Minutes of the Faculty Senate

Presiding: Thomas E. Banning (Engr Tech)  
Date: 10-4-16

Secretary: R. Jeffrey Thieme

Senators Present: Luvell E. Anderson Jr. (Philosophy), Thomas E. Banning (Engr Tech), Brennan K. Berg (Kemmons Wilson Sch), Eugene H. Buder (Comm. Sci. Disorders) Coriana L. Close (Art), Lorinda B. Cohoon (English), Gerald Chaudron (Univ Libraries), Charles W. Crawford (History), Jill A. Dapremont (Nursing), Mark Sunderman (Fin, Ins, & Real Estate), Robert A. Hetherington (Theatre & Dance), Tiffany G. Johnson (Univ College), Donna R. Jones (Law), Henry A. Kurtz (Chemistry), Erno Lindner (Biomed Engr), Jeffrey G. Marchetta (Mech Engr), E. Trey Martindale (Instr & Curr Ldrship), James C. McCutcheon (Crim & Criminal Justice), Peter L. McMickle (Accountancy), Meghan E. McDevitt-Murphy (Psychology), Gray Matthews (Communication), John T. Mueller (Music), Esra Ozdenerol (Earth Sci), George E. Relyea (Public Health), Sandra Richardson (Bus Info Tech), Sajjan G. Shiva (Computer Science), Lamont D. Simmons (Social Work), Sharon L. Stanley (Political Science), (Economics), R. Jeffery Thiem (Mrktng & Supply Chain Mang), Micah M. Trapp (Anthropology), William P. Travis (Health & Sport Sci), Joseph C. Ventimiglia (Sociology), Francisco Vivar (Foreign Lang & Lit), Brian A. Waldron (Civil Engr), Máté Wierdl (Mathematical Sciences), James F. Williamson (Architecture), Jeffery L. Wilson (Leadership), Sharon Wrobel (Sch Urb Aff & Pub Pol) Stephen A. Zanskas (Couns, Ed, Psy & Res)


Senators Absent: Jin Yang (Journalism), Military Sciences (vacant)

TBR Representative: Thomas E. Banning (Engr Tech)

Faculty Senate Information Officer: Jeffrey S. Berman (Psychology)

Guests: M. David Rudd (President Office), Karen Weddle-West Provost Office), Gloria F. Carr (Faculty Ombudsperson), Linda A. Bennett (UMAR) Caroline Royal-Evans, NOTE: Martha D. Robinson (UofM Lambert Liaison) was absent.

The four-hundred-and-thirty eighth meeting of the University of Memphis Faculty Senate was held Tuesday, October 4, 2016, in the Senate Chambers of the University Center, room 261.

10.4.16.01 Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 2:40 p.m. with a quorum present.
10.4.16.02  Approval of Agenda
The agenda was approved as written.

10.4.16.03  Approval of Minutes
The minutes for September 6, 2016, were approved with the changes to reflect Senator Ali as present and correct the chair of the Research Policies Committee, Brian A. Waldron in lieu of John T. Mueller.

10.4.16.04  Special Business
President Banning stated that the Faculty Senate (FS) would move into Special Business. President Banning asked for members of the Tellers Committee to convene to count the votes and report the outcome to the FS President. The Tellers Committee consisted of Senators Crawford, Shiva, and Wilson. He presented to the Senate the Executive Committee’s recommendations for Faculty Trustee to the University of Memphis governing board: David M. Kemme, Henry A. Kurtz, Zabihollah “Zabi” Rezaee, Katharine Traylor Schaffzin, and Ronald W. Spahr. President Banning informed the Senate that finalist Senators Kurtz and Kemme have recused themselves from today’s meeting and all other meetings until the selection process is completed. He stated that the body can add or delete from the list of finalists. There were no additions or deletions to the list.

Senator Jones on behalf of the Executive Committee (EC) reviewed the recommendations for faculty representatives for the faculty trustee position. President Banning at the request of Senator Jones read the motion. Senator Lindner inquired about the process that the EC used to select the finalists. Senator Jones explained that the EC reviewed all candidates with respect to the criteria that the senate approved. President Banning asked Information Officer, Berman to display the criteria for the selection. Senator Wiggins expressed concern that three of the five candidates are from one college. As a point of information due to an inquiry from Senator Matthews about the composition of the governing board and Governor Haslam’s appointees, University President M. David Rudd informed the Senate that the governing board members would be announced by Governor Haslam next week, in order to meet SACS October 15 deadline. President Banning again reviewed the procedures and timeline, with respect to the public forum for the finalists. In response to a question from Senator McMickle concerning the process by which candidates can communicate to the FS and general faculty, President Banning stated that he will send out an email concerning the proposed dates for the Faculty Trustee Forums. President Banning reviewed the procedure and timeline with respect to the forums. President Banning stated that he will moderate the forum and ask candidates questions drawn from the general faculty. Senator Jones, on behalf of the Executive Committee, made the motion to accepted the Executive Committee recommendations for Faculty Trustee

Adopted by voice vote with 1 against and no abstentions on October 4, 2016.

A number of questions were raised by several senators, concerning the open public forums. Senator Dapremont proposed the motion: Move that the EC ensure that all candidates appear in at least one forum. Senator Wiggins offered an amendment to reflect disqualification if a
candidate does not appear at any forums. A voice vote was not definitive, so the Tellers Committee was called upon to tally the votes. The amendment to the motion failed by hand vote of 20 for, 20 against, and 3 abstentions. President Banning cast the tie-breaking vote against the amendment. The body then voted on Senator Dapreamont’s original motion. 

Adopted by voice vote with 3 against and 1 abstention October 4, 2016.

10.4.16.05  President’s Report
President Banning reported that he attended the TN University Faculty Senates (TUFS) fall general meeting September 23-25, 2016 in Nashville, TN, hosted by TN State University. TUFS is trying to foster a communication line with the TN State legislators, specifically the TN Education Committee (Senate), chaired by Dolores Gresham. President Banning found the meeting to be beneficial. Significant outcomes of the meeting included two TUFS resolutions that he put before the Senate for consideration in New Business.

10.4.16.06  Report of Standing Committees
President Banning informed the Senate that the only committee reporting would be the Committee on Committees (CoCs). President Banning on behalf of CoCs chair, Senator Dapremont, asked the Senate to accepted the CoCs nominations as a slate with an up or down vote for the following university committees:


The aforementioned senators were elected by acclamation to serve as Faculty Senate representatives on the aforementioned committees on October 4, 2016.

10.4.16.07. New Business
President Banning again asked for the Senate to accept the individual TUFS resolutions on Long Island University and Gun Control as an up or down vote.

Long Island University
President Banning presented to the Senate for review the TUFS motion regarding the Long Island University (LIU) Brooklyn campus faculty lock out due to a contract dispute. The university imposed the lock out in which current employees (400 members of the faculty union) have been replaced by new employees. The Senate entered into discussion and took a vote.

Adopted by voice vote on October 4, 2016.

Guns on Campus for Students
President Banning presented to the Senate for review the TUFS motion regarding students and guns on campus that is currently making its way through the TN State legislature. President Banning reviewed a discussion held with Student Government Association (SGA) President Jared Moses on the Guns Resolution. The SGA President would like for the FS to hold off on its vote on the proposed TUFS resolution on students and guns on campus until after the SGA holds
a town hall on the issue. The Senate entered into a discussion about the SGA request. Senator Jones moved to postpone the vote on the motion. During discussion, President Banning yielded the floor to University President Rudd, who stated that the law won’t be formally presented until the legislative session starts. President Rudd has already formally expressed his objection to the law. He is pursuing an amendment to allow for a local exception to the law. The Tellers Committee reported that the motion to postpone failed with 15 for, 28 against, and 2 abstentions. President Banning restated the TUFS motion and called for the Tellers Committee. Adopted with 43 for, 1 against and 0 abstention on October 4, 2016.

President Banning stated that the UofM FS voting results will be sent to the President of TUFS.

10.4.16.08 Announcements

President Banning announced that the UM Global Handouts were not available, but will work to get them. In addition, President Banning announced the university Open Enrollment Period for Health Benefits, will begin October 3-14, 2016. For additional information contact Human Resources.

University President M. David Rudd and Provost Karen Weddle-West will host a Town Hall meeting on October 13, 2016.

President Banning reminded the Senators of the upcoming breakfast meeting with President Rudd on October 6.

President Banning informed the members of the Senate that Carolyn Featherstone, Administrative Secretary of the Faculty Senate will be taking a medical leave of absence for a couple of weeks.

10.4.16.09 Adjourn: 3:51 p.m.