



Faculty Senate

Presiding: Stanley E. Stevens

Date: 11-28-06

Secretary: Teresa S. Dalle

Senators Present: Jan R. Acuff, Reza Banai, Jeffrey S. Berman, Jennifer A. Borek, Laurenda K. Cunningham, Chhabil Dass, Carol O. Eady, 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, John M. Malloy, Sanjay R. Mishra, 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 Present by proxy: Joel D. Bumgardner (Warren O. Haggard)

Senators Absent: David W. Case (explained), Steven Fell, Susan Magun-Jackson, Leonard R. Lawlor, David A. Nofsinger, and Daniel C. Swan (explained)

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

Guests: David Cox (President's Office) and Thomas Nenon (Academic Affairs)

The three hundred and forty-ninth (349th) meeting of The University of Memphis Faculty Senate was held Tuesday, November 28, 2006, in the Entertainment Lobby of the Michael D. Rose Theatre.

11.28.06.01 CALL TO ORDER

President Stanley E. "Ed" Stevens called the meeting to order at 2:40 p.m. with a quorum present.

11.28.06.02 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved.

11.28.06.03 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of October 3, 2006 and the minutes of November 7, 2006 were approved.

11.28.06.04 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- President E. Stevens reported that he had met with Provost Faudree to discuss the Provost's response to the Senate motions. The Provost stated that he had met with the Academic Support Committee and had sent out a memo to the faculty on the SIRS issue. President E. Stevens reminded the Senators that the faculty still has time to respond to the SIRS questionnaire the Senate sent earlier.
- President E. Stevens also announced that the Senate will meet in The Zone (FIT Building) on February 20, 2007, during the visit of Dr. Paula Short, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR). During that meeting, Dr. Short will address the Senate. President E. Stevens thanked Dr. David Cox, Assistant to President, for his efforts in securing the venue.
- President E. Stevens then noted that the proposal concerning changing the tuition cap policy was now no longer an issue. The TBR has stated it would not consider a change, and current policy concerning maximum tuition amounts would remain in effect.
- President E. Stevens then noted that the ad hoc IT Spectrum Committee had not met. He stated that the Executive Committee agreed that the committee be resurrected (including name change, committee now called ad hoc IT Committee) and be given two charges: to look at and consider both the implementation of Spectrum and the implementation of Desire2Learn, the new course management system. He also said that the Committee on Committees would recommend members to the committee and that anyone interested in serving should let the committee chair, A. Okunade know.
- L. Cunningham of University Libraries informed the Senate of the new library acquisition, Web of Knowledge, a web-based platform that allows scientific and scholarly researchers a means of accessing sources, mostly in science and the social sciences. The software, paid by TAF funds, should be available in December. Training on its use will be available, with information on training to be sent out to the faculty. She also provided informational brochures for the Senators.
- President E. Stevens then announced that the location of the next Senate meeting will be in the Entertainment Lobby of the Rose Theatre on January 23, 2007.

11.28.06.05 REPORTS FROM FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEES

1. Committee on Committees – A. Okunade, chair explained that President E. Stevens needed to be replaced on the University Undergraduate Council and presented the following motion:

The Committee on Committees moves that the Faculty Senate approve the nomination of Sen. Wade Jackson to serve on the University Undergraduate Council (UUC).

There was a question of whether this is an annual appointment, but President E. Stevens was not clear on that. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Academic Policies Committee – R. Frankle, co-chair and L. Scruggs, co-chair, had no report.
3. Academic Support Committee – J. Petry, chair stated the he was looking forward to hearing from the faculty on Student Instruction Ratings (SIRS). The deadline is December 1. J. Petry will compile the responses and make a report. Senator J. Petry said that the Provost’s committee is preparing the paper administration of the SIRS. Some Senators stated that they had been contacted by a report from The Helmsman about SIRS. J.Petry stated that he had spoken with a reporter on SIRS. In response to a question about the SIRS results being available, President E. Stevens stated that under the Tennessee Open Record law, the results cannot be anonymous.
4. Administrative Policies Committee – The new chair of this committee is Senator Reza Banai. R. Banai replaced the previous chair, Leonard Lawlor is scheduled to be on faculty development for spring 2007.
5. Faculty Policies Committee – J. Berman, chair will present Faculty Policies Committee motions under Old and New Business
6. Library Policies Committee – L. Cunningham, chair had reported earlier on Web of Knowledge.
7. Research Policies Committee – J. Bumgardner, chair had no report.
8. Ad Hoc General Education Committee – R. Frankle, chair stated that the final report is due on March 1. The committee will provide status reports as needed.

11.28.06.06 REPORTS OF FACULTY REPRESENTATIVES ON UNIVERSITY STANDING COMMITTEES

Standing Committee on University Assessments – W. Kirkpatrick had no report and stated that the committee had not met since the last Faculty Senate meeting.

11.28.06.07 OLD BUSINESS

The Faculty Policies Committee’s motion postponed from the November 7 meeting was brought forward:

The Faculty Senate of the University of Memphis represents the views of the faculty to the administration and university community. To this end, no officer of the faculty Senate, including the president, shall represent substantive positions as being those of the Faculty Senate unless these views have been (a) approved by vote of the Faculty Senate and (b) such votes are based on senators first having the opportunity to canvas the department or administrative units they represent.

President E. Stevens noted that according to the Constitution 5A.1 states that no Senator can act as a representative of the Senate. J. Berman said that the motion included the idea that senators must canvas their faculty before any action can be taken. There was discussion on the feasibility of senators returning to faculty for discussion on issues. A vote was taken. By majority the motion failed.

Charges for the various standing committees are continued. See the chart below.

| CHARGE | TITLE | COMMITTEE | STATUS |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Intellectual Property | Intellectual Property Student Property | Research Policies Committee | Continue |
| Green Power | Green Power Switch | Administrative Policies Committee | Continue |
| Grievance Process | University Grievance Process | Faculty Policies Committee | Continue |
| Shared Governance | Shared Governance | Faculty Policies Committee | Continue |
| SIRS | On-Line SIRS | Academic Support Committee | Continue |
| Academic Integrity | Academic Integrity | Academic Policies Committee | Continue |
| Standing Charge | Description of Committee Responsibilities | All standing committees (6) | Continue |

11.28.06.07 NEW BUSINESS

President-Elect, W. Kirkpatrick presented a motion from the Executive Committee concerning shared governance. The motion: The Executive Committee recommends that an ad hoc committee be established to consider the issue of shared governance and to work with the Provost's office. The Executive Committee recommended that the committee be made up of the standing Committee Chairs. A friendly amendment was accepted to change slightly the wording on the main motion. The motion now reads as follows:

Move that the Faculty Senate establish an ad hoc committee on Shared Governance. The committee makeup to consist of the Faculty Senate standing committee chairs.

The motion passed with one abstention.

At-Large member, A. Proffitt presented a second motion from the Executive Committee:

All university standing committees report to the Senate at the same time they report to their respective administrative units.

The motion passed with one negative vote.

J. Berman discussed a motion regarding shared governance. He stated that in light of the earlier motion on shared governance, the current motion might not be necessary. It was stated that the motion was unnecessary because any standing committee could call on administrative representatives to help on various issues. The Senate decided there could be no further discussion until an actual motion was made. A motion was made that the Senate consider the motion, which read as follows:

The Faculty Policies committee requests authorization to meet with representatives of the provost to initiate discussion of shared governance policies.

There was some discussion on the necessity of the motion in light of the Executive Committee's earlier motion forming an Ad Hoc committee on shared governance. It was stated that this was an invalid motion because any committee could meet with administrators. The vote on the motion was taken. The motion failed with one abstention.

J. Berman then introduced another motion:

The Faculty Policies Committee recommends that the senate consider streamlining processes and procedures in light of modern electronic communication resources to facilitate the ability of the Faculty Senate to take more timely actions.

After some discussion, the motion that the issue of streamlining processes be referred to the Executive Committee in order to find ways of making decisions more quickly. The motion passed and the issue was referred to the Executive Committee.

J. Berman then presented a motion from the Faculty Policies Committee on the University Grievance Process:

Any faculty member with a grievance about treatment that has serious and substantial consequences should have the right to a hearing before an independent faculty committee with one half the members of such committee appointed by the faculty senate and one half appointed by the president.

There was some discussion on defining "serious and substantial." It was suggested that this was not a Human Resources issue but a grievance committee issue. Dr. David Cox questioned whether there were any legal issues involved. The motion was made to send the issue back to committee (referral motion). That motion of referral passed.

11.28.06.08 ANNOUNCEMENTS/EVENTS

1. Commencement takes place on Saturday, December 16, 2006, from 10 am and 2 pm at the FedEx Forum
2. Drs. Canady and Raines Christmas Party will be held in December with date and time to be announced.
3. Faculty Senate Brown Bag is scheduled for February 15, 2007, in the Rose Theatre Entertainment Lobby

11.28.06.09 ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Dalle, Secretary

