CAMERON UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY SENATE  
APPROVED MINUTES  
January 10, 2007

I. CALL TO ORDER
The Cameron University Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, January 10, 2007. Chair John Bachelor called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. in Howell Hall, Room 106.

II. ROLL CALL
Also in attendance was Vice President John McArthur.
Absent: Harrison Watts, Earl Logan, Sharon Christensen, Todd Raborn

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Faculty Senate members reviewed the minutes from the December 6, 2006, meeting. There were no changes.
James Heflin moved to approve the Faculty Senate minutes from December 6, 2006. Linda Wright-Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried.

IV. REMARKS FROM OFFICERS
Chair John Bachelor reported that the Student Government had not met since December 6 and there were no new issues to discuss.
Chair-elect James Lambert reported on the following.

- Chair-elect Lambert provided the Faculty Senate with a list of agenda items to be targeted in 2007 by the Faculty Advisory Council (FAC) to the Oklahoma State Regents of Higher Education. These items include:
  1. Health insurance for faculty at Oklahoma universities.
  2. Rising cost of student textbooks.
  3. Representation of adjunct faculty to university faculty senates. This is a growing concern statewide, and there was a vote last year to amend Cameron’s constitution.
  4. High school student preparation for college courses and remediating through one course.
  5. Teacher retirement.
  7. Transfer of coursework between Oklahoma universities.
Chair-elect Lambert informed the Faculty Senate that the next meeting of FAC would be on February 1, 2007. Senate members can make him aware of any issues that need to be addressed via email before the FAC meeting.
- Chair-elect Lambert reminded the Faculty Senate that the Lectures and Concerts Committee’s deadline for proposals is 5 p.m. on February 2, 2007. Proposals should be sent to Jennifer Holland.
Chair-elect Lambert stated that Marshall Ferrell has been appointed Assistant to the Vice President of Academic Affairs. Therefore, he has resigned from the Faculty Committee and the Academic Standards & Policies Committee, leaving two open positions.

Monika Linehan reported that she had posted all approved Faculty Senate minutes beginning with May 2006 to the Cameron intranet (http://intranet.cameron.edu/faculty_senate/). Going forward, all minutes will be posted when approved.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Long-Range Planning Committee
Chair-elect Lambert provided a handout containing an informal evaluation of the seven goals of Plan 2008. Each goal was assigned a letter grade based on the average of grades submitted by Faculty Senate members who responded to his original evaluation request. The grades are as follows:

Goal 1 – Ensure an active, student-centered learning environment. Grade = B-.  
Goal 2 – Become the university of choice in the region. Grade = C.  
Goal 3 – Strengthen institutional resources. Grade = B.  
Goal 4 – Improve institutional management and organizational effectiveness. Grade = B+.  
Goal 5 – Observe Cameron’s Centennial. Grade = A.  
Goal 6 – Improve institutional communication. Grade = C+.  
Goal 7 – Provide safe, accessible and inviting facilities and a modern technology infrastructure. Grade = B.

John Morris will use these same goals for Plan 2013.

Ad Hoc Academic Honesty Committee
Chair John Bachelor stated that he would contact committee volunteers to arrange a time for the first meeting.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Designated smoking areas
Chair John Bachelor stated that the designated smoking area legislation was on the table. The previous motion to endorse the legislation had been tabled. Chair Bachelor asked for feedback from the Faculty Senate.

Phil Adrian provided the Faculty Senate with a handout containing random comments and several articles pertaining to the tobacco issue, all in favor of smoking restrictions.

Chair Bachelor asked for a motion to bring the legislation off the table. No motion was made at this time. He stated that the legislation would remain tabled until the February 7, 2007, Faculty Senate meeting.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Faculty Handbook revisions
Chair-elect James Lambert motioned to bring to the Faculty Senate proposals from the Faculty Committee for the Faculty Handbook, Chapter 4. James Heflin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chair-elect Lambert asked Edna McMillan, Secretary of the Faculty Committee, to relate the changes made to Chapter 4 to the Faculty Senate. Edna McMillan related a series of changes made to wording throughout Chapter 4. These changes were marked in red on the electronic copy of Chapter 4 emailed to all Faculty Senate members.
Several other Senators noted errors or requested additional changes to be made.

- It was noted that in Section 4.3.1.2.a, page 9, items relating to effective librarianship were incorrect. Numbers (4) and (7) are the same. (11) cataloging and classification activities needs to be eliminated.
- It was noted that wording pertaining to tenure was confusing. There was a question as to whether there were one or two opportunities to make tenure and whether the wording in the Faculty Handbook regarding tenure should be changed.
- Vice President McArthur stated that the Deans and Chairs have the responsibility to clarify rank to new hires for tenure purposes.
- Ted Snider provided the Faculty Senate with a handout listing his concerns and suggested revisions to the Faculty Handbook, including the following:
  - Section 4.1.3.2. The re-advertising of temporary faculty positions occupied by persons with good evaluations.
  - Sections 4.2.2 and 4.3.1.1. The grandfathering of tenure and promotion guidelines.
  - Section 4.3.8.5.d. Inconsistency of language.
  - Sections 4.5.3.3, 4.6.5, and 4.6.7. References to incorrect sections of the Handbook.
  - Sections 4.6.5 and 4.6.7. Contradictory statements.
  - Section 4.6.7. The requirement that a faculty member request permission to participate in a professional development plan.
  - Section 4.6.1. Post tenure review for Deans and Vice Presidents.
- Keith Lavender asked to be put on record that the Faculty Handbook should not be changed.
- It was noted that in Section 4.1.7.1 there was confusion regarding overload pay and whether faculty should receive overload pay for 3 hours? A request was made to clarify this in the Handbook. It was also stated that overload varies by school. In two schools, instructors teach additional courses in lieu of scholarship.
- It was suggested that all references to “basic research” in Section 4.1.1 be changed to “academic research” since this is the function of research at Cameron.
- Vice President McArthur stated that the previous statement was correct. He noted that the Chancellor’s office has said Cameron’s function statements are out of date. Teaching is the primary function, then service, and then scholarship.
- It was noted that in Section 4.2.3 all references to “teach” should be changed to “assist” since graduate teaching assistants do not teach, but only assist the professor. Furthermore, all references to the “School of Graduate Studies” and the “Dean of Graduate Studies” should be removed.

Chair Bachelor stated that revising the Faculty Handbook has been a long process and that Faculty Senate members should send any additional changes to the Faculty Committee. The final version of the Faculty Handbook will be voted on by the Faculty Senate at the February 7, 2007, meeting. The entire faculty will vote on the Handbook in March, with two-thirds approval required to pass the revisions.

**Textbook issues**

Scherrey Cardwell stated that there was a growing problem with students not finding required textbooks at the Cameron Bookstore. He related that one of his students was unable to find textbooks for any of her classes and that half of his class did not have a textbook. He stated that this problem was particularly rampant in the English Department. He also noted that the bookstore is not ordering the required number of books for the start of the semester. Instead, they place a second order after the semester begins.
A discussion of this issue ensued.
• Wrong or old editions of books are often ordered, preventing the teaching of up-to-date information.
• A couple of large publisher orders have been lost.
• The price of textbooks is skyrocketing. Many students just cannot afford the cost.
• Publishers often issue new editions with only minor changes.
• The publishers Dolphin and Penguin are printing editions with fewer color plates to help reduce the cost to the student.
• Chair Bachelor stated that the Student Government has discussed this issue. They would prefer the management of the bookstore return to Cameron rather than an outside vendor. The Student Government has also proposed that profits from the sale of books go toward funding scholarships.
• Vice President McArthur stated that the Board of Regents can negotiate rates with publishers.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT
Chair Bachelor adjourned the meeting at 4:25 p.m.

IX. NEXT MEETING
The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be on Wednesday, February 7, 2007, at 3:30 p.m. in Howell Hall, Room 106.

Respectfully submitted
Monika Linehan
Faculty Senate Secretary