



## Minutes of the Faculty Senate

**Presiding:** Richard D. Evans (Fin, Ins, & Real Estate)

**Date:** 9-3-13

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

**Senators Present:** Charles D. Bailey (Accountancy), Thomas E. Banning (Engr Tech), Jeffrey S. Berman (Psy), Lawrence B. Blackwell (Thea & Dance), Patti Bradford (Univ College), David C. Burchfield (Public Health), Charles W. Crawford (History), Jill A. Dapremont (Nursing), Dipankar Dasgupta (Computer Sci), Maria E. Delavega (Social Work), Michael R. Duke (Anthropology), Richard D. Evans (Fin, Ins, & Real Estate), Michail Gkolias (Civil Engr), Michael M. Grant (Instr & Curr Ldrship), Reginald L. Green (Leadership), Michael G. Huffman (Health & Sport Sci), Thomas Hrach (Journalism), Eddie Jacobs (Elec & Computer Engr), Wade M. Jackson (Manag Info Systems), Donna R. Jones (Law), Evan T. Jones (Music), Benwari L. Kedia (Management), Robert Kozma (Math Sci), J. Harvey Lomax (Political Science), Lisa Lucks Mendel (Comm Sci & Disorders), Jiada Mo (Mech Engr), Larry R. Petersen (Sociology), Heike Polster (Foreign Lang & Lit), Sandra J. Sarkela (Comm), Steven D. Schwartzbach (Biology), James C. McCutcheon (Crim & Criminal Justice), R. Jeffrey Thieme (Mrktng & Suply Chain Mang), Roy B. Van Arsdale (Earth Sci), Yongmei Wang (Chemistry), James F. Williamson (Architecture)

**Senators Present by Proxy:** Timothy D. Roche (Philosophy) Verena Erlenbusch, Donald R. Franceschetti (Physics) Firouzeh Sabri

**Senators Absent:** Economics (vacant), Mil Sci ROTC (vacant), Sch Urb Aff & Pub Pol (vacant), Erno Lindner (Biomedical Engr), Kevin W. Merriman (Univ Libraries), Cedar L. Nordbye (Art), Ryan T. Williams (Couns Ed, Psy & Res)

**TBR Representative:** Reginald L. Green (Leadership)

**Faculty Senate Information Officer:** Jeffrey S. Berman (Psy)

**Guests:** R. Brad Martin (Interim President), David Cox (President Office); M. David Rudd (Provost), David G. Zettergren (Business & Finance), Lawrence A. Pivnick (Faculty Ombudsperson), Robert R. Marchini (UMAR), and Past-Presidents: Thomas E. Banning, Robert J. Frankle, Sheryl A. Maxwell, Edward H. Perry

The four-hundred-and-tenth meeting of the University of Memphis Faculty Senate was held Tuesday, September 3, 2013, in the Senate Chambers, Room 261 of the University Center.

#### **09.03.13.01 Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 2:40 p.m. with a quorum present.

#### **09.03.13.02 Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved.

#### **09.03.13.03 Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of April 30, 2013 were approved.

#### **09.03.13.04 Welcome and Introduction of Officers and New and Returning Senators**

President R. Evans extended a warm welcome to the incoming senate members, old and new, and had them introduce themselves by department or unit. President R. Evans also recognized the Past Presidents of the Faculty Senate who were in the audience.

#### **09.03.13.05 Interim President Martin's Responses to FS Committees' Questions:**

##### **1. Academic Support Committee: P. Bradford, Chair:**

Question: We are particularly concerned with the reductions of administrative support and increasing of faculty workloads. We would like to know what the budget looks like, where it currently stands, and what the prognosis is.

Answer: David G. Zettergren is the best source for this. We don't yet know what our revenue stream will look like. We'll know more next week when we get enrollment numbers. We've gotten a 6% increase in tuition but have lost 5% from enrollment last year.

##### **2. Library Policies Committee: T. Hrach, Chair:**

Question: Do you plan to act on the Library Funding Report that the ad hoc committee on library funding wrote and submitted to Provost Rudd in May? If so, when do you anticipate there will be action on improving the library funding situation?

Answer: Yes we do, and we must, given the danger of being put on probation again due to our under-expenditures.

##### **3. Administrative Policies Committee: L. Petersen, Chair:**

Two Questions: First, Faculty members who now have children in the merged public schools are inconvenienced by the fact that the start of the public school system and their teaching responsibilities at the University of Memphis are not the same. Would you be willing to consider changing the University's academic calendar to correspond more closely with the newly merged city and county school system calendar?

Answer: Spring and Fall breaks are the problem. We'll certainly look into child care as one way of mitigating the problem.

Question: What are your views on lifting the prohibition of alcohol on campus? According to one faculty member who provided our Committee with input, the prohibition "makes us look provincial, and we may be missing an opportunity to educate the community about the responsible use of alcohol, as opposed to forced abstinence."

Answer: This is TBA policy and can't be changed.

##### **4. Academic Policies Committee: B. Kedia, Chair:**

Question: You said on or about July 20th that the U of M intends to recruit talented students from across the nation and keep them in Memphis. Our Committee would like to ask, "How do you plan to do that and how long it will take?"

Answer: Offering out-of-state students in-state tuition would be one mechanism. More vigorous recruitment including recruitment of international students would be another.

5. Faculty Policies Committee: E. Jacobs, Chair:

Question: At the University of Tennessee the Faculty Senate decides on all curricular changes. Likewise, the University of Memphis Senate's constitution calls for our Faculty Senate to act on all curricular changes here. Would you support this policy at the University of Memphis?

Answer: I would and I have!

6. Research Policies Committee: R. Van Arsdale, Chair:

Question: The previous administration set a goal of \$100 million for research and grants at the University of Memphis. We are currently at about \$50 million. What would you do to help in the pursuit of the \$100 million goal?

Answer: Local and regional needs must be better matched with our talents. We need to play to our strengths.

7. Executive Committee: R. Evans, President:

Question: What changes in admission standards have become necessary to adjust to the downturn in enrollment?

Answer: Admission standards were raised for the Fall 2013 semester relative to prior semesters.

### **09.03.13.06 President's Report**

1. Meeting With Interim President Martin (8/28): President R. Evans and Past-President T. Banning (standing in for President-Elect, R. Green) received gratifying support for instituting Executive Committee's (EC's) proposed process of populating university committees.

2. "A Process To Have Faculty Senate As Primary Vehicle in Faculty Input": President R. Evans laid out for the Faculty Senate's consideration and input the EC's proposed procedural changes for populating university committees. This proposal will be refined and returned to the full senate in a timely fashion.

3. Fulfilling the Faculty Senate's Constitutional Purpose As A Forum for Faculty Opinion: In the interest of more fully achieving our constitutional purpose, President R. Evans will leave time at the end of our meetings hereafter for senators to raise additional issues and air their opinions.

4. Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) Faculty Sub-Council Report: R. Evans noted as highlights from the TBR Faculty Sub-Council Meeting on July 19, (1) support in the form of a 10-6 vote urging family fringe benefits for domestic partners and others; and (2) the TBR legal counsel's opinion that the state's provision for Academic Freedom covers faculty involved in shared governance activities.

5. Tennessee University Faculty Senates (TUFS) Report: T. Banning, TUFS Secretary, reported that at its last meeting, actions the body reviewed its efforts to work more closely with the state legislators. It will pursue other ways to establish closer communication with them including the possibility of a political action organization to get the legislators' attention

6. Reports from the Standing Committees: The committees and chairs for AY 2013-2014 are:

- a. Academic Policies Committee: B. Kedia  
Report given
- b. Academic Support Committee: P. Bradford  
No report given
- c. Administrative Policies Committee: L. Petersen  
No report given
- d. Faculty Policies Committee: E. Jacobs  
Report given

- e. Library Policies Committee: T. Hrach  
No report given
- f. Research Policies Committee: R. Van Arsdale  
Report given

**09.03.13.07 Old Business:**

1. Election of 2 members to Committee on Committees: President R. Evans asked for nominations from the floor to fill the 2 vacancies on the Committee on Committees. R. Kozma resigned from the Committee on Committees during summer 2013, after being elected in the April 2013 meeting, but changed his decision. When no one else volunteered to be elected to the committee, President R. Evans volunteered himself.

**Elected by unanimous voice vote were Robert Kozma and Richard D. Evans on September 3, 2013.**

**09.03.13.08 New Business**

1. Committee on Committees: C. Nordbye, chair, in his stead, L. Blackwell submitted the following list of faculty to serve on the Faculty Review Committee for Southern Association of College and Schools (SACS):

*Humanities*: Bill Lawson (Philosophy), Mary Beth Mader (Philosophy), Susan Donovan (History), Aran Goudziysian (History), Scott Marler (History)

*Fine Arts*: Kenneth Kreitner (Music), Michael Schmidt (Art), Holly Lau (Theater and Dance)

*Social Sciences & Law*: Robert Blanton (International Studies), William Akey (Leadership), Rick Fisher (Journalism)

*Business*: Judith Brown (MIS), Wade Jackson (MIS), Thomas Stafford (MIS)

*Natural and Mathematical Sciences*: Amy de Jongh Curry (Bio Med Engineering), Barbara Taller (Biology), Alistair Windsor (Mathematics), Abby Parrill-Baker (Chemistry)

*Applied Health Science & Nursing*: Marion Levy (Public Health), Richard Bloomer (Health & Sport Sciences)

*Education*: Mary Ransdell (Instruction and Curriculum Leadership), David Wark (Communication Science & Disorders)

*Engineering*: Michail Gkolias (Civil Engineering), Thomas Banning (Engineering Technology)

*Library*: Laureen Cantwell (Library Research Instruct Services)

**Adopted by unanimous voice vote on September 3, 2013.**

Charge and Expectations for the Faculty Review Committee for SACS Standard 3.3.1.1

During the first year, the department assessment efforts will be substantial. Hence, the review of the efforts will be subdivided among 16 faculty members working in pairs. Eight representatives will be named by the Faculty Senate. The Provost's Office will name the remaining eight faculty members.

The faculty review committee will meet in early September to review the program learning outcomes, assessment measures, benchmarks, results, and improvement actions. Two committee members will review and provide an initial score of each program's assessment activities.

By October 15 at the latest, each department will report the results of assessment measures, and where appropriate, their improvement actions based on those results. They will also report on previously developed improvement actions.

The faculty review committee will meet in February to review departmental responses (and perhaps corrective actions) taken based on the committee's fall semester findings, to discuss whether further actions need to be recommended at that time.

2. Ratification of Executive Committee's Motions Made During the Summer: The following are provost level committees.

- a. To populate the Academic Admission Standards Workgroup with T. Roche, T. Banning, and R. Evans
- b. Appointment of R. Green by Provost Rudd to represent the Faculty Senate on the SACS Leadership Team
- c. To populate the Academic Performance Advisory Group with the Faculty Senate President and President-Elect as Voting Ex Officio Members
- d. To populate the Library Advisory Board with T. Hrach
- e. To populate the Information Technology Advisory Committee with T. Banning and J. Berman

All of the above motions were adopted by unanimous voice vote on Sep 3, 2013.

#### **09.03.13.09 Faculty Senate Forum**

The senators were invited to use the time that remained to make observations and bring up concerns. H. Polster voiced her support of creating an affordable writing center on campus as a way of serving our students and meeting the university's goals for enrollments, retention, and timely graduation. Provost Rudd assured us he welcomed any initiatives promising greater success than the seven or eight that are now being funded but having little success.

#### **09.03.13.10 Announcements**

1. The Blue Line. Fall hours, 7am-11pm (Mon-Thu); 7am-5pm (Fri). FREE Blue Line shuttle bus service will be available to all students, faculty, and staff who want to attend the Memphis vs Duke football game on September 7. Shuttles will leave from the Central Parking Lot starting three hours before kickoff time and will run continuously until 1 hour after the game.
2. U of M Libraries Hosts Artist Talk. University Libraries will host a talk and discussion with Coriana Close, Assistant Professor of photography at the U of M, Thursday, September 5, at 11:30 a.m. in the Ned R. McWherter Library, room 226. The event is free and open to the public.
3. Hooks Institute Features Book Award Winner: On Thursday, October 24, the Hooks Institute will sponsor a lecture by Dr. Martha Biondi, winner of its 2012 National Book Award for *The Black Revolution on Campus*. A lunch and reception at noon will precede the 1:00 p.m. lecture. The location will be announced later. The event is free and open to the public.

**9.03.13.11 Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.