

**TEXAS COUNCIL OF FACULTY SENATES  
BUSINESS MEETING  
February 17, 2007**

**Minutes**

David Weissenburger, President, called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. Present were the Executive Committee members and representatives from nineteen campuses. Sharon Grimm, Executive Secretary, also attended.

Regarding the passing of minutes for the February, 2006 meeting, Sharon Grimm reported that she did not have any as the meeting had been held before she arrived. Vice President Sarah Moreman, Sul Ross University, stated that she had the minutes and would forward them. In a motion by Mavis Triebel, Vice President, Lamar State College, Port Arthur and seconded by Murray Leaf, University of Texas at Dallas, the minutes of the October 21, 2006 Business Meeting were approved as read. A vote to accept passed unanimously.

Two Vice President positions were to be elected at this meeting. Vice President Triebel announced that Alba Ortiz, current Vice President, had sent a message that she was going to run again for the position of South Central Region Vice President. There were no nominations from the floor and a motion by Peggy Landrum, Vice President, Northeast Region, seconded by Irma Jones, University of Texas at Brownsville, nominations were closed. In a motion by Irma Jones and seconded by Lorie Rubenser, Sul Ross University, Alba Ortiz was elected by acclamation. A vote to accept passed unanimously.

Vice President Triebel announced that she was going to run again for the Vice President East Region position. She asked for nominations from the floor and Doug Burger, University of Texas at Austin, nominated Joe Kotarba, University of Houston. Each candidate is allowed two people to speak on their behalf. Peggy Landrum and Anjoo Sikka, University of Houston, Downtown, spoke on behalf of Joe Kotarba. David Sorrells, Lamar State College, Port Arthur, and Lorie Rubenser spoke on behalf of Mavis Triebel. The votes were taken and counted by a committee appointed by President Weissenburger consisting of Shirley Garick and Glenda Ballard of Texas A&M University, Texarkana and Rosanne Keathley, Sam Houston State University. Joe Kotarba was elected Vice President, East Region, for a period of two years beginning in May, 2007. President Weissenburger thanked Mavis Triebel for her outstanding contributions to the Executive Committee.

Officers presented the results of their Friday regional meetings wherein the topics were the process for choosing Chairs/Department heads, the dangers of blogging and IRB's.

Vice President Triebel confirmed that the applications two Fellows candidates received two years ago, prior to the Summer Fellows Program being cancelled, were still interested in attending and that their applications would be forwarded to Catherine Parsonault of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

In the absence of Alba Ortiz, Vice President, South Central Region, and Treasurer, President Weissenburger presented the Treasurer's Report as prepared by Vice President Ortiz. He noted that the organization's finances are in good condition. There were no comments or questions from the membership.

The Executive Committee recommended that the annual dues for Texas Council of Faculty Senates remain at \$300.00 per annum and that the cost of registration remain \$40.00 for each meeting.

Murray Leaf, University of Texas at Dallas, discussed some of the results of his Shared Governance Survey. Since these results to date had been forwarded to each campus prior to this meeting, he asked that schools who had not completed the survey to so do and for those who had completed to check the findings with emphasis in the subheads.

Thomas Field, Texas A&M University, Kingsville, presented the results of the newly-formed faculty senate at his university and that it is struggling, but making progress. He noted that the previously-written resolutions that were posted on the website seemed to be somewhat negative. President Weissenburger announced that a new resolution had been written by Jeanelle Barrett, Tarleton State University, which was read to the membership. In a motion by Jeanelle Barrett to adopt the resolution and a second by Glenda Ballard, the resolution passed unanimously. It is printed on page three and will be posted on the website. Dr. Field also announced that he had the Governor's Report, presented at the Friday evening banquet, in a file that he would send to the membership.

Other business topics include:

President Weissenburger announced that the website could use some assistance to add some interest. He asked for volunteers to work with Sarah Moreman, Web Page Editor and Wesley Wynne of her same campus volunteered to so do.

A discussion was held regarding Roundup Reports and Regional Meetings and the consensus of the group is that they would like to continue to do the Roundup Reports in the current manner, submit a paper copy, but to choose four topics that are of interest to the membership and break into four groups, led by the Vice Presidents, for discussion.

President Weissenburger asked for topics of interest for the spring meeting and interest was expressed in academic affairs versus student life issues, results of the legislation through June, 2007, and the Shared Governance Survey would be on the agenda.

Elizabeth Lewandowski, President of TACT, joined the meeting to discuss some TACT activities as lobbyists with the legislators and invited any TCFS members to attend their visitation with legislators prior to the start of the Friday meeting.

Sanders Anderson, Texas Southern University, thanked TCFS for providing an interesting meeting.

President Weissenburger announced that the Fall meeting dates are October 19-20, 2007.

The meeting adjourned at 12.00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon Grimm, Executive Secretary

#### **Resolution Update: February, 2007**

In a recent meeting of the Texas Council of Faculty Senates, Dr. Thomas A. Fields, Faculty Senate President at Texas A&M University Kingsville stated that "shared governance is coming along very well" on the TAMU Kingsville campus. Dr. Fields assured the group that the current faculty senate at Kingsville is making great strides toward a more open and mutually beneficial relationship with the administrators on that campus. The Texas Council of Faculty Senates would like to recognize the TAMU Kingsville Faculty Senate and the university's administration for their significant work toward implementing shared governance in the past year.