

**UTDB Faculty Senate Meeting. February 12, 2003
Room 3.095. Draft Minutes**

Present: Drs. D. Homrossukhon, T. Hurst, B. Rittman, E. Starcke, L. Thomas, S. Turner, Dr. Cynthia Trajtenberg and Ms. D. Warren

Absent: Drs. Chang, Duke, Ontiveros, Pileggi, Seals, Whitmire

Guests: Mr. E. Delaune, Dr. L. Roeder.

1. **Meeting opened** at 8.35 a.m. by Dr. Turner.
2. **Minutes of January 15, 2003** approved with correction to reflect that Nabisco building considered for clinical practice not for moving entire DB...
3. **Dean's comments. Dr. Flaitz** was unable to attend the meeting.
4. **Mr. E. Delaune, Deans Office.**

Brief discussion of recent budget crisis. Of approximately \$14 million state funds, DB needed to cut approximately one million. The impact is eased by \$100,000 already saved by DB, vacancies not filled etc., however budget prospects do not look better for the biennium. A new HSC budget for the biennium was submitted and reflected 12.5% cut or approximately \$32 million.

Building program was not funded yet but will probably rely on development program. DB budget needs are two tiered – first are immediate items, next items for the new school.

UT system has provided short and long term strategies with details accessible through the UT site on the web.
4. **Dr. Leslie Roeder.**

(a) Reported that third and fourth year students have insufficient time to complete clinic requirements. Request by Dr. Roeder to extend the semester for two weeks for these two years classes. The first and second year classes do not need to be changed at this time and are on a similar calendar to those years in the medical school. It was noted by Dr. Rittman that this change would place an additional burden on faculty. In response to questions, Dr. Roeder stated that she had not been asked to match our calendar to that of the medical school. The Senate unanimously approved Dr. Roeder's request.

(b) The survey of the effectiveness of the 16 week compared to the 18 week curriculum is to be available shortly and are faculty encouraged to complete this.
6. **Senate Reports**

(a) **IFC report. Dr. Turner.**

Criminal background checks presented to IFC by M. Jiminez. Much discussion re policy in which all employees with access to a computer terminal would have criminal background checks. Noted that students who were not employees would not be checked. Comments from IFC sent to Executive Committee.

Priorities from faculty for IFC discussion this year were (1) presence of a faculty voice at the HSC, maintaining and improving faculty input. Noted that the view by higher administration that deans represented the faculty were inaccurate (2) recognition and rewards for teaching (3) Evaluation of administration (4) faculty development programs (5) faculty salaries, merit policies etc.

A discussion re the lack of elected faculty on the search committee for the new dean resulted in a unanimously approved motion that a letter to the interim dean is sent by Dr. Turner to indicate the senate's strong support for including DB faculty on this search committee. Dr. Flaitz has indicated that the search for a new dean will proceed.

A flow chart was distributed at IFC to show the new councils with what appears to be a structure that appears to emphasize flow down and not much flow in an upward direction. IFC expressed concern that Dr. Castro had been largely responsible for selecting members of these councils.

IFC asks school senates to supply a written monthly report of their activities

(b) Administrative Council. Dr. Turner. Report that there would be no faculty or staff reductions due to the budget restrictions. Flexible hiring freeze. Indications that the hardest hit would be the HSC administration.

Dr. Flaitz had expressed concern over anxiety levels for staff, faculty and students.

Need for a public relations person, preferably from within the school to interact with community.

Mobile dental van successful but funding still short. Mostly carrying out dental examinations. The van will be at the HSC museum on February 20, Brian College Station on March 20 and in Austin on April 29, 2003.

National Board part II. Six students failed. Average 81.1, national average 82.3. Only two students above 90.

New students entering in fall 2003. Dr. Pierpont indicated greater number of applicants this year with average GPA of 3.3 and DAT of 18. Students accepted by DB average GPA 3.6, DAT 19.7

Library. Ms. Leah Krevit leaving on February 14 for another job. Dr. Roeder is temporarily fielding questions and supervising the library. Concern expressed concerning the fate of the library.

Motion unanimous passed to write a letter to the Dean from the senate stating its strong support of the library and of Ms. Krevit

7. **Old Business**

Discussion re there being no president elect nominees. Discussion revolved around lack of department credit for this and other committee work, heavy teaching commitments and faculty and staff shortage.

Dr. Thomas graciously agreed to be the UTDB Secretary as of July 01, 2003

7. **New Business.**

a. **Kudos.** Congratulations to Ms. Donna Warren who has been awarded the prestigious ADEA Teaching Excellence Award.

b. **Merit Raise Committee.** Dr. Rittman advised the senate that the DB school wide merit raise committee had, due to an error on his part, not yet been staffed with its full complement of members. This two year term committee normally rotated off 4 members each year but due to Drs. Flaitz and Franklin now being in administration, the Committee on Committee was eagerly seeking nominations for 6 new members. The C on C would handle this in a speedy a manner as possible.

c. **Dr. Jeffrey Chang.** Has been activated by the military. The C on C will need to have an election for a replacement senator from Dental Public Health and Dental Hygiene.

8. **Announcements.**

9. **Adjournment.** Meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by B. Rittman, UTDB Senate secretary.