



Faculty Senate

Presiding: Stanley E. Stevens

Date: 11-07-06

Secretary: Teresa S. Dalle

Senators Present: Jan R. Acuff, Reza Banai, Jeffrey S. Berman, Jennifer A. Borek, Joel D. Bumgardner, David W. Case, Laurenda K. Cunningham, Chhabil Dass, Carol O. Eady, Steven Fell, Linda C. Finch, Robert J. Frankle, Gary K. Golightly, Wade M. Jackson, William H. Jermann, Walter G. Kirkpatrick, Balaji C. Krishnan, J. Harvey Lomax, David, N. Lumsden, Susan Magun-Jackson John M. Malloy, Sanjay R. Mishra, Dave A. Nofsinger, Albert A. Okunade, Edward H. Perry, John R. Petry, Alan W. Proffitt, Margaret Quinn, Jean-Pierre Reed, Leslie S. Scruggs, Jr., Stanley E. Stevens, Howard S. Tu, Bette R. Veteto, Francisco Vivar, and Lecolion Washington.

Senators Absent: Jerry L. Anderson, Candace C. Justice, Leonard R. Lawlor, John M. Malloy and Daniel C. Swan.

T.B.R. Rep: Charles J. Biggers.

Guests: David Cox (President's Office) and Chrisann Schiro-Geist (Academic Affairs).

The three hundred and forty-ninth meeting (349th) meeting of The University of Memphis Faculty Senate was held Tuesday, November 7, 2006, in room 226, Ned R. McWherter Library, at 2:40 p.m.

11.07.06.01 CALL TO ORDER

President Stanley E. "Ed" Stevens called the meeting with a quorum present.

11.07.06.02 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved.

11.07.06.03 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Reading and approval of the minutes of the October 3, 2006, meeting were tabled until C. Featherstone, Senate office secretary can send out the minutes.

11.07.06.04 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Stanley E. “Ed” Stevens announced that Patricia M. Stevens had resigned as Senate President and that he would assume the responsibilities of President as specified by the constitution. He stated that he had met with President Shirley Raines and with Provost Ralph Faudree. Concerning SIRS, President E. Stevens stated that Ann Harbor, Dir. Admin. Academic Affairs, had compiled a history of SIRS, which was provided in the attachments for the meeting. Provost Faudree indicated to President E. Stevens that the university would return to paper SIRS in the spring if the Senate so desired. Provost Faudree also stated that he had hoped that Sen. J. Petry’s committee (Academic Support Committee) would agree to use some on-line version, a shorter and better instrument, which he indicated would be used for tenure and promotion. He also stated that he wanted the Senate to take over the curriculum. His concern is to increase and maintain enrollment and turn the university into a research institution. It was also reported that the University Undergraduate Council (UUC) would have to report to the Senate and Provost. There was a question of whether the UUC had changed. President E. Stevens responded that the council had already changed in that it now has one member from the Senate. He was also told by the Provost that anyone on any standing committee could use administration officers as resources, and those officers would respond to each committee as needed. The Provost also indicated that he wanted shared governance. His comments will be posted on UMdrive and linked to the Faculty Senate web site. Also, TBR documents will be placed on UMdrive as they become available. The Senate President’s meeting with President Raines’ was a getting acquainted occasion, and nothing substantive was discussed. President E. Stevens stated that plans are moving forward for the February meeting of the Senate to be held in the FedEx Institute of Technology, the Zone. David Cox is working on the arrangements. The November 28 Senate meeting will be held in the Entertainment Lobby of the Rose Theatre.

11.07.06.05 ELECTION OF AN INTERIM PRESIDENT-ELECT

Motion by L. Washington: Moved to nominate Walter G. Kirkpatrick as interim President-elect. The motion was seconded. Senator J. Berman voiced concerns about the process, but President E. Stevens overruled and asked for any other nominations from the floor. There were none, and the motion passed with two abstentions. Sen. W. Kirkpatrick related his history with the Senate as Past President and as someone who represented the best interests of the Senate. President E. Stevens stated that in order to change the process for electing the President or President-Elect, a constitutional amendment must be developed and implemented.

11.07.06.06 REPORTS FROM FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEES

- A. Committee on Committees—A. Okunade, chair
The committee chair stated that there was no report.
- B. Academic Policies—R. Frankle and L. Scruggs, co-chairs
The committee co-chair, R. Frankle stated that they had several motions that would be taken to the Executive Committee before being given to the Senate.
- C. Academic Support—J. Petry, chair
The committee chair stated that they would present under New Business

- D. Administrative Policies—L. Lawlor, former chair resigned
The committee chair resigned his chairmanship prior to the meeting and was absent on academic business. The committee had no report.
- E. Faculty Policies—J. Berman, chair
The committee chair stated that the committee met and had several motions to put forth.
- F. Library Policies—L. Cunningham, chair
The committee had no report.
- G. Research Policies—Dr. Bumgardner, chair
The committee chair stated that the committee reviewed the updated and revised policy on faculty-authored materials. One important policy was that faculty-authored textbooks must have reviewers before being ordered and used for any classes the faculty member teaches.
- H. ad hoc General Education Committee—R. Frankle, chair
The committee chair stated that the ad hoc Gen Ed committee met after getting information from Dr. Nenon, (Academic Affairs) who is the representative on the TBR committee that is assessing General Education system-wide. The question under concern is whether Gen Ed should be reviewed, how, and by whom. Charles J. Biggers, TBR Faculty Sub-Council representative, was told that TBR wouldn't decide in October about General Education requirements, but that topic will now be covered in the January meeting.

11.07.06.07 REPORTS OF FACULTY REPRESENTATIVES ON UNIVERSITY STANDING COMMITTEES

- A. University Undergraduate Council--E. Stevens is now serving on The University Undergraduate Council, which voted to make the Faculty Senate representative a voting member. He stated that there are four new courses proposed: Math 1601, 1701, and 1730, and Math 1040. The courses are part of General Education at other institutions and can be transferred more easily to the University of Memphis if the UOM also has such courses. E. Stevens said that Dan Poje indicated that the report on courses with low success rates would be ready soon. He also reported that there was a new change in the acceptance formula. The text in the Bulletin reflects the new criteria on acceptance criteria.
- B. Policy Review Board—E. Stevens stated that there is a new web usage policy, mostly about hacking and other issues. The policy will come to the Senate for review.
- C. TALC (Teaching & Learning Advisory Committee)—E. Stevens stated that the committee is considering issues such as what happens to laptops and smart carts, especially after 4:30. He stated that the university now had university-wide room scheduling but had not dealt with the issues of who owns equipment and who may use them, especially those teaching in buildings in which their department does not reside.
- D. Standing Committee on University Assessments—E. Perry with W. Jackson and W. Kirkpatrick worked on department reviews, stating that there is a need for

more feedback to the department. E. Perry also stated that information on the departments is already available to the Provost. He noted that the University of Arizona Board of Regents has a more productive procedure on low producing programs than does the TBR. The committee will look at it November 8. There was also the issue of students having more hours than needed for graduation. The committee discussed what might work to help the students become more focused and committed. The minutes of the meeting were included as an attachment to materials provided to the Senators.

- E. Other—President E. Stevens will ask that Senators list committees they currently serve on. L. Washington asked if the information would be on the website; he was told it would not be on the website. There was a question of whether someone could represent the Faculty Senate if that person was already on a committee before joining the Senate. President E. Stevens stated that one could, but that person must let the committee know that he or she represented the Senate. Also, the person must know the will of the Senate for voting purposes.

11.07.06.08 REPORT ON THE FACULTY SUBCOUNCIL OF TBR

C. Biggers reported on the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) Faculty Sub-Council Meeting of October 27, 2006. An attachment which provided minutes of the July 13, 2006, meeting was made available to the Senators. C. Biggers stated that Paula Short, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at the TBR said we should not lean on student evaluations only. C. Biggers also stated that last year faculty who taught on-line courses did not get evaluations. He also mentioned that there was a question about liability for faculty using their own software, but the TBR was looking into a way of dealing with the issue and it may be something to send to the Research Committee. There was also an issue concerning credit for lab work for science and engineering labs. A task force reported that it was up to each university to decide how much credit be given, but it did recommend a 1:1 formula, e.g., two credit hours given for labs that meet two hours a week. Robert “Bob” Adams, Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance at the TBR said that schools should remove the tuition cap. This means that a student who pays for twelve hours may take more hours but pay for only twelve, the full-time load. Banner cannot handle that. At first, it was thought to cost \$500,000 to change Banner, but recently it was stated that the change would cost \$150,000. By removing the cap, part-time students would pay less, but full time students would pay more. It was suggested that TBR go with this change rather than spend the money to change Banner. R. Frankle stated that the decision should be made by faculty and not just by technical needs. President E. Stevens said that two other Faculty Senates have taken stands on this issue and that we should too. L. Washington reminded everyone that if students wishing to graduate in four years must take 15 hours a semester. President E. Stevens asked D. Case (Law) if it was possible to post the minutes from other Faculty Senates. D. Case suggested that we check with the University Council.

11.07.06.09 OLD BUSINESS

There were no new charges for the standing committees.

11.07.06.10 NEW BUSINESS

- A. Academic Support Committee—J. Harvey Lomax made the motion: Moved to go into Executive Session because of the sensitive issue to be considered. The motion passed. He then stated that the Provost had sent out a memo saying that the Senate had agreed to having the SIRS on line in the spring when actually the Senate had not. J. Harvey Lomax proposed sending a letter to the faculty correcting the misleading information. J. Berman expressed concern because the Provost’s announcement was technically correct. The Faculty Senate was not pro-active in the process. W. Jermann stated that former Senate President P. Stevens spoke for the Senate as its President, but we do not know what was stated, and it was unfair to assume what was said. E. Perry said that a “joint administration/senate approval” came from the Provost’s office. J. H. Lomax explained that the letter does not blame anyone. R. Frankle made a friendly amendment to the letter: insert the words “not informed”, delete the word “misinformed” in the last sentence of the letter. It was pointed out that when the Senate voted to keep paper ballots for fall, it was not aware of the technological issues. A. Proffitt stated that the Provost met the next day after the Senate meeting but that we had no time to get word out to the faculty about the issue. The Senate then voted on changing the last sentence of the letter to read: “We regret that the faculty was not informed about the unanimous recommendations of the Faculty Senate.” The amended main motion passed with two abstentions. It was also noted that there was very short notice given for the October 9 and 10 meetings with the Provost. There was a motion to take out the second to last line. That motion did not receive a second. The motion to send the amended letter to the faculty passed with two negative votes. The Senate then moved out of executive meeting.
- B. There was a second motion by the Academic Support Committee that SIRS results not be made available on-line. That motion was seconded. There was a question of who has access. It was noted that SIRS results are currently available on-line. SIRS results will remain part of public records, the SIRS results do not have to be on the internet. The motion passed with one abstention.
- C. W. Kirkpatrick suggested that the Faculty Senate go on record in support of the Provost’s willingness to return to paper SIRS in spring 2007 until the Senate has the opportunity to review the whole process. J. Berman asked that the Senate be definitive with the Provost. The motion took the following form: “The Faculty Senate goes on record in support of the Provost’s willingness to return to paper SIRS in spring 2007. The paper form administration of SIRS should continue until further notice.” The motion was unanimously passed.
- D. The Faculty Policies Committee postponed their motion until the next meeting. J. Berman asked that the Senators get opinions from their administrative units. A copy of the motion was included in the attachments given the Senates.

11.07.06.11 ANNOUNCEMENTS/EVENTS

1. For the latest information on faculty resources, Senators may visit the Provost web page at <http://academics.memphis.edu/provost>.
2. Faculty Senate Brown Bag will be held February 22, 2007, in the Rose Theatre Entertainment Lobby.

11.07.06.12 ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 4:04 p.m.

K. Cunningham then offered to take Senators on a tour of the Learning Commons area of the Library. For more information on the Library Commons Project, Senators may go to <http://exlibris.memphis.edu/learningcommons/index.html>

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Dalle, Secretary