

TWU Undergraduate Council

March 29, 2010

Minutes

Members Present

K. Dunlap	Roger Shipley	Don Edwards
Allen Waldo	David Rylander	Joni Jensen
Beverly Thompson	Gloria Byrd	Pat Devereaux
Terry Senne	Susan Eitel	Lybeth Hodges
Peggy Landrum	Diana Prada	Lindsey Angell
Margaret Compton	Patricia Holden-Huchton	Penelope Hanstein
Jordan Fuchs	Bobbie Ferrell	Brian Harding

Ex Officio Members Present

Laura Rocchio	Judith Bean	Keith Restine
Sharon Vincent	Heather Speed	Carol Kominski

Members Not Present

Guy Litton	Stoerm Anderson	Kim Wilson-Booker
Mahmoud Sadri	Lisa Silliman French	

1) Review and Approve Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by Dr. David Rylander, Chair of the Council. The November 30, 2009 and January 25, 2010 minutes were approved unanimously. Dr. Rylander turned the meeting over to Dr. Jensen, Vice Chair of the Council.

2) Update from Dr. Judith Bean

Dr. Bean began with a summary of the Early Alert report. She then asked the council to consider what an Academic Advising Task Force or Committee might look like and said that she would revisit this issue next month. Dr. Bean then reported that her research into the Program Review processes of other institutions indicated that most did not rate

the program, but that of those who did use ratings, most used a 5-point scale. After some discussion, Dr. Edwards moved that ratings be dropped. This motion was seconded, and Dr. Hodges then recommended that a statement be added about the committee's right to request revisions. The motion passed 17 for, zero against.

3) Committee Reports

Program Committee—No Report

Course Review Committee—No Report

Retention Committee—No Report

4) Update from Dr. Carol Kominski

Dr. Kominski reported that TWU student performance was below the national average on both the reading CAAP and the science CAAP. She indicated that for the science CAAP the sample was not random and not representative as it included no science majors. Kinesiology students and students with a GPA of 3.51 or greater performed slightly better than the mean on the science CAAP, and the best predictor of above average performance was more recent enrollment in a science course. Also, younger students performed better than older students. Dr. Kominski discussed some possible reasons that students did not perform well and asked if council members had any other ideas in that regard. Dr. Bean suggested that cramming for tests rather than learning to think through problems might be one reason for poor performance, and Dr. Senne suggested that Kinesiology students outperform other students because they take so many science courses. Dr. Kominski suggested that we have an assessment day to alleviate some of the problems with sampling.

Dr. Kominski reiterated that the scores on the reading CAAP were also below the national mean, and asked for ideas as to why that might be the case and how it might be addressed. Some general discussion followed about the link between reading and writing and the link between the love of reading and academic success. Dr. Bean suggested that we might consider a Common Freshman Reading Program for our QEP.

5) Other Business

Dr. Jensen confirmed that there was no other business and closed the meeting by thanking Drs. Kominski and Bean. The meeting was adjourned at 3:36 p.m.

