



Minutes of the Faculty Senate

Presiding: Reginald L. Green (Leadership)

Date: 3-24-15

Secretary: R. Jeffery Thieme (Mrktng & Suply Chain Mang)

Senators Present: Charles D. Bailey (Accountancy), Thomas E. Banning (Engr Tech), Jeffrey S. Berman (Psychology), Lawrence B. Blackwell (Theatre & Dance), Charles W. Crawford (History), Jill A. Dapremont (Nursing), 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 (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 E. Spielberger (Journalism), R. Jeffery Thieme (Mrktng & Suply Chain Mang), Vania Barraza Toledo (Foreign Lang & Lit), William P. Travis (Health & Sport Sci), Joseph C. Ventimiglia (Sociology), Yongmei Wang (Chemistry), Mate' Wierdl (Math Sci), James F. Williamson (Architecture), Mohammed Yeasin (Elec & Computer Engr), Stephen A. Zanskas (Couns, Ed, Psy & Res)

Senators Present by Proxy: Dipankar Dasgupta (Computer Science) Lan Wang, Nicole L. Thompson (Instr & Curr Ldrship) Carmen Weaver

Senators Absent: Randel T. Cox (Earth Sci), Michail Gkolias (Civil Engr), David W. Spencer (Music), Somogy Varga (Philosophy), 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)

Guest: Lawrence A. Pivnick (former Faculty Ombudsperson and member of Faculty Club committee).

The four-hundred-and-twenty fifth meeting of the University of Memphis Faculty Senate was held Tuesday, March 24, 2015, in the University Center, room 261 (Senate Chambers).

3.24.15.01

Call to Order

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

3.24.15.02 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as written.

3.24.15.03 Approval of Minutes

The minutes of January 27, 2015 were approved as written by a show of hands. The minutes of February 24, 2015 (Special Called Meeting) were approved as written by a show of hands.

3.24.15.04 President's Report

- **Report on the Special Called Meeting.** President Green called attention to the minutes of February 24, 2015, Special Called Meeting, noting that the three main issues addressed at that meeting were: the Relay Program, Strategic Resource Investment (SRI), and Shared Governance.
- **Calendar of Activities (SACS) – March 24-26, 2015.** The SACS committee is visiting the University today. President Rudd opened the meeting and Provost Weddle-West spoke. President Green reported that they should be aware that they may be asked to speak to the committee regarding various issues.
- **Report on University President Response to Library Report.** President Green shared President Rudd's response to the Library Policies Committee Report with the Senate (which was also distributed to the Senate). President Green commended the work of the Senate's Library Committee, chaired by Senator Jones. Also, the Student Government Association (SGA) voted to assess themselves a fee for monetary contributions to the University Libraries. The University of Memphis is currently in the process of hiring an individual to solicit funds for the University Libraries. The position has been posted and applications are being received for the position.
- **Strategic Resource Investment (SRI) Budget Update.** President Green reported that significant progress has been made regarding the Strategic Resource Investment (SRI) process. The President and President-Elect of the Faculty Senate serve on the Steering Committee. The President and/or the President-Elect have attended Steering Committee meetings and commented on the work of the committee as appropriate. The committee has developed a prototype that will parallel the existing budget model for the next budget year so that they can be compared before the SRI budget is actually used in the following year. The ad hoc Budget Committee has conducted a survey of faculty members to identify concerns that faculty have regarding the SRI budget process. The President and President-Elect will continue to be engaged with the Steering Committee. The current model has no transparency. Transparency is a primary objective of the SRI model.
- **Report on the Meetings with the Provost.** President Green reported that he and President-Elect Jackson have not had a chance to meet with the Provost lately. The past two meetings have been cancelled due to scheduling issues. Both he and President-Elect Jackson will continue to meet with her as schedules permit.

3.24.15.05 Reports of Standing Committees

Committee on Committees

Senator Evans, committee chair, submitted the following nomination for ratification:

Title IX EEO Advisory Committee nominee ratification: Joseph C. Ventimiglia
(Sociology)

Adopted by common consent on March 24, 2015.

E-Textbook Committee nominee from the floor: Donald R. Franceschetti (Physics)

Adopted by hand vote on March 24, 2015.

President Green directed Senator Evans, member of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, to send an email to Dr. Richard Irwin identifying Senator Franceschetti as our representative to the E-Textbook Committee.

Academic Policies Committee

Senator Kedia, chair, reported that the Academic Policies Committee supports a change in the general education requirements to add the Personal Financial Management (FIR 1220) course as one of the options to partially fulfill the social studies requirements. Also, this change was approved (unanimous) by the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. Senator Kedia made the following motion: The committee moves that a personal finance course be added as an elective to the Social and Behavioral Sciences component of the General Education requirement.

Adopted by a show of hands on March 24, 2015.

President Green directed Senator Evans, member of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, to communicate this motion to Dr. Richard Irwin and transmit this motion to the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. NOTE: The agenda was amended by striking the report on the Confucius Institute. President Green informed the Senate that the matter was not going unattended. The committee has been engaged with the Office of the Provost on this matter and it was inappropriately placed on the agenda.

Academic Support Committee

Senator Randel Cox, chair, had no report.

Faculty Policies Committee

Senator Edwin Frank, chair, had no report.

Research Policies Committee

Senator Donald Franceschetti, chair, had no report, but commented that the committee is concerned with the potential negative effects of the SRI model on research productivity. Senator Schmidt also raised concerns about the potential negative impact on interdisciplinary research.

Senator Berman offered the motion: The Research Policies Committee is charged with developing specific concerns and questions to be submitted to the SRI Committee.

Adopted by hand vote with 1 opposed on March 24, 2015.

President Green charged the Research Policies Committee (chaired by Senator Franceschetti) with developing specific concerns and questions to be submitted to the SRI committee.

Senator Yeasin voiced his concern that the discussions on this matter should involve the whole Senate in lieu of a committee.

Administrative Polices Committee

Senator Jeffrey Marchetta, chair, had no report.

Library Policies Committee

Senator D. R. Jones, chair, had no report, but provided more detail on President Green's statements on the Library Report outcomes. Senator Jones stated that the University Development Officer position is funded and the search is ongoing. Also, the Student Government Association is moving forward on a new fee to aid in Library funding.

Senator Williamson offered the motion: Senator Wierdl's written questions should be referred to the SRI Steering committee.

An amendment to the motion was offered by Senator Wierdl: The Faculty Senate would like to receive answers in four weeks.

The amendment was adopted by a vote of 25 for and 8 opposed.

Motion as amended:

Senator Wierdl's written questions should be referred to the SRI Steering committee. The Faculty Senate would like to receive answers in four weeks.

Adopted by a hand vote of 30 for and 0 opposed on March 24, 2015.

3.24.15.06 Information Items

1. Report from Information Technology (IT) Policy Representatives

Report on the meeting of the Information Technology Services (ITS) Faculty Senate Group: Senator Berman reported that proposed changes to the acceptable use policy result in no expectations of privacy for faculty. Senator Berman and President-Elect Jackson submitted detailed issues from faculty to Ellen Watson on the proposed revisions. Since then, meetings have been postponed. Senator Berman requested from Ellen Watson that any proposed changes be received in advance of the next meetings so that they can be shared with the Faculty Senate. There is concern that the Faculty Senate is being stonewalled. Senator Berman asks the senate for guidance regarding whether or not to approach the Provost and President with this issue. Senator Schwartzbach offers the motion: Whereas the security of our IT resources is integral to

our ability to function as teachers, researchers, and as community outreachers it is critical that the IT policies maximally promote the efforts of our faculty. Be it resolved that the Provost appoint a faculty committee to develop an acceptable use policy which the administration can then implement in accordance with the Regents' request for modification of this policy.

Fails by hand vote of 8 for and 21 opposed motion on March 24, 2015.

Continuing his report, Senator Berman raised the issue of changes in the University web pages without consultation of the Faculty Senate. President Green charged the Administrative Policies committee with bringing recommendations to the next Executive Committee meeting regarding the revision of web page policies.

2. Report on last Graduate Council Meeting (February 6)

Report from the meeting of the Council for Graduate Studies. Senator Berman gave a brief update on the meeting. The Graduate Council refused to consider or debate any proposed revisions to the Graduate Council By-Laws coming from the Senate Academic Policies Committee. Senator Lomax reported that the Graduate Council chair asked him to sit down, essentially removing him from any discussion because he was not a member of the Graduate Council. He added that Graduate Council members responded with contempt and suggested that the Graduate Council doesn't need input from the Faculty Senate. President Green stated that this discussion will be carried to the Executive Committee and included as the first item on the agenda.

3. Compensation Committee Report

President Green, member of the Faculty Senate Compensation Committee, presented to the Senate the Compensation Committee Report under the chairmanship of Dr. Martha Robinson. Point of Information: members of the committee are: President Green, Senators Marchetta, Williamson, Wierdl, and Ventimiglia and faculty members; Leigh Nanney Hersey and Genae Strong. President Green asked the Senate for guidance on whether or not to transmit the report to administration.

Motion: That the report from the Faculty Compensation Committee be transmitted to the Administration.

Fails by a hand vote of 8 for and 20 opposed on March 24, 2015.

Senator Evans offered the motion: That the report from the Faculty Compensation Committee be accepted by the Faculty Senate.

Adopted by a hand vote of 31 for and 0 against on March 24, 2015.

Discussion ensued on the inclusion of merit pay in the report. Senator Wierdl provided a hardcopy of his amendment to the Compensation Committee Report.

Senator Ventimiglia offered the motion: The Faculty Senate is to transmit the Faculty Compensation Committee report to Administration excluding references to merit pay pursuant to Senator Wierdl's amendment.

Adopted by a hand vote of 30 for and 0 against on March 24, 2015.

3.24.15.07 Old Business

None.

3.24.15.08 New Business

Senator Evans, chair of the Senate's ad hoc Faculty Club Committee, offered the motion: The Faculty Senate would greatly appreciate President Rudd's efforts to raise funds for the improvement of the top floor of Wilder Tower for the use of faculty, administration, staff, retirees, and friends. The Faculty Senate agrees that the funds may be raised from all these groups, especially friends of the University who are in the business and government sectors.

Adopted by a hand vote on March 24, 2015.

President Green stated that the motion will be transmitted to the University President tomorrow morning.

Senator Thieme offered the motion: The Faculty Senate charges the Research Policies Committee and the Administrative Policies Committee to develop a revised acceptable use policy for IT resources that is consistent with direction from the Tennessee Board of Regents and bring a motion to the April 14 Faculty Senate meeting.

Adopted by a hand vote on March 24, 2015.

Point of Information: the next Faculty Senate meeting is April 21, 2015.

3.24.15.09 Announcements

Women's History Month 2015, the theme for 2015 is "Weaving the Stories of Women's Lives". For events, information view the calendar of events: www.memphis.edu/whm .

Year of Service The University of Memphis, Tuesday, Jan 20 kicked off; involves faculty, staff, students and alumni to perform service both on campus and in the larger community. The goal of the Year of Service is to provide 500,000 combined hours of service to Memphis, Jackson, TN and surrounding communities by the end of the fall semester.

3.24.15.10 Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.