Call to order: 3:33

Welcome guests

Guests in attendance were Provost Nowell Donovan and Alexandria Bruton (Skiff Reporter)

Approval of Minutes of March 5, 2008

Minutes were approved as submitted.

Old Business

None

New Business

1. TCU Budget Update (Brian Gutierrez, TCU Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administration and Kenneth Janak, Director of TCU Budget and Financial Planning)

Vice Chancellor Gutierrez provided an overview of the 2009-2010 TCU budget. He stated the budget would be cautious and leaning toward conservative due to the economic climate and uncertain environment. The enrollments are currently fine and stable, but he budgeted for 150 less students. He explained the budget is designed not to be dependent on football bowl games because there is no guarantee from one year to another that the football team will be invited to a bowl game. On a national level there is an anticipated 2% decline in philanthropic giving. The TCU Board of Trustees set the payout of the TCU endowment at $58.5 million for the next year in order to preserve TCU’s momentum. There is a proposed $13.1 million budget increase for the 2009-2010 budget. The areas of risk are enrollment, financial aid, compensation, Annual Fund, endowment, major capital gifts, capital financing, capital projects, and general property and casualty insurance. The current year budget forecast anticipates a $10 million surplus.

2. TCU Annual Campaign (Janine Kraus, Director of TCU Annual Giving)

Ms. Kraus asked Senators to encourage their colleagues to give to the TCU Annual Fund. If 80 people give $25.00, the total amount will provide one student a scholarship. A record 66 percent of our campus community gave $385,000 to the university last year. The Campaign for TCU has raised $191 million of the $250 million goal.

3. Report on Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (TCU Senator Bob Akin, COIA Representative)

Senator Akin reported this year COIA passed by-laws, the first step in its plans to file for 501(c)(3) status as a nonprofit organization. Non-profit status for COIA will allow the organization to apply
for and receive financial support, which will be used to provide administrative assistance, and to defray travel and other expenses now borne by the organization’s co-chairs. Senator Akin stated that Miles Brand (NCAA President) has pancreatic cancer and his duties are shifting.

4. Update on Term Limits for University Committees (Sally Fortenberry, Chair of TCU Faculty Senate Committee on Committees)

After discussion, Senator Fortenberry and Senators agreed the issue is term "lengths" rather than term "limits of university committees. The current term length is 5 years for university committees, which is a lengthy period to serve on a committee, especially if a committee member chooses two terms. A resolution was proposed and approved to change the term lengths to three years.

5. Update on TCU Faculty Conflict Resolution Policy (Shari Barnes, TCU Human Resources - Director of Employee Relations)

Ms. Barnes stated Human Resources is using more informal mediations and less of formal mediations. There has been a 25% increase in the number of contacts this year. The TCU ethics hotline is not being used as much as other universities, which is a sign that the system is working. Of the total contacts, only 10% result in mediations.

6. Update on TCU Faculty Senate Elections (Dianna McFarland, TCU Faculty Senate Assistant Secretary)

An electronic ballot will be emailed to all faculty to vote for vacant Faculty Senate positions. The current Senators elected the following for positions on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

Chair: Art Busbey
Chair-Elect: Dianna McFarland
Secretary: Keith Whitworth
Assistant Secretary: Till Meyn

7. Remarks from TCU Provost Nowell Donovan

Provost Donovan updated the Faculty Senate on the TCU College of Education and the TCU College of Science and Engineering Dean searches. He stated Chancellor Boschini has sent an email announcing Preventing Sexual Harassment and Preventing Employment Discrimination online training modules that are mandatory for all TCU employees. He described a recent incident at TCU involving a student whose academic freedoms and right of due process were denied.

Announcements

The Faculty Senate Chancellor’s Reception will be held on April 9, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. at the Chancellor’s home.

The TCU Chapter of Hillel will exhibit a Holocaust Museum Exhibit on April 13 – 15 at the Brown-Lupton University Union.

Adjourn
The meeting was adjourned at 5:00.