



## Minutes of the Faculty Senate

**Presiding:** Lawrence A. Pivnick (Law)

**Date:** 2-21-12

**Secretary:** Cynthia G. Tucker (English)

**Senators Present:** Narahari B. Achar (Physics), Pilar Alcalde (Foreign Lang & Lit), Thomas E. Banning (Engr Tech) Jeffery S. Berman (Psychology), Shaum P. Bhagat (Comm. Sci. Disorders), Gloria F. Carr (Nursing), Mark H. Danley (Univ Libraries), Dipankar Dasgupta (Computer Science), Richard D. Evans (Fin, Ins, & Real Estate), Tomoko Fujiwara (Chemistry), Michael M. Grant (Instr & Curr Ldrship), Reginald L. Green (Leadership), Thomas Hrach (Journalism), Wade M. Jackson (Mang Info Systems), Robert Kozma (Mathematical Sciences), Billy E. Lawson (Philosophy), David G. Matthews (Communication), Larry W. Moore (Civil Engr), Cedar L. Nordbye (Art), Lawrence A. Pivnick (Law), Jose M. Pujol (Earth Sci), Steven D. Schwartzbach (Biology), Terra L. Smith (Health & Sports Sci), Sharon A. Stanley (Political Science), R. Jeffery Thieme (Mrktng & Suply Chain Mang), Cynthia G. Tucker (English), K. B. Turner (Crim & Criminal Justice), Junmin Wang (Sociology), Robert R. Wiggins (Management), John L. Williams (Biomed Engr), James F. Williamson (Architecture), Yonghong Xu (Couns, Ed, Psy & Res)

**Senators Present by Proxy:** David C. Burchfield (Public Health), Mark D. Hendricks, A. Katherine Lambert-Pennington (Anthropology) Keri V. Brondo, Anita Jo Lenhart (Theatre & Dance) Lawrence B. Blackwell, and Gregory Washington (Sch Urb Aff & Pub) M. Elena Delavega

**Senators Absent:** Economics (vacant), Elec & Computer Engr (vacant), Gladius Lewis (Mech Engr), James M. Lukawitz (Accountancy), Edward J. May (Military Sciences, Naval Sci), Kevin M. Sanders (Music), Arwin D. Smallwood (History), Univ College (vacant)

**Guests:** David N. Cox (President Office), Thomas Nenon (Provost Office), J.A.M. "Toby" Boulet, President TUFS/Assoc Professor UT-Knoxville), Benjamin "Ben" Morton (Student Affairs)

The three-hundred-and-ninety-seventh meeting of the University of Memphis Faculty Senate was held Tuesday, February 21, 2012, in the Senate Chambers, Room 261 of the University Center.

### 2.21.12.01 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:45 p.m. with a quorum present.

### **2-21.12.02 Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved.

### **2-21.12.03 Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of January 24, 2012 were approved as submitted.

### **2.21.12.04 Invited Guest: J.A.M. “Toby” Boulet, President, TN University Faculty**

**Senates (TUFS):** President T. Boulet provided a power point to familiarize us with the structure, purpose, and methods of TUFS, an organization of which all faculty senates of public 4-year institutions of higher learning in Tennessee are members. Recent activities have included visits by prominent speakers, trips to Nashville to testify before the TN House of Representatives Education Committee concerning Complete College Tennessee Act (CCTA) of 2010, and speaking at a meeting of the THEC Master Plan Committee. Every member campus has a vote in deliberations, and TUFS only acts if all member senates authorize the organization to do so. The group, which meets semiannually for three days, will have its next meeting from March 30 through April 1. The website is <http://memphis.edu/tufs>

### **2.21.12.05 Invited Guest: Benjamin Morton, Associate Dean Judicial & Ethical Programs**

Dean Morton used hard-copy handouts and power point to familiarize us with his unit’s involvement in matters of academic integrity, student behavior in the classroom, and the work of the Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT). He explained the disciplinary procedures have been in the past and the changes that went into effect on January 29, 2012, after being approved by the TBR in December 2011. While the definition of cheating and plagiarism remain the same, the process of handling these cases has been modified so that faculty now have to meet with the students prior to issuing a summary decision or opting to defer to the Academic Integrity Committee (a body composed of both faculty and students). Neither faculty nor department chairs are required to attend these AIC meetings. If the AIC determines there was no academic integrity violation, the faculty member cannot appeal the committee’s decision. These changes were mandated by TBR without involving or even informing the Faculty Senate, a troubling lapse that President L. Pivnick called to our attention.

As for the work of the U of M’s Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT), faculty should contact them for assistance with concerns about students’ erratic, threatening, or otherwise troubling behavior. Dean Morton’s position is that faculty have the right to control their space; so if a student comes to class ill, the instructor can require that student to leave. Whereas in the past, the BIT had limited authority, it can now require students to go the counseling center to be assessed. Dean Morton also described what measures are taken to keep our campus safe. More information on Academic and Classroom Misconduct can be found at <http://saweb.memphis.edu/judicialaffairs/pdf/CSRR.PDF> )

### **2.21.12.06 President's Report**

1. Faculty Ombudsperson Position: A letter announcing the opening of this position has gone out to faculty. Interested candidates have until March 2 to apply.
2. Faculty Handbook (revisions): A Faculty Senate recommendation, with which the Provost's Office agrees, requires administration to advise the FS by January 31 of any changes they plan to make to the Faculty Handbook. At the end of January 2012, we had been notified of and approved two changes: the process of selecting the faculty Ombudsperson and the statement on academic freedom in shared governance and speech on campus. We were not, however, informed of a third proposed change: the addition of three new categories of faculty: Lecturer appointments; Joint appointments; and Shared appointments. These new designations have been created to handle the special cases of those 18 former Lambuth University faculty who now teach for the U of M. Because we were not involved or consulted, the Faculty Senate agreed to charge the Faculty Policy Committee with looking at this third change.
3. Faculty Grievance Committee: President L. Pivnick provided senators with a handout, the fruit of extensive research. In addition to finding a number of different committees that handle faculty grievances, he uncovered an important omission in the Faculty Handbook's section on the President's Hearing Panel. The Handbook fails to state that the Faculty Senate must approve of the list of twenty members, a pool from which panels of four are selected to hear grievances. The Committee on Committees will be charged with repopulating the hearing panel.
4. Lounge Committee: This committee has met several times, looked for space both on and off campus, and will be asking President Raines to designate the Bluff room in the University Center as a faculty staff lounge with food service available from 9 am to 2 p.m.
5. Common Calendar: The common academic calendar being proposed by Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) has raised many concerns and has been tabled for now.

### **2.21.12.07 New Business**

1. Library Policies Committee Survey (workarounds): This survey has been sent out, and faculty are in the process of voting.
2. Election of a Senator to Committee on Committees: A motion was brought to the floor that the FS approve the nomination of Gloria F. Carr (Nursing) to replace Mark H. Danley (University Libraries) to serve on the Committee on Committees. A voice vote approved it by acclamation.

### **2.21.12.08 Old Business**

Tenure and Promotion Survey Results: Originally, T. Banning, Chair of the senate's Faculty Input Committee was to provide the results of the Tenure and Promotion (T & P) survey however, he escort the TUFs visitor around. W. Jackson present T. Banning's power point showing that faculty voted 2 to 1 in favor of coming up for T & P under the criteria that were in place at the time they were hired. The survey results are as follows:

Tenure Criteria Application		
	Mid-Tenure Review	Time of Hire
Tenured	62	117
Tenure Track	15	78
Non-Tenure	17	38

	===	===
Total	94	233
Total Responses	327	

President L. Pivnick will discuss these results with President Shirley Raines when they meet on March 1 and in the meantime will send this information to the Faculty Policies Committee for review.

### **2.21.12.09 Announcements**

1. Black History Month: An opening ceremony on Wednesday, February 1, introduced “Black Women in American History and Culture” as the theme for this year. A full schedule of programs---theater, music, and lectures, including appearances by television personality Star Jones and dancer/actress Debbie Allen---is available at [www.memphis.edu/multiculturalaffairs/events.htm](http://www.memphis.edu/multiculturalaffairs/events.htm) or from the U of M Office of Multicultural Affairs: 901-678-2054, x2011.

2. U of M College of Education Adds “Health and Human Sciences” to its Name: The new name, now approved at all levels, became effective on February 1. More information about the College of Education, Health and Human Sciences is available at [www.memphis.edu/cehhs](http://www.memphis.edu/cehhs) or at [901-678-4265](tel:901-678-4265).

3. Centennial Research Celebration: A program, “Honoring Outstanding Faculty Researchers and Inventors,” will be held on Tuesday, February 28, 2012, 2:30-4 p.m., in UC, Ballroom A. For more information contact Deborah Hernandez at 678-2648.

4. Winter Weather Threat - TigerText Registration: TigerText is one of many methods the university uses to communicate emergency information to students, faculty and staff. To register for TigerText, visit <http://tigertext.memphis.edu> and log in using your U of M UUID and password. Be sure to have your cell phone handy to complete the registration process. There is no charge for signing up; however, standard text messaging rates apply.

5. Phantom of the Opera: The Department of Theatre & Dance and the Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music will present this spectacular show on the U of M Main Stage on February 16-19 and 22-25 at 7:30 p.m., and a Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. Tickets went on sale January 30. For additional information, go to: <http://memphis.edu/theatre> or call [901.678.2576](tel:901.678.2576)

6. Next Meeting of the Faculty Senate: Tuesday, March 27, 2012.

**2.21.12.10 Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.