



Minutes of the Faculty Senate

Presiding: Lawrence A. Pivnick (Law)

Date: 4-26-11

Secretary: Cynthia G. Tucker (English, elected this meeting)

Senators Present: Pilar Alcalde (Foreign Languages), David C. Burchfield (Public Health), Gloria F. Carr (Nursing), Richard D. Evans (Fin, Ins, & Real Estate), Mark H. Danley (Univ Libraries), Reginald L. Green (Leadership), Thomas Hrach (Journalism), A. Katherine Lambert-Pennington (Anthropology), Billy E. Lawson (Philosophy), James M. Lukawitz (Accountancy), Larry W. Moore (Civil Engr), Arwin D. Smallwood (History), Sharon A. Stanley (Political Science), Yonghong Xu (Couns, Ed, Psy & Res)

Senators Present by Proxy: Gregory Washington (Sch Urb Aff & Pub Pol) Robin Lennon-Dearing

Senators Absent: David J. Giacomassi (Crim & Criminal Justice), Jose M. Pujol (Earth Sciences), Carol A. Rambo (Sociology, explained), Steven D. Schwartzbach (Biology, explained)

New Senators Present: Thomas E. Banning (Engr Tech), Jeffrey S. Berman (Psychology), Edward J. May (Mil Sci, Navy ROTC), Wade M. Jackson (Management Info Systems), Gladius Lewis (Mechanical Engr), Lawrence A. Pivnick (Law), Vasile Rus (Computer Sci), Terra L. Smith (Health & Sport Sci), R. Jeffrey Thieme (Marketing & Sply Chain Mgmt), Cynthia G. Tucker (English) Robert R. Wiggins (Management)

New Senators Present by Proxy: TBA (Architecture) Thomas E. Mason, TBA (Art) Cedar L. Nordbye, John L. Williams (Biomedical Engr), Amy L. de Jongh Curry, Michael M. Grant (Instr & Curr Ldrship), Cathy D. Meredith, Anita J. Lenhart (Theatre & Dance) Michael S. O'Nele

New Senators Absent: Chemistry (vacant), Communication (vacant), Economics (vacant), Elec & Computer Engr (vacant), Comm Sci & Disorders, (vacant), Math Sci (vacant), Music (vacant), Physics (vacant), Univ College (vacant)

TBR Representative: Thomas E. Banning (Engr Tech, elected this meeting)

Faculty Senate Information Officer: To be appointed by Faculty Senate President

Guests: David Cox (President's Office), Thomas Nenon (Provost's Office)

The three-hundred-and-ninety-first meeting of the University of Memphis Faculty Senate was held Tuesday, April 26, 2011, in the Senate Chambers, Room 261 of the University Center.

4.26.11.01 Call to Order

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

4.26.11.02 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as submitted.

4.26.11.03 Approval of Minutes

The minutes from April 19, 2011, were approved as submitted.

4.26.11.04 New Senators Welcomed

President L. Pivnick extended a warm welcome to the incoming senate members.

4.26.11.05 Election of 2011-2012 Faculty Senate Officers

President L. Pivnick requested volunteers to serve as the Tellers Committee (count the votes) for election of senators to serve on the Executive Committee, At-Large, and Committees on Committees. C. Nordbye, C. Tucker, and M. O'Nele agreed to serve as the Tellers Committee.

1. President L. Pivnick asked for nominations from the members for secretary. C. Tucker was self nominated. No other nominations were received. And for the position of secretary: Cynthia G. Tucker (English) was elected by acclamation.
2. President L. Pivnick asked for nominations from the members for Parliamentarian. R. Evans. was self nominated. No other nominations were received. And for the position of Parliamentarian: Richard D. Evans (Finance) was elected by acclamation.
3. President L. Pivnick asked for nominations from the members for President –Elect and TBR Faculty Subcouncil Representative. T. Banning was self nominated. No other nominations were received. And for the position of President-Elect and TBR Faculty Subcouncil Representative: Thomas E. Banning (Engr Tech), was elected by acclamation.

4.26.11.06 Election of At-Large

President L. Pivnick asked for nominations from the members for At-Large positions (2). J. Berman, M. Grant, R. Green, C. Nordbye and R. Wiggins were nominated. M. Grant was ineligible and the members voted by ballot. And for the positions of At-Large members of the Executive Committee: Reginald L. Green (Leadership): and Jeffrey S. Berman (Psychology) were elected by ballot vote.

4.26.11.07 Election of the Committee on Committees

The following five senators were nominated and elected by acclamation to serve on the Committee on Committees:

Mark H. Danley (University Libraries), Anita J. “Jo” Lenhart (Theatre & Dance), James “Jim” M. Lukawitz (Accountancy) , Cedar L. Nordbye (Art) and Yonghong “Jade” Xu (Counsel Edu Psych Research).

4.26.11.08 President's Report

TBR Faculty Subcouncil Meeting (April 22, 2011): This meeting was uneventful.

Incoming President L. Pivnick took a few moments to share his priorities for the Faculty Senate (FS) in the year ahead. He pledged to work diligently for the faculty's academic freedom, job security, job benefits, and increased participation in university governance, as well as for more transparency on the part of administration as the university strives for financial stability and growth. More specifically, he provided the following information to bring new senators up to date:

1. The Academic Freedom Policy Amendment: This amendment, which was proposed by the TBR Faculty Subcouncil and all TBR Faculty Senates, would explicitly protect all faculty governance activities by policy, even if the First Amendment does not apply. The TBR attorney, however, is of the opinion that this amendment proposal is unnecessary.
2. Faculty Raises: If the state legislature does not fully fund the 1.6% pay raises, the individual schools will have to use E&G (Education and General) Budget funds to make up the difference. Individual universities may award greater salary increases than 1.6% by shifting funds from other sources. Each school, pursuant to a written plan, determines whether funds will be distributed equitably, equally, or meritoriously. The TBR is looking into whether the U of M has a strategic plan for distributing any pay increases.
3. Use of E&G Funds for Athletics: The Faculty Senate will continue to oppose giving E&G funds to Athletics at a time when so many critical student and faculty needs are unmet.
4. Amendment to FS Constitution and Electronic Voting: To initiate a policy that would let faculty vote electronically on issues that come before the FS, the retiring FS has proposed an amendment to the FS Constitution. **It will be brought to the floor at our first Fall meeting. (Postscript: The proposed amendment (online voting) to the Constitution of the University Faculty and Faculty Senate was presented at the fall 2011 General Faculty meeting).**
5. Financial Transparency: The Faculty Senate's ad hoc Budget & Finance committee (Martha Robinson (Chair), D. R. Jones, Kenneth Lambert, and Craig Langstraat) has been working with the Business & Finance Division (VPresident, David G Zettergren's staff- Deborah Becker and Jeannie Smith) in the preparation of budgets and in increasing transparency by posting budget information on the FS website.
6. Tenure & Promotion (T &P) Guidelines in Faculty Handbook: The FS will continue to push for a T&P policy statement that protects candidates from unfair mid-track changes in tenure and promotion criteria.
7. Ombudsman: The FS will continue its work to ensure that the duties, selection process, and obligations are well defined.

4.26.11.09 Announcements

1. Standing Committees Organizational Meetings: Members to meet and elect a chair immediately after our meeting's adjournment.
2. April is National Awareness Month for Alcoholism, Autism, Minority Health Needs, and Sexual Assault.

3. ParTNers for Health Wellness Program Worksite Health Screenings (April 26). Remember that EVERYONE in the Partnership Plan has to have this health screening by June 30th or be placed in the Standard and more expensive plan for next year.
4. Study Day and Final Exams: In compliance with UM1704, Study Day has been scheduled for Thursday, April 28, with final exams beginning the following day and extending through the next week.
5. The U of M's 99th Commencement will follow this schedule on Saturday, May 7, 2011:
 - 10:00 a.m. – College of Arts and Sciences, College of Communication and Fine Arts, University College and Doctoral hoodings for the these colleges
 - 2:00 p.m. - School of Communication Sciences and Disorders (previously School of Audiology and Speech Language Pathology), Fogelman College of Business and Economics, College of Education, Herff College of Engineering, Loewenberg School of Nursing, School of Public Health and Doctoral hoodings for the these colleges
 - *The Cecil C. Humphrey's School of Law will hold its commencement on Sunday, May 8, 2011 at 3 p.m. at the Cannon Center for the Performing Arts.
6. Staff Appreciation Day: Staff will be recognized on Wednesday, May 18, 2011, 10:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., in University Center Ballroom.
7. The first meeting of the 2011-12 FS Executive Committee will be in May on a date yet to be determined.
8. Guns on Campus Legislation: C. Nordbye brought up the issue of a bill being discussed in the legislature to allow guns on public campuses. A brief discussion ensued among the members. NOTE: Current law prohibits anyone other than authorized law enforcement officials to bring weapons on campus.

4.26.11.12 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.