



## Minutes of the Faculty Senate

**Presiding:** Reginald L. Green (Leadership)

**Date:** 9-2-14

**Secretary:** Vacant (To be elected at next meeting.)

**Senators Present:** Charles D. Bailey (Accountancy), Thomas E. Banning (Engr Tech), Jeffery S. Berman (Psychology), Lawrence B. Blackwell (Theatre & Dance), Charles W. Crawford (History), M. Elena Delavega (Social Work), Michael R. Duke (Anthropology), Richard D. Evans (Fin, Ins, & Real Estate), Donald R. Franceschetti (Physics), Edwin G. Frank (Univ Libraries), Reginald L. Green (Leadership), Wade M. Jackson (Manag Info Systems), Donna R. Jones (Law), J. Harvey Lomax (Political Science), Jeffrey G. Marchetta (Mech Engr), Lorraine Meiners-Lovel (Univ College), Lisa Lucks Mendel (Comm. Sci. Disorders), James C. McCutcheon (Crim & Criminal Justice), George E. Relyea (Public Health), Sandra J. Sarkela (Communication), Steven D. Schwartzbach (Biology), David W. Spencer (Music), R. Jeffery Thieme (Mktng & Suply Chain Mang), Nicole L. Thompson (Instr & Curr Ldrship), Vania Barraza Toledo (Foreign Lang & Lit), William P. Travis (Health & Sport Sci), Somogy Varga (Philosophy), Joseph C. Ventimiglia (Sociology), Mate' Wierdl (Math Sci) James F. Williamson (Architecture)

**Senators Present by Proxy:** Benwari Kedia (Management) Frances Fabian

**Senators Absent:** Randel T. Cox (Earth Sci), Jill A. Dapremont (Nursing), Dipankar Dasgupta (Computer Science), Ashley D. Furrow (Journalism) Michail Gkolias (Civil Engr), Michael Schmidt (Art), Ryan T. Williams (Couns, Ed, Psy & Res) Erno Lindner (Biomed Engr), Yongmei Wang (Chemistry), Mohammed Yeasin (Elec & Computer Engr), Economics (Vacant), English (Vacant), Military Sciences (vacant), Sch Urb Aff & Pub (vacant,)

**TBR Representative:** Wade M. Jackson (Manag Info Systems)

**Faculty Senate Information Officer:** M. Elena Delavega (Social Work)

**Guests:** Lawrence A. Pivnick (former Faculty Ombudsperson), Coy A. Jones University of Memphis Association of Retirees (UMAR)

The four-hundred-and-nineteenth meeting of the University of Memphis Faculty Senate was held Tuesday, September 9, 2014, in the University Center, room 261 (Senate Chambers).

### 9.2.14.01

#### Call to Order

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

### 9.2.14.02 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as written.

### **9.2.14.03 Approval of Minutes**

The minutes for April 29, 2014, were approved as submitted.

### **9.2.14.04 President's Report**

Introduction of Committee Chairs. President Green introduced the Senate standing committee chairs. The standing committee chairs introduced were: Benwari L. Kedia (Academic Policies Committee), Randel T. Cox (Academic Support Committee), Edwin G. Frank (Faculty Policies Committee), Donald R. Franceschetti (Research Policies Committee), James C. McCutcheon (Interim, Administrative Policies Committee) and Donna R. Jones (Library Policies Committee). Postscript: Note: Senator J. Marchetta elected to replace Senator McCutcheon.

After introducing committee chairs, Dr. Green shared the theme for the year, "Connecting the Faculty Senate and Administration for an Enhanced Culture of Shared Governance." In keeping with the theme, he reported that he would:

1. Work to connect the Executive Committee with the Senate.
2. Invite chairs of standing committees to meetings of the Executive Committee.
3. Ask standing committees to assume responsibility for various activities.
4. Open the lines of communication with the administration.
5. Engage the general faculty in the decision-making process.

Report on the Faculty Senate Orientation Meeting of August 26, 2014. President Green informed the Senate that Dr. Martha Robinson conducted the Faculty Senate Orientation.

President Green's Committee Service. President Green noted that he is currently representing the Senate on the Provost and Vice President for Research Search Committees, Strategic Resource Investment (SRI) Budget Committee, and Faculty Compensation Committee. He also informed the Senate that in October, he and President-Elect W. Jackson will begin meeting monthly with Interim Provost Karen Weddle-West.

Administrative Initiatives. President Green advised the Senate of several administrative initiatives that are of interest to the University Faculty. The initiatives noted were:

- 1) Degree Pathway Program, headed by Dr. Dean Wagner. President Green shared that Dean Wagner met with the Senate Executive Committee at its August 26 meeting, accepted feedback from the group, and stated that he would incorporate suggestions from Senators into the planning document and submit revised plans to the Academic Policies Committee. Members of the Executive Committee requested examples of best practices from other universities and a comprehensive report on student success initiatives highlighting degree pathways. The Academic Policies Committee will address this initiative and present suggestions to the Executive Committee to become an agenda item for a meeting of the full Senate. President Green informed the Senate that Dr. Tristan Denley, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs has requested that all TBR institutions clearly articulated degree pathways.

- 2) Information Technology Service Committee. Three members will serve on the Information Technology Service Committee. Two of the Senators are W. Jackson and J. Berman. A third member is to be named. Three faculty representatives are needed due to changes in technology and how the University Faculty will be affected.
- 3) The On-Line Teaching Expansion. The Academic Support Committee has been asked to work with the administration on the On-Line Teaching Expansion initiative.
- 4) Faculty Handbook. The Faculty Policies Committee has been asked to review the Faculty Handbook and provide the Senate with an updated status on that document.
- 5) Library Report. The Library Policies Committee has been asked to review the University Library Report and to meet with the administration regarding any issues that surface.

#### **9.2.14.05 Committee on Committees Report**

Election of One Member to the Committee on Committees. Senator R. Evans chair, Committee on Committees stated that a vacancy was created on the committee due to Senator E. Frank resignation during summer 2014. Senator Jill A. Dapremont (Nursing) was nominated to fill the vacancy. Senator Dapremont was elected by unanimous voice vote on September 2, 2014.

Tenure and Promotion Appeals Committee. Senator R. Evans Chair, Committee on Committees submitted the following slate of faculty members to serve on the University Tenure and Promotion Appeals Committee: Beverly E. Cross, College of Education, Health and Human Sciences, Mark Gillenson, Fogelman College of Business- Management Info Systems, and Lorelei H. Corcoran, COE -Egypt. The slate of candidates was adopted by unanimous voice vote on September 2, 2014.

Information Technology Services (ITS). The Research Policies Committee and the Academic Support Committee were asked to fill vacancies on several ITS standing committees, i.e. Technology Access Fees (TAF) Committee, Enterprise Systems Advisory Committee (ESAC), and Research Technology Advisory Committee. Senator R. Evans informed the Senate that as committee vacancies occur, he will seek faculty nominations from the Senate standing committees.

#### **9.2.14.06 Old Business**

Report on Tennessee University Faculty Senates (TUFS) Meeting, (August 8-10, 2014). Senator M. Delavega attended the August meeting on behalf of President Green. Senator M. Delavega reported that the meeting was very productive. State-wide Faculty Senates face the same issues, such as faculty involvement in curriculum. She reported as an action item, the recently passed Tennessee legislation, Public Law 538, Senate Bill 975 (AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 9 and Title 49, relative to public higher education) passed March 26, 2014 by 108<sup>th</sup> General Assembly. TUFS has contacted the ACLU and is in the early stage of a class action law suit regarding this law. TUFS requested that all member senates respond to the

question, “Will you join in the class action law suit.” A response deadline was not given. President R. Green stated that he would ask the appropriate committee to address this request and make a recommendation to the Senate for action.

Faculty Ombudsperson Search. Former Faculty Ombudsperson, Lawrence (Larry) Pivnick distributed his annual report to the Senate. As a part of his report he stated that Robert (Bob) A. Hetherington was elected by the Senate at its April 29, 2014 meeting to serve as Ombudsperson and subsequently resigned from the position prior to approval by the Administration. During summer 2014, a new search was initiated at the request of President Green and members of the Executive Committee. As facilitator of the Faculty Ombudsperson Search Committee, Dr. Pivnick informed the Senate that six candidates had applied for the position. The interview and selection meeting date was announced as September 9, 2014. Dr. Pivnick informed the Senate that he would send President M. David Rudd a copy of his report.

#### **9.2.14.07 Appointment of Tellers Committee**

In preparation for the election of an individual to serve as Senate Secretary, President Green appointed a tellers committee to distribute, collect, count ballots, and announce the vote count to the Senate. The tellers committee consisted of Senators D.R. Jones, Lorraine Meiners-Lovel and David W. Spencer.

#### **9.2.14.08 Election of Faculty Senate Secretary**

Senators Nicole Thompson and William P. Travis were nominated to serve as Faculty Senate Secretary. Parliamentarian Senator J. Berman ruled that both were ineligible to serve. No new nomination was received for the position of Secretary. Consequently, no election was held.

#### **9.2.14.09 New Business**

President Green presented to the assembly a list of proposed goals that were developed at the Senate’s Orientation Meeting. The goals presented were:

1. Connect the larger Faculty to the Faculty Senate
2. Develop a Faculty Club with amenities such as a dining room
3. Enhance the appreciation Faculty members receive for their service to the University through the Faculty Senate
4. Enhance the image of the Faculty Senate by upgrading its facilities in the Administration Building
5. Develop a Faculty Think Tank to work on the University’s strategic plan in cooperation with the administration

After a presentation of the goals, they were adopted by show of hands, 23 for and 3 opposed on September 2, 2014.

Senator R. Evans chair Committee on Committees asked for volunteers to serve on the TBR Library Consortium Task Force. The purpose of the task force is to examine how universities can

provide library materials and other resources across the TBR system. Each task force will consist of faculty, student affairs staff, and library staff. No action was taken.

#### **9.2.14.10 Announcements**

**Photo Session Senators:** Senators were asked to contact: Rhonda Cosentino, University of Memphis Photographer, at [rhonda.cosentino@memphis.edu](mailto:rhonda.cosentino@memphis.edu) 901-678-3813 and make an appointment for a head shot photo session the morning of September 15, 2014 and the afternoon of September 16, 2014.

**TBR Faculty Sub-council Meetings:** The next TBR Sub-council quarterly meetings will be held in Nashville, TN on October 24, 2014.

**9.2.14.11 Adjourn:** 4:03 p.m.