

TEXAS COUNCIL OF FACULTY SENATES
BUSINESS MEETING
OCTOBER 28, 2017
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by the President, James Woosley. Present were faculty members from 26 campuses. Sharon Grimm, Executive Secretary, also attended.

The minutes for the previous Spring 2017 Meeting were submitted and approved on a voice vote.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Alba Ortiz, Treasurer. Dr. Ortiz presented and discussed the results for the recently completed fiscal year and the proposed budget for 2017-2018. She stated that the TCFS runs from September 1 through August 31 to correspond to the academic year. The Fall Meeting Report summarizes the results of the past fiscal year and the proposed budget for the current fiscal year. The Spring Meeting each year is a mid-year progress report.

The fiscal year ended with \$3,103.78 in the checking account and approximately \$26,000.00 in the savings account. The net assets were \$29,117.57. The savings account is a buffer, and we try not to dip into this account. Dues increase the cash on hand at the start of each year. Liabilities over the next sixty (60) days were projected to be approximately \$7,000.00, which would decrease the net worth to \$22,117.57. The main expenses during this period were projected to be the Fall Meeting expenses and the quarterly Executive Secretary expenses.

Income for TCFS is mainly from dues from the member institutions and from meeting registration fees. Annual dues are \$350.00, and the projected proceeds are \$11,200.00 based on 32 institutions that consistently pay. Registrations are \$75.00 per attendee, and the total projected for this year is \$7,500.00, based on an expected 100 attendees. TACT and AAUP help defray a part of the meeting expenses at approximately \$1,500.00. Income is projected to be \$20,200.00 for the new year, which is the same as forecast for the last fiscal year. Income for the last year was \$19,955.00. The slightly lower value was mainly due to the use of PayPal, which deducts a fee for collecting dues and registration charges.

Expenses for 2017-2018 operations are estimated to be \$18,285.00. The expenses are relatively straightforward and mainly consist of supplies, internet and WEB costs, secretary, executive committee costs, and two meetings. Expenses have generally been less than expected because Executive Committee meetings have been held via

telephone rather than meeting in person. On the other hand, annual meeting costs have been escalating.

After the presentation, Dr. Ortiz responded to questions. She explained that there is a target to have a reserve of about \$25,000.00. \$5,000.00 was moved from savings several years ago to minimize banking fees.

After the discussion the 2017-2018 budget was approved on a voice vote.

The President then proceeded to address executive committee actions and general business, leading to detailed discussions of the website, increased social media presence, increasing the relevance of the organization, maintaining institutional memory, and generally making the organization more influential.

President Woosley suggested acquiring a laptop computer for the secretary. A motion was made and approved to buy a computer.

There was a lengthy discussion of the website and how to make it a more robust and accessible platform for the dissemination of information about TCFS and its viewpoints. The website should be expanded and improved to provide additional functionality. The consensus was that we need a consistent, contemporary website where members can access up-to-date information. Items that were suggested for inclusion on the website were more organization archives, updated information from Senate Presidents, meeting minutes, and roundup reports. The Executive Committee will explore way to improve the website and report back to the members. The members also indicated that TCFS needs an increased social media presence and, therefore, the Executive Committee will also explore ways to improve the TCFS presence in such areas as LinkedIn, Facebook, digital marketing, etc.

The discussions led to the consideration of the need for a communications director, who would be responsible for maintaining the website and taking the necessary steps publicize the positions of TCFS. V. Barbara Bush moved that the Executive Committee 1.) define the position of communication director, which would be a board director position, 2.) determine interim measures that need to be taken, and 3.) propose a change to the by-laws to accommodate this position. The motion was seconded and approved.

President Woosley opened a discussion of ideas to increase income with having the university systems make direct donations to TCFS. In response to a request from the President, the Texas A&M System made a \$5,000.00 donation to support TCFS initiatives. A letter will go out to other State systems asking for their support. Members discussed the types of ideas that could be supported by the donations.

V. Barbara Bush moved that the board establish a working group to explore future funding options and policy initiatives to improve TCFS influence. The motion was seconded and approved. Volunteers were requested and identified as Jody Jensen, Joey Velasco, Murray Leaf, and Le'Ann Solmonson.

Pursuant to the above policy matters, the members discussed the following general points:

- Better define the mission, vision, and purpose.
- How to increase influence.
- What is reasonable to expect from TCFS?
- How to make resolutions effective.
- Teams that visit each campus to address TCFS-initiated issues.
- Maintain institutional memory.
- Etc.

Topics suggested for the next meeting included DACA and working group items.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and approved.

Sharon Grimm

Executive Secretary