and had representation
at the VIA board meeting. Student Government feels that the input from students was instrumental
in retaining the UTSA route while many routes for other campus were eliminated.

Mr. Foley reported that Student Government has three specific goals it considers of major
importance and would help increase the excitement of the university experience for students:

• An electronic message board that is already being worked on through the Office of the Vice
  President for Business Affairs. This would allow students to know what events are taking
  place on campus and how they can be more active and involved.
• The wellness and recreation center will bring a lot of life and excitement to the campus.
  Having the facilities to conduct aerobics and workout programs will be beneficial, not only to
  students but also to faculty, staff, and administration.
• A longer-term goal is additional housing. Students who live on campus traditionally do better
  academically and have higher retention rates.

Mr. Foley said that Student Government wants to be able to work with faculty and staff to discuss
ideas, programs, or concerns and how the entire University community could work together to
address such issues.

Dr. Ron Ayers noted that the Paisano appears to focus extensively on campus crime reports, and the
statistics reported have been alarming. He requested that Student Government study whether crime
on campus was actually increasing. Mr. Foley agreed to bring this issue to the attention of Student
Government.

IV. Consent Calendar: Faculty Senate
   1. Recommend Approval of Revisions to the Bylaws of the Graduate Council. APPROVED
   2. Recommend Approval of Ph.D. in Business Administration. APPROVED
   3. Recommend Approval of Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering. APPROVED
   4. Recommend Approval of 2001-2003 Graduate Catalog. APPROVED

V. Unfinished Business

None

VI. New Business

   Dr. Thomas Ricento made a motion to nominate Dr. Michael Kelly as Parliamentarian. Motion passed.

VII. Questions to the President

   Dr. Kelly asked if UTSA had an official position about the report of a possible merger of UTSA and the UT Health Science Center. Dr. Romo responded that UTSA had no interest in such a merger.

VIII. Meeting Adjourned.

   Comments or questions to spottorff@utsa.edu
   Last updated: Sept. 1, 2005