

TWU Undergraduate Council

November 24, 2008

Minutes

Members present: Karen Dunlap, David Rylander, Kay Marsh, Lybeth Hodges, Tanaka Denenga, Stoerm Anderson, AnaLouise Keating, Bobbie Ferrell, Richard Sheardy, Jordan Fuchs, Allen Waldo, Beth Yelverton (for Guy Litton), Joni Jensen, Kendyll Castles, Pat Devereaux, Kimberly Booker, Mahmoud Sadri, Patricia Holden-Huchton, Jody Terrell (for Roger Shipley), Terry Senne, and Gloria Byrd.

Ex Officio members and Guests present: Judith Bean, Sharon Vincent, Laura Rocchio, Ann Staton, Katherine Landdeck, Sherilyn Bird.

Members not present: Penny Hanstein, Bobbie Ferrell, Peggy Landrum, Sally Lambert, Ronald Fannin.

1. Welcome by David Rylander, Chair of Committee.
2. Minutes were approved without objections.
3. Guest, Katherine Landdeck, discussed her work as campus coordinator for the American Democracy Project's Civic Agency Initiative. She distributed a handout describing the initiative and possibilities for TWU's involvement. This is a three-year project to create active, involved citizens. Landdeck is developing a campus-wide survey to audit what are we doing which will allow us celebrate our achievements and coordinate future projects. She feels TWU has an advantage as a school with great diversity, many first generation students, many female students and many non-traditional students. Some of TWU's possibilities include an interdisciplinary leadership minor, a Civic Engagement Scholarship and Mentoring Programs. The challenge is how do we make civic agency a part of TWU's culture. Landdeck is creating a leadership team and requested that faculty and staff share questions and ideas. Finally, she asked that everyone complete the audit in the spring.
4. David Rylander reintroduced the NSSE results. He wants the Council to create a taskforce to examine the data and make recommendations. He asked that members email him or Dr. Bean if they are interested. Lybeth Hodges expressed concerned about the apparent inconsistencies in the data as related to short answer sections.
5. Judith Bean reported that the previous Council recommendation to include critical thinking as a graduation requirement had the support and admiration of the Academic Council. David Rylander and Judith Bean will visit the Council of Chairs and Faculty Senate next to seek their support of the proposal.

6. Committee Reports

- a. **Retention Committee:** There is work to be done but nothing to report.
- b. **By-Laws Committee:** Joni Jensen presented the latest draft of the by-laws, noting no substantive changes, only minor revisions. The Executive Committee introduced a motion to approve the by-laws. With a unanimous vote in favor, the by-laws were approved.
- c. **Program Review Committee:** A project for the committee will be certificate programs. David Rylander asked again that any member with knowledge of certificate programs share that information with committee chair, Richard Sheardy.
- d. **Course Review Committees:**
 - Oral Communication Subcommittee-**
Karen Dunlap presented HS 2013: Health Communication which had unanimous support from the subcommittee. The course was approved.
 - Global Perspectives Subcommittee-**
No courses reviewed at this time.
 - Multicultural / Women's Studies Subcommittee-**
No courses reviewed at this time.
- e. **Assessment Committee:** No report at this time but work to begin in the spring.

7. Other Business: Sherilyn Bird, Director of Libraries, discussed a desire to consolidate learning goals for competencies. The new standard is Information Literacy competency. The library offers training on using databases and other internet resources and how to access information legally. They have assessment results and want to embed literacy information into the core competencies.

7. With no other new business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:01 p.m.