



## Minutes of the Faculty Senate

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

**Date:** 10-7-14

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

**Senators Present:** Charles D. Bailey (Accountancy), Jeffery S. Berman (Psychology), Lawrence B. Blackwell (Theatre & Dance), Randel T. Cox (Earth Sci), Charles W. Crawford (History), Jill A. Dapremont (Nursing), Dipankar Dasgupta (Computer Science), 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), Michail Gkolias (Civil Engr), Reginald L. Green (Leadership), Wade M. Jackson (Mang Info Systems), Donna R. Jones (Law), Benwari Kedia (Management), Erno Lindner (Biomed Engr), 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), Ladrica C. Menson-Furr (English), George E. Relyea (Public Health), Sandra J. Sarkela (Communication), Michael Schmidt (Art), Steven D. Schwartzbach (Biology), Ronald Speilberger (Computer Science), David W. Spencer (Music), R. Jeffery Thieme (Mrktng & Suply Chain Mang), Vania Barraza Toledo (Foreign Lang & Lit), William P. Travis (Health & Sport Sci), Somogy Varga (Philosophy), Joseph C. Ventimiglia (Sociology), Yongmei Wang (Chemistry), Mate' Wierdl (Math Sci) James F. Williamson (Architecture), Stephen A. Zanskas (Couns, Ed, Psy & Res)

**Senators Present by Proxy:** Nicole L. Thompson (Instr & Curr Ldrship), DeAnna N. Owens

**Senators Absent:** Thomas E. Banning (Engr Tech), Mohammed Yeasin (Elec & Computer Engr), Economics (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), Gloria F. Carr (Nursing), Jeffrey Wilson (Leadership)

The four-hundred-and-nineteenth meeting of the University of Memphis Faculty Senate was held Tuesday, October 7, 2014, in the University Center, room 261 (Senate Chambers).

### 10.7.14.01

#### Call to Order

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

### 10.7.14.02 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with two (2) additional items: curriculum and a motion proposed by the Academic Policies Committee. These items were placed under the heading of New Business.

### **10.7.14.03 Approval of Minutes**

The minutes for the September 2, 2014 Senate meeting were approved as submitted.

### **10.7.14.04 President's Report**

#### Faculty and Staff Annual Giving Campaign U of M

President Green introduced the co-chair of the University's Annual Giving Campaign, Dr. Jeffrey Wilson, faculty member from the College of Education, Department of Leadership. Dr. Wilson stressed the importance of the Campaign and asked members of the Senate to support the campaign. Dr. Wilson provided the following instructions for making a contribution:

- Login to *My Memphis*.
- Click on the "Employee" tab.
- Select either "Give through Payroll Deduction" or "Make a One-Time or Recurring Gift."

#### Meeting with Interim Provost Weddle-West

President Green informed Senators that he and President-Elect Wade Jackson met with Interim Provost Karen Weddle-West on September 17, 2014. He invited Senators to read the minutes from that meeting and provide him with any comments they might have.

#### Meeting with Standing Committee Chairs

President Green informed Senators that he had met with the chairs of each standing committee. He noted the minutes from that meeting, and he invited comments regarding them.

#### New Email Identifier for Faculty Senate

President Green informed the Senators that, at his request, Information Technology Services has created a new email account for the Faculty Senate. When sending mass emails to the faculty, the "email from" line will show his name as president.

#### Goals

President Green informed the Senators of the current status of the five (5) Faculty Senate goals.

#### Administrative Initiatives

President Green informed Senators of the Administrative Initiatives. He reported that new initiatives would be assigned to Senate standing committees, and he identified the Library Report as a major initiative. He expressed President M. David Rudd's desire for the Senate to take a proactive role in addressing Library issues. After a good deal of discussion, the matter was assigned to the Library Committee.

### **10.7.14.05 Report of Standing Committees**

#### Academic Policies Committee

Senator Ben Kedia, chair, placed two issues before the Senate: Degree Pathway Initiative and the Faculty Senate's status on the University Graduate Council. Senator Kedia reported that the Academic Policies Committee had met, and had developed a recommendation on the Pathways

Program Initiative. He submitted a motion for consideration by the Senate. President Green stated that the motion would be considered under “New Business,” and action was deferred until that time.

It was motioned and seconded that whatever is passed by the Academic Policies Committee regarding the involvement of the Faculty Senate and the University Graduate Council be passed on to the Council without returning to the Senate for action. This action was deemed necessary because the University Graduate Council would meet prior to the next Senate meeting. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

#### Faculty Policies Committee

Senator Ed Frank, chair, reported on the following issues:

#### **Lambuth Faculty**

The Lambuth faculty is awaiting TBR action on the new position titles. Sub-council Representative/President-Elect Wade Jackson interjected that TBR had rendered a decision on the position titles and that all positions were labeled as instructors.

#### **Faculty Senate President Term of Office**

The Committee recommended that the term of office for the Faculty Senate President be two (2) years, rather than one (1).

#### **Enhancement of Recognition for Senate service**

The committee is still researching the charge of enhancement and/or recognition for Senate service.

#### **Public Law 538**

The committee has contacted the university legal counsel on the matter of TN 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 108th General Assembly. The University Counsel is currently seeking an opinion from the State Attorney General’s Office.

#### **Faculty Handbook**

The committee is not ready to put forth a recommendation accepting the current handbook for publication. They have concerns about the language regarding tenured faculty positions being eliminated under financial exigency. The current handbook uses the term “budgetary restructuring,” which the committee feels is not definitive enough, nor does it offer much protection. After considerable discussion on the issue, Senator J. Lomax and a former member of the Faculty Policies Committee agreed to gather documentation of that previous committee’s work. Their goal is to accept the language recommended by that committee and approved by the 2013-2014 Faculty Senate.

### Administrative Policies Committee

Senator Jeffrey Marchetta, chair, reported that the committee is reviewing two (2) items: the Faculty Senate's Administrative Survey, and space allocation and design of the Faculty Senate's offices. President Green encouraged Senators to visit with the members of the Administrative Policies Committee and to provide input regarding the purpose for the survey, the process of administering the survey, and use of the survey's results.

### Academic Support Committee

Senator Randel Cox, chair, reported that the committee had made faculty recommendations to the Committee on Committees for vacancies on both the Teaching and Learning Advisory Committee (TLAC) and the Information Security Advisory Committee (ISAC).

### Research Policies Committee

Senator Donald Franceschetti, chair, reported that the committee had made faculty recommendations to the Committee on Committees for vacancies on three (3) university-level committees: Technology Access Fees (TAF) Committee, Enterprise System Advisory Committee (ESAC), and Research Computing Committee.

### Library Policy Committee

Senator D.R. Jones, chair, reported that the Library Committee had held two meetings, one with President Rudd and interim Provost Weddle-West. She also reported that the committee had reviewed the *Redefining the Library* committee report, and had discussed the merger of the Library with the IT Department. She reported that the merger was one of several options being considered by the administration, and that President Rudd had expressed his vision of making the Library the center of academic excellence on campus. She also reported that the Senate had been asked by President Rudd to assume the leadership role for developing a plan of action to address library issues. After her presentation, President Green asked the Senate if there were any objections to the Senate taking the lead for developing the requested plan of action. No objections were voiced.

### **10.7.14.06 Committee on Committees Report**

Senator Richard Evans, chair, put forth a slate of faculty nominees to serve on the following committees:

- Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA)  
Nominee: Steven Schwartzbach, Biology (UofM Representative)
- Information Technology Services (ITS)  
Nominee: Sabyasachee Mishra, Civil Engineering
- Enterprise System Advisory Committee (ESAC).  
Nominee: Máté Wierdl, Mathematical Sciences
- Research Computing Committee  
Nominee: Yongmei Wang, Chemistry
- Teaching & Learning Advisory Committee (TLAC)  
Nominee: Margaret Schultz, Management Information Systems

- Information Security Advisory Committee (ISAC)  
Nominee: Thomas (Tom) Stafford, Management Information Systems
- Undergraduate Grade Appeals Committee  
Primary Nominees: Shirleatha T. Lee, Nursing and J. Helen Perkins, Instruction Curriculum Leadership  
Alternate Nominees: Hoi Chung, Nursing and William C. Hunter, Instruction Curriculum Leadership
- Faculty Grievance Committee  
Nominees: Patricia Cunningham, Nursing and Brad McAdon, English
- Safety & Security Committee  
Nominee: David C. Burchfield, Public Health

The slate was adopted by acclamation on October 7, 2014.

#### **10.7.14.07 Old Business**

##### Recommendation of the Faculty Ombudsperson Selection Committee

Former Faculty Ombudsperson, Lawrence Pivnick facilitated the Ombudsperson Selection Committee. He informed the Senate that six candidates applied, five candidates were interviewed for the position, and one candidate withdrew from the process. The committee unanimously recommended Dr. Gloria F. Carr, Nursing, as the next Faculty Ombudsperson. This recommendation was shared with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, and that committee unanimous agreed with the recommendation. Mr. Pivnick shared Dr. Carr's biography, and President Green asked Dr. Carr to introduce herself. After the introduction, the Faculty Senate accepted the recommendation of the Selection Committee via the following motion:

**Motion:** Move that the Faculty Senate accept the recommendation of Dr. Gloria F. Carr, Nursing, as Faculty Ombudsperson. The motion was adopted by acclamation on October 7, 2014.

President Green stated that he would inform University President Rudd of the action taken by the Faculty Senate

##### Strategic Resource Investment (SRI) Budget Update

President Green report that, as promised by the administration, no major actions were taken regarding the SRI budget model during the summer. President Green reported that he and President-Elect Jackson attended a meeting of the SRI Budget Committee on October 7, 2014, and that the SRI committee will have 4 meetings between October and December 2014. He also reported that the Senate ad hoc Budget Committee would have an opportunity to participate in the process, and suggested that other members of the faculty should become involved and provide input as well. President Green shared that the only decision that had been made by the administration on the budgeting model related to the philosophy of moving from a centralized to

a decentralized budgeting process. He noted that there were no concrete budget proposals or mandates at this time. Following discussion, the following motions were initiated.

**Motion 1:** President Green offered to send a letter to Interim Provost Weddle-West asking for clarification about decisions being made on the budgeting process. The motion was adopted by a show of hands—31 for, 1 opposed—on October 7, 2014.

**Amendment:** Invite the President and Interim Provost to a Senate meeting; individual senators to send responses to President Green; administrators to answer in writing at a special called meeting.

**Amendment:** Move to invite the President and Interim Provost to a meeting of the Faculty Senate to specifically explain the status of the SRI budget model.

Following discussion, the main motion was amended thus: to have a question and answer session.

**The final motion as amended:** Invite the President and Interim Provost to a Senate meeting, a question and answer session; individual senators are to send questions to President Green; administrators are to answer in writing at a special called meeting.

The amended motion was adopted by show of hands—27 for, 5 opposed—on October 7, 2014.

**Motion 2:** To invite the President and Interim Provost to a special meeting of the Faculty Senate on the budgetary process that incorporates a question and answer session. The motion was adopted by a show of hands—29 for, 3 opposed—on October 7, 2014.

Following discussion, motion 3 was introduced.

**Motion 3:** To reconstitute the Ad Hoc Budget and Finance Committee. The motion was adopted by voice vote on October 7, 2014.

#### **10.7.14.08 New Business**

##### Inauguration Planning Committee

President Green informed the assembly of his invitation and subsequent acceptance to serve on President Rudd's Inauguration Planning Committee. Inauguration events will take place in the spring of 2015.

##### Motion from the Academic Policies Committee

The Faculty Senate moves that the Academic Policies Committee be empowered to formulate recommendation to the Graduate Council on behalf of the Faculty Senate. The motion was adopted by voice vote on October 7, 2014.

### Lambuth Motion

Senator Jackson asked that the Lambuth motion be placed on hold and the Senate agreed. Senator Jackson also reported that junior and senior level courses are being offered at 2-year schools, and that the University of Memphis must accept those credits.

### Motion from the Academic Policies Committee

The Faculty Senate urges the Administration to consider the following: that all changes intended to accelerate graduation or to increase the percentage of graduates be carefully crafted and implemented in order to preserve and augment high academic quality; and that faculty are not pressured to sacrifice academic quality in order to increase retention and graduate rates. The motion was adopted October 7, 2014.

### **10.7.14.09 Announcements**

There were no announcements.

### **Information**

Library Consortium Task Forces (5 Task Forces) – TN Board of Regents (TBR)— Dr. Denley, Academic Affairs). The Task Forces were formed to examine how we can provide library materials and other resources across the system. Each task force will consist of faculty, student affairs staff, and library staff. Below is a brief summary of each task force and the general questions we will examine.

#### Task force #1

Library software: Can we find commonalities and pay for software centrally to realize cost savings?

#### Task force #2

Common repository: are there hard copies we can share to free up shelf space?

#### Task force #3

Identification of baseline core collection: What materials should every student have access to?

#### Task force #4

TALC Card - RODP students can get this card, but why not all TBR schools?

#### Task force #5

Policies on how we purchase items. How do we get rid of outdated items?

Member of Task Force, #5 Nominee: Vania Barraza Toledo, Foreign Lang & Literatures (UofM Faculty Representative)

NOTE: The above action was a result of the communication from Faculty Subcouncil Representative/President-Elect Jackson.

### **10.7.14.10 Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.