The Cameron University Faculty Senate met on Wednesday, April 20, 2005. Chairman Vitense called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. in Room 106, Howell Hall.

I. ROLL CALL
   Present: Vitense, Lambert, Wright-Smith, Bachelor, Miller, Reynolds, Smith, Adrian, Bursten, Warren, Underwood, Catterall, Crawford, Adam-Rodwell, Zhao, Christensen, Armstrong Jr, Johari, Snider, Raborn, Penick, Nelson

   Absent: Heflin, Su Lee, Hodgson, Honeycutt, Fennema, Hoepfner, Hagee, Snider

   Guests: Lloyd Dawe, President Ross

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
   Vitense moved to approve the agenda and Miller seconded. It was approved unanimously.

   Warren moved to accept the March 6th minutes and Bursten seconded. It was approved unanimously.

III. OLD BUSINESS
   The Chair permitted Professor Catterall to discuss the mission statement and the resulting changes made by the Mission Committee and passed out the changes to the Faculty Senate members. Lambert noted that as recently as 14 years ago we were governed by OSU and he would like to see it clearly stated in the mission statement after the second appearance of the word Cameron “(governed by the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma)."

   The discussion was tabled by Vitense in order that Dr. Ross could talk about next year’s budget. Dr. Ross provided handout documents and discussed the outstanding funding facts concerning the FY 2006 state budget and its resulting impact on Cameron University. We will not be getting full funding this year (or equal to funding in FY 02). Over half our students get some form of financial assistance. Our mandatory projected costs could be higher because of the rise in the cost of gas. We are losing ground in state appropriations for students. The students are carrying a lot of the burden. The Oklahoma House leadership is focused on tax cuts, and the students end up having to pay for the tax cut in the form of increased tuition. Dr. Ross will not increase fall tuition to such a point that we deny lower income students access to a higher education.

   Cameron Village and CETES is on schedule. The capital money we get cannot be put into operations.
After all questions posed to Dr. Ross were answered, she exited the meeting, and the faculty senate returned to their discussion about proposed changes to the mission statement.

Lambert motioned that the Mission Committee consider including the following after the second appearance of the word Cameron: “(governed by the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma).” The motion was seconded by Nelson and was approved by a majority.

Warren additionally motioned that the Mission Committee consider using a different word in place of “hub.” It was seconded by Johari and passed by a majority.

Other comments included the following: Bachelor made the following suggestion to change “Cameron’s student centered learning environment in place of “In a student-centered learning environment.” He also suggested that we say “prepare students” instead of “prepare its students.” Crawford suggested that the mission statement’s first statement leave out the superlative “most diverse community.”

IV. NEW BUSINESS
Warren motioned to consider the proposed changes in the Faculty Handbook, as submitted by the Faculty Committee in Sections 2-18, 5, 6, Section 4, Appendix B, C, D, and the Table of Contents. Bachelor proposed a friendly amendment to correct those top 1 through 5 ratings to reflect the narrative and Catterall seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Warren proposed a friendly amendment that the departments, as part of a total faculty decision, set the standards and make the decision on what the criteria for evaluation will be. Lambert seconded the motion. The amendment passed unanimously and the Chair commended the faculty committee for their work.

Lambert recommended that the faculty committee consider making a provision in section 5.6 for faculty who have grants to spend some of their teaching load on that grant activity. Vitense presented the motion and Johari seconded it. It was approved unanimously.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS
No committee reports

Vitense motioned to adjourn the meeting and Jones seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Wright-Smith
Faculty Senate Secretary