

Tenured professors to undergo evaluations

UT System Board of Regents adopts guidelines to conduct faculty reviews

DALLAS (AP) — The University of Texas system Board of Regents approved guidelines Thursday for periodic evaluation of tenured professors, which includes provisions for their dismissal.

The policy calls for a comprehensive evaluation of tenured faculty every five years.

"I think the faculty in the UT System is extremely upset about this."

Charles Zucker
Executive director of the
Texas Faculty Association

Faculty members who get unsatisfactory reviews could be subject to review for dismissal.

"Post-tenure review is sound academic policy," Chancellor William H. Cunningham said.

Under current policy, tenured professors can be dismissed for cause, such as incom-

petence or immoral behavior.

The new policy applies to 13 institutions in the system. The exceptions are the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, where faculty reapply for employment every seven years, and the UT Health Center at Tyler, which doesn't have tenured faculty of any kind.

The UT System joins others across the country, including the University of California System, the State University System of Florida and Harvard Business School, in requiring rigorous periodic review.

Last year, the Texas A&M System Board of Regents also passed a resolution requiring a post-tenure review process.

The UT schools have until next September to develop procedures to comply with the guidelines.

Critics of tenure argue that the job security has led some professors to neglect their classroom duties.

Six professors spoke out against the new policy at the meeting, saying it could threaten academic freedom and put professors at the mercy of university politics.

"We will continue to have the best computer systems and the best technology and the best medicine and the best everything

else as long as we can continue to maintain academic freedom in this country," said Michael Siciliano, chairman-elect of the UT System Faculty Advisory Council.

Tenure traditionally guarantees professors' jobs for as long as they want them. It means academic freedom, protecting professors who express unpopular ideas.

"I think the faculty in the UT System is extremely upset about this," said Charles Zucker, executive director of the Texas Faculty Association.

"They see it as renegeing on an agreement they thought they had with the UT System."

Zucker said some critics of tenure don't understand that the professors who achieve it must meet high standards and many don't make it.

Professors go through about six years of graduate school to receive a Ph.D. Once they've received a tenure-track position at a university, they must wait an average of six years before a decision is made on tenure.

"It can be a rather harrowing experience," Zucker said.

"You're looking at a rather rigorous system that I don't think people understand."

Three Tenors concert tour to wrap up in Houston

HOUSTON (AP) — When Placido Domingo steps onto a stage in the Astrodome in March, he'll have a whole new view of the Houston arena.

"It's a wonderful place, the Astrodome," Domingo said Thursday in announcing the final concert of the Three Tenors' world tour. "I have been there watching some baseball games."

Domingo, Luciano Pavarotti and Jose Carreras, the world's three most famous tenors, said they will wrap up a 12-city, eight-country tour in Houston on March 16.

Pavarotti and Carreras were in Vienna and Domingo was in Washington when they discussed their plans via live satellite with reporters in the Astrodome.

Organizers said 65,000 tickets will be available for the show, with prices ranging from \$50 to \$2,500. The tenors get \$1 million each per concert. Domingo said the performance likely would be

the last by the Three Tenors until 1998.

"If we are in good health and we are on this planet, we certainly are going to do the '98 World Cup," he said. "This is the last concert of this world tour."

Domingo said he wasn't worried about acoustics in the Astrodome, which is not noted for its sound quality.

"I am confident there is going to be no problem at all with the acoustics," he said. "We have the best people."

Promoters said they are still negotiating with musicians and declined to reveal which orchestra may back up the tenors.

The Houston concert will be their fourth in the United States. They appeared at Giants Stadium outside New York last July and at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles in 1994. The tenors are scheduled to perform in Miami on March 8.

SONGFEST

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Cantwell said the performers are talented.

"They spend a long time preparing for this," she said. "It's a really big production with lots of singing and dancing."

Trophies will be awarded to first, second and third place acts. The groups are judged on several categories, including creativity and uniqueness.

Between major acts, "fillers" will perform.

"This is the first year that we've had fillers besides Chi Omega come in," Cantwell said.

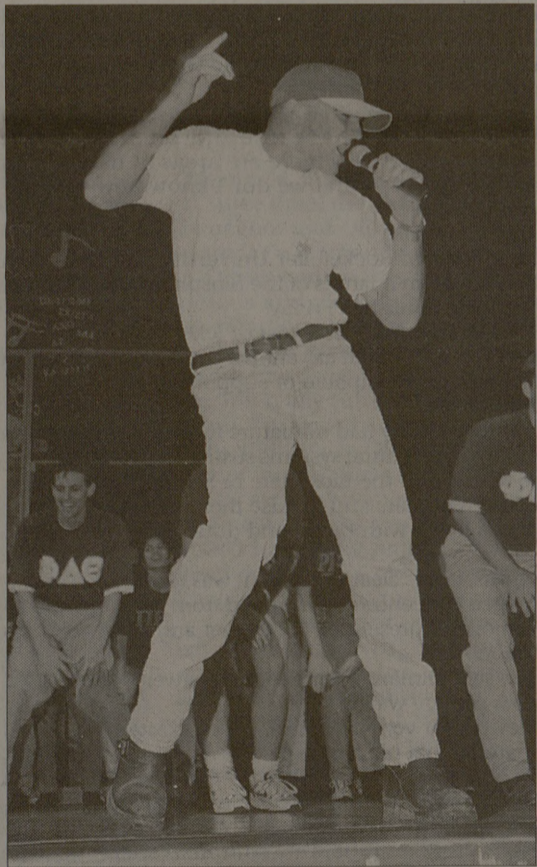
This year's fillers will include Chi Omega pledges, Delta Sigma Theta, the Aggie Wranglers and the Chain Gang, a quartet-style group comprised of singing Cadets.

Junior yell leaders Tim Duffy and Brandon Meche will be this year's masters of ceremonies. The list of judges include Dr. Ben Welch, John Horton, Brenda Simms, and Sam and Susan Torn.

"It's all fun stuff," said Devenish. "It's a very light-hearted night."

Advance tickets may be purchased for \$5 at the Wehner Building or the MSC hallway. Tickets may be purchased for \$6 at the door.

"Rudder is usually completely full," Devenish said. "We sell out every year."



Pat James, THE BATTALION

Charlie Tassos, a Phi Delta Theta member, sings Jailhouse Rock.

RECYCLING

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Patschke said the EIC has been helping TNRCC collect phone books on campus and will help collect and unload them at the Target parking lot today. She said the EIC has also helped TNRCC with its pledge-card drive.

Dr. Roy Hartman, associate professor of engineering technology, explained the purpose of the pledge card.

"A pledge card is where you pledge to participate in a recycling activity," he said. "It's kind of a commitment card."

The pledge cards will be placed in a raffle with prizes offered such as a Jeep Wrangler or a shopping spree.

Patschke said the EIC collected approximately 2,000 pledge cards this year from the campus and community. She said the EIC set up tables outside of local grocery stores, different spots on campus and before football games. Part of the incentive to collect so many pledge cards, she said, came from the University of Texas in Austin.

"t.u. challenged us to see how many pledges we could get signed on our local campuses," she said. Gibson said the purpose of recycling is to save resources.

"You don't bury [recyclable items] in the ground and leave them there, so you don't take up landfill space," she said. "Recycled-content material helps us be more competitive because it takes less resources to make them."

The city will recycle the telephone books and newspapers gathered today. Other recyclable items will be taken to Junction 505, a recycling center on College Main that also helps mentally or physically disabled individuals find jobs.

COSTS

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She said friends she told about the plan are looking into it for themselves.

If a student has been in college for one year, Rich explained, the Texas Tomorrow Fund pays for the remaining years.

The Texas State Comptroller's office esti-

mates that children younger than one year old will be the largest age group benefiting from the plan.

Parents who enroll in the plan are not required to choose a college at the time of enrollment.

However, in the plan's first year of operation, nearly 74 percent of parents and grandparents who purchased contracts named a specific college or university as their first choice.

The top two colleges chosen were the University of Texas and Texas A&M respectively.

Dr. Ray Bowen, A&M president, said he attributes parents choosing A&M and Texas to the large enrollment at the two universities.

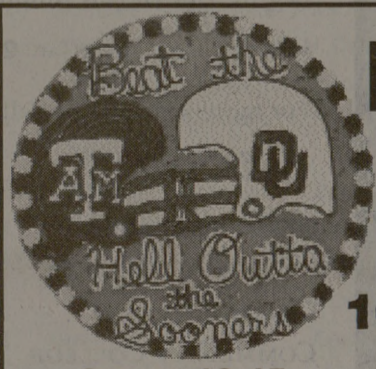
"They (A&M and Texas) are the two largest schools in the state," Bowen said.

"[Texas] generally has a larger freshman class, but it (parents choosing A&M and Texas) means nothing."

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MSC FILM SOCIETY

Now Showing:

A TIME TO KILL

Friday, Nov. 15
7:00 & 10:00pm A Time to Kill
Saturday, Nov. 16
9:30pm A Time to Kill
Sunday, Nov. 17 Free Movie
2:00pm 8 1/2 Bio/Bio Rm.107
Due to circumstances beyond our control, *She's the One* will not be shown Thursday night.

Tickets are \$3.00. All films shown in Rudder Theatre Complex.
Questions? Call the Aggie Cinema Hotline (847-8478).

Persons with special needs call 845-1515 within 3 days of the film.

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In celebration of Children's Book Week,
MSC Literary Arts presents
Campus Leaders Read Dr. Seuss

Monday, Nov. 18
Carl Baggett - Student Body President
reading "If I Ran The Circus"
Michael Lemonds - Class of 2000 President
reading "One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish"

Tuesday, Nov. 19
Chris Williams - MSC President
reading "The Lorax"
Gen. M.T. Hoppood - Corps Commandant
reading "The Cat in the Hat"

Wednesday, Nov. 20
R.C. Slocum - A&M Head Football Coach
reading "Oh The Places You'll Go!"
Michael Landauer - Battalion Editor
reading "The Butter Battle Book"

Thursday, Nov. 21
J. Kahill - Food Services
reading "Green Eggs and Ham"
Jesse Czelusta - RHA President
reading "Go Dog Go"

Friday, Nov. 22
Kathy Mathis - PTTS
reading "How The Grinch Stole Christmas"

12:30 Rudder Fountain
If weather is bad, readings will be held in the MSC Flagroom

THE LAST CORPS TRIP

The poem traditionally read at Bonfire is now a print.

Meet the Aggie Artist Benjamin Knox '90 and the author of *The Last Corps Trip* P.H. DuVal, Jr. '51

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prints are \$40

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