



Minutes of the Faculty Senate

Presiding: Thomas E. Banning (Engineering Technology)

Date: 10-9-12

Secretary: Cynthia G. Tucker (English)

Senators Present: Thomas E. Banning (Engr Tech), Jeffery S. Berman (Psychology), Shaum P. Bhagat (Comm Sci & Disorders), Lawrence B. Blackwell (Theatre & Dance), Patti Bradford (University College), David C. Burchfield (Public Health), Gloria F. Carr (Nursing), Dipankar Dasgupta (Computer Science), Richard D. Evans (Fin, Ins, & Real Estate), Donald R. Franceschetti (Physics), Tomoko Fujiwara (Chemistry), Michail Gkolia (Civil Engr), Reginald L. Green (Leadership), Thomas Hrach (Journalism), Michael G. Huffman (Health & Sports Sci), Terrence Ishitani (Couns, Ed, Psy & Res), Wade M. Jackson (Management Info Systems), Eddie Jacobs (Elec & Computer Eng), Donna R. Jones (Law School), Benwari L. Kedia (Management), J. Harvey Lomax (Political Science), James M. Lukawitz (Accountancy), David G. Matthews (Communication), Kevin W. Merriman (Libraries), Jiada Mo (Mech Engr), Cedar L. Nordbye (Art), Heike Polster (Foreign Lang & Lit), Timothy D. Roche (Philosophy), Steven D. Schwartzbach (Biology), Arwin D. Smallwood (History), R. Jeffrey Thieme (Mrktng & Suply Chain Mang), Cynthia G. Tucker (English), K.B. Turner (Crim & Criminal Justice), Junmin Wang (Sociology), John L. Williams (Biomed. Engr)

Senators Present by Proxy: Kathryn A. Hicks (Anthropology) Michael R. Duke, Robert Kozma (Mathematical Sciences) Thomas C. Hagen, Roy B. Van Arsdale (Earth Sci) Jose M. Pujol, Gregory Washington (Sch Urb Aff & Pub Policy) Susan E. Elswick

Senators Absent: Economics (vacant), Michael M. Grant (Instr & Curr Ldrship), Edward J. May (Military Sciences), Kevin M. Sanders (Music), and James F. Williamson (Architecture)

TBR Representative: Richard D. Evans (Fin, Ins, & Real Estate)

Faculty Senate Information Officer: Absent

Guests: H. Coleman (Coley) McGinnis (TN Conference AAUP), Daniel J. Poje (Provost's Office), Amanda L. Clarkson (Human Resources, Benefits), and Lawrence A. Pivnick (Past-President, Faculty Senate [Law])

The four-hundred- and- second meeting of the University of Memphis Faculty Senate was held Tuesday, October 9, 2012, in the Senate Chambers, Room 261 of the University Center.

10.09.12.01 Call to Order

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

10.09.12.02 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved.

10.09.12.03 Approval of Minutes

The minutes of September 4, 2012 were approved as submitted.

10.09.12.04 President's Report: Thomas E. Banning

1. Library Committee: Embracing the recommendation the Faculty Senate issued last spring, President Raines and Interim Provost Nenon are pulling together a working committee charged with exploring more funding for library services. The committee will include two senators recommended by the Faculty Senate and two faculty recommended by Libraries Dean Sylverna Ford.

2. Ad Hoc Committee on Equity in Athletics (Issues of Gender and Race): In response to President Raines's request, the Executive Committee submitted the names of three faculty who could represent us: Reginald Green, Wade M. Jackson and Edward H. Perry. President Raines selected R. Green, who will also chair the committee.

3. Provost Search Committee: More details will be available after October 22.

4. Faculty Handbook Update: The 2012 Faculty Handbook (online) was updated to reflect the changes on Academic Freedom. President T. Banning will continue to work on moving overlooked changes into the handbook.

5. Meeting with Interim Provost Nenon: At his request, Interim Provost Nenon met with the EC on October 2 to give us a sense of his goals and to hear our concerns and observations.

a) Put broadly, his aim for this year of continuing financial challenges, is to get as many lines of action moving in the same direction. Specifically, he will work to grow enrollments to generate needed revenue without compromising the quality of the education we offer our students.

b) In response to C. Tucker's concern that more be done for all students with substandard skills, he noted that the requisite ACT score for admission has been raised and believes this will alleviate pressure on faculty significantly.

c) Especially heartening was his reply when L. Pivnick asked for his thoughts about the T&P process ("Probationary Period Prior to Application for Tenure" in Chapter 4 of the Faculty Handbook). He said he does not think that faculty members on tenure-track appointments should be subject to revisions of any substantive criteria for tenure that have been made during the probationary period. He or she would be subject, however, to all procedural guidelines that are in place when application for tenure is made.

d) He invited the EC to the next meeting of deans and chairs in the University Center Bluff Room (304) on Friday, November 9, at 2:30 p.m.

6. Bookstore Survey: In light of the book order problems reported by numerous faculty, a survey will soon go out to generated maximum faculty input to send with a charge that the Academic Support Committee look into this problem.

10.09.12.05 Report of Committee on Committees

Committee on Committees chair Gloria Carr presented the following names for administrative committees.

1. Faculty Appeals Advocate: Peter L. McMickle (School of Accountancy). NOTE: There are currently three advocates: Theodore J. Burkey, Reginald L. Green, and Gladius Lewis.
2. Dining Services Committee: Terra L. Smith (Health & Sport Sciences)
3. Undergraduate Grade Appeals Committee: Primary (2): Guiomar Duenas-Vargas (History) and Kevin D. Richmond (Music); Alternates: Erin N. Willis (Journalism), Sage L. Graham (English).
4. Business & Finance Standing Committee (4 committees):
 - a) Facilities & Services Committee: Lorelei H. Corcoran (Art), Tracy Mason Collins (Nursing)
 - b) Public Records Committee: Peter L. McMickle (Accountancy), George E. Relyea (Pub Health)
 - c) Traffic & Parking Authority Committee: Mitchell M. Withers (Center for Earthquake Research & Information), Laila O'Sullivan (Music)
 - d) Fee & Refund Appeals Committee: Gayle H. Shiba (Nursing), M. Ruth Williams (Health & Sport Sciences) and Bryna Bobick (Art)
5. Library Committee: (Joint Senate and Administration: Thomas Hrach (Journalism), Steven D. Schwartzbach (Biology))

Adopted by unanimous voice vote on October 9, 2012.

10.09.12.06 Guest Speaker Dr. H. Coleman “Coley” McGinnis; Resolution Concerning Tennessee State University (TSU)

Dr. H. Coleman “Coley” McGinnis, President and Director of Government Relations for the TN Conference of the American Association of University Professors [AAUP] provided background and details regarding the TSU situation that prompted our FS to take up the “Resolution on Tennessee State University Faculty Senate President” that was addressed and then tabled last month. After thorough discussion, the earlier version was amended to read as follows:

Resolution on Tennessee State University Faculty Senate Chair

Whereas, the University of Memphis Faculty Senate Executive Committee brought up the troubling incident at Tennessee State University (TSU), where grades were changed in violation of procedures and the chair of the Faculty Senate was removed from that post by TSU’s interim president.

And whereas the University of Memphis Faculty Senate is committed to the critical importance of shared governance in our institutions of higher education,

We therefore express our concern about the violation of procedures in the relationship between the administration and Faculty Senate at Tennessee State University and voice our strong support for Senate Chair Davis.

Adopted by vote on October 9, 2012.

Dr. McGinnis noted the AAUP’s concern with the pressure the Complete College Tennessee Act of 2010 (CCTA), which changed the funding formula, has placed on faculty, especially on adjuncts, to pass more students.

10.09.12.07 Amanda L. Clarkson, Director of University Benefits Administration

Director Clarkson succinctly laid out the procedures and changes faculty will need to consider during the Annual Enrollment Transfer Period (AETP) which ends November 1, 2012. She distributed a 1- page handout and can be reached: aclarksn@memphis.edu.

10.09.12.08 Announcements

1. Limited-Use Tobacco Policy, UM 1738, Limited Tobacco-Use Campus. Effective October 1, 2012, the comprehensive policy limit the use of tobacco on all UofM campuses by faculty, staff, Lambuth and Millington campuses have been designated where the use of tobacco is permitted.
2. UofM Association of Retirees (UMAR) Coming Event: Annual Holiday Brunch, silent auction, and annual membership meeting at 10 a.m. in the University Center Ballroom C. Additional details forthcoming. Please RSVP by Tuesday, December 4th. For more information on any UMAR events, please contact Alumni Coordinator Alexa Begonia at 901.678.3873 or by email at hbegonia@memphis.edu.
3. Annual Enrollment Transfer Period (AETP): Oct. 1 through Nov. 1. During this period, employees may make changes, and add or cancel the following insurance plans: health, dental, optional term and universal life, optional accidental death and dismemberment, long-term disability, AFLAC supplemental, and vision. For more information, contact University Benefits Administration at benefits@memphis.edu.
4. 2012-13 Faculty Senate Calendar of Meetings: For dates, visit: <http://www.memphis.edu/facultysenate/calendar.php>.

10.09.12.09 Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:11 p.m.