



## Minutes of the Faculty Senate

**Presiding:** Wade M. Jackson (Business Information Tech)

**Date:** 11-10-15

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

**Senators Present:** Charles D. Bailey (Accountancy), Thomas E. Banning (Engr Tech), Susan L. Neely-Barnes (Social Work), Vania Barraza Toledo (Foreign Lang & Lit), M. Jerome Bartholomew (Earth Sci), Gerald Chaudron (Univ Libraries), Charles W. Crawford (History), Jill A. Dapremont (Nursing), Richard D. Evans (Fin, Ins, & Real Estate), Donald R. Franceschetti (Physics), Max Garzon (Computer Science), Michail Gkolias (Civil Engr), Robert A. Hetherington (Theatre & Dance), Meghan E. McDevitt-Murphy (Psychology), Reginald L. Green (Leadership), Wade M. Jackson (Business Information Tech), Donna R. Jones (Law), Benwari Kedia (Management), Erno Lindner (Biomed Engr), Henry A. Kurtz (Chemistry), Gray Matthews (Communication), Jeffrey G. Marchetta (Mech Engr), Erno Lindner (Biomed Engr), James C. McCutcheon (Crim & Criminal Justice), Lorraine Meiners-Lovel (Univ College), R. Jeffery Thieme (Mrktng & Suply Chain Mang), Joseph C. Ventimiglia (Sociology), David W. Spencer (Music), Micah M. Trapp (Anthropology), Walter H. Manning (Comm. Sci. Disorders), Ladrica C. Menson-Furr (English), Dursun Peksen (Political Science) George E. Relyea (Public Health), Steven D. Schwartzbach (Biology), Ronald E. Spielberger (Journalism), William P. Travis (Health & Sport Sci), Somogy Varga (Philosophy), Máté Wierdl (Mathematical Sciences), James F. Williamson (Architecture), Stephen A. Zanskas (Couns, Ed, Psy & Res)

**Senators Present by Proxy:** Aaron L. Robinson (Elec & Computer Engr) Eddie Jacobs, Nicole Thompson (Instr & Curr Ldrship) Deanna Owens, James C. McCutcheon (Crim & Criminal Justice) Stephen J. Watts

**Senators Absent:** Michael Schmidt (Art), Economics (vacant), Military Sciences (vacant), Sch Urb Aff & Pub (vacant)

**TBR Representative:** Michail Gkolias (Civil Engr)

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

The four-hundred-and-thirtieth meeting of the University of Memphis Faculty Senate (FS) was held Tuesday, November 10, 2015, in the Senate Chambers of the University Center (room 261).

### 11.10.15.01 Call to Order

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

#### **11.10.15.02 Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved as written.

#### **11.10.15.03 Approval of Minutes**

The minutes for October 6, 2015 were approved as written by voice vote.

#### **11.10.15.04 President's Report**

President Jackson reported on his meeting with University President M. David Rudd and Provost Karen Weddle-West. The topic discussed at the meeting was Relay. President Rudd stated that he was not in discussion with Relay, however, he could not prevent Relay from communicating with college deans.

President Jackson reported on his meeting with Provost Weddle-West. The Provost cancelled the Shared Governance Conference/Workshop. President Jackson asked the Faculty Senate (FS) if it wanted to move forward by organizing a conference through the FS instead of through the Provost's office. There was no response from the body, therefore no action will be taken. Senator Bailey asked for the reason for cancellation. President Jackson stated that the FS request to add an additional speaker to the conference, specifically someone from the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), was the cause. Senator Wierdl suggested that perhaps the issue could be brought before the Senate at a later date.

President Jackson informed the Senate that after contacting the TN Board of Regents Academic Affairs Office, it was determined that the Kemmons Wilson School of Hospitality was eligible to have representation on the Faculty Senate. Consequently, the School was directed by President Jackson to have an election. Dr. Brennan Berg was elected and will begin serving his two-year term this academic year, 2015-2016. President Jackson welcomed Dr. Berg to the Senate and the Senate acknowledged through applause.

President Jackson reported that the Senate delegation met with President M. David Rudd and Provost Karen Weddle-West to convey the Senate's position on the graduate and undergraduate councils. The Senate delegation proposal included the addition of four Senators to each of the councils and requested that the Faculty Senate (FS) be given oversight for the election of faculty representatives to both councils. The Senate proposal was met with no resistance by administration.

#### **11.10.15.05 President-Elect's Report**

President-Elect Gkolias reported that he met with University President M. David Rudd. They discussed the Alternative Credit Project (ACP), but he wasn't sure if President Rudd understood the Senate's objections to the project. President Rudd indicated that he thought the Undergraduate Council had approved this initiative. Further discussion on this topic was being held for later in this meeting where it was on the agenda under New Business.

President-Elect Gkolias reported on his October 23, 2015 TN Board of Regents Faculty Sub-council meeting. President-Elect Gkolias distributed his personal notes, approved July sub-council minutes, the October agenda, and other meeting materials prior to the meeting. He

pointed out that that the subcouncil's position on the faculty handbook is that it should be fully controlled by the faculty, not administration. He also mentioned that discussion in the subcouncil meeting indicated that it was likely that future raises would be merit based, not across the board increases.

Senator Thieme commented that one of his college's representatives to the Undergraduate Curriculum Council (UCC) had no recollection that the ACP had been presented to the council. In addition, he asked if there was a person from the Provost's or President's Office in attendance at today's Senate meeting. President-Elect Gkolias stated that the President and Provost wanted to attend but were out of town. President Jackson stated Vice Provost Richard Irwin was invited but could not attend due to his schedule.

#### **11.10.15.06 Report of the Executive Committee**

President Jackson presented the following motion drafted by Senator Wierdl to the Senate on behalf of the Executive Committee: To request information about the money paid to private companies. We (the Faculty Senate) request that the administration give us detailed information about all private companies that received contracts resulting in receiving significant compensation from the University in the past two years and the present academic year. Significant compensation means that the company received at least \$100,000 in a given contract year. The request includes disclosure of whether the contract was awarded after an open bidding process. The deadline for which we wish to see the requested information is by the end of January, 2016, the beginning of the spring semester of the 2015-16 academic year.

**Motion adopted by voice vote with 1 nay and 5 abstentions on November 10, 2015**

#### **11.10.15.07 Reports of Standing Committees**

##### **Research Policies Committee**

NOTE: The committee report under the chairmanship of Senator Michail Gkolias is incorporated into a joint report and motion with the Administrative Policies Committee.

##### **Administrative Policies Committee**

Senator Jeffrey G. Marchetta, chair, reported on the Information Technology Usage Policy (UM 1535) and the Final Report on the investigation into the Confucius Institute.

1. Information Technology Usage Policy (UM 1535) Motion: The Administrative Policies Subcommittee and Research Policies Subcommittee would like to have the Amended IT Usage Policy, including the establishment of a Privacy Committee, be accepted by Faculty Senate and that the Amended Policy be sent to ITD, Ellen Watson, for consideration. Link to the TBR Acceptable Use Policy follows:

<https://policies.tbr.edu/guidelines/it-acceptable-uses> .

**Motion adopted by voice vote without objection on November 10, 2015.**

2. Final Report on the Investigation into the Confucius Institute Background: The investigation was initiated by an anonymous letter of concern authored by a faculty

member and received by the Faculty Senate during the 2014-15 academic year. The letter questioned practices and values of the institute. Motion: Final Report on The Confucius Institute be accepted by the Faculty Senate and that it be distributed to the Provost and made public on the Faculty Senate website.

**Motion adopted by voice vote with 1 abstention on November 10, 2015.**

#### **11.10.15.08 Old Business**

President Jackson asked Dr. Jeffrey S. Berman, Interim Faculty Ombudsperson, to provide a status update. Dr. Berman stated that he met with Provost Weddle-West to discuss the position and that he is now fully engaged in the position. President Jackson asked Senators to inform their respective departments that we have an Interim Faculty Ombudsperson. Postscript: web page information on the Faculty Ombudsperson:

<http://www.memphis.edu/facultysenate/ombudsperson.php>

#### **11.10.15.09 New Business**

Alternative Credit Project (ACP). President Jackson reported that in response to an email from Senator Schwartzbach expressing concern that the project had not been approved by faculty, University President M. David Rudd ordered that the university's ACP web site be taken down immediately and that the program will be fully vetted by faculty before it can potentially be implemented.

Senator Evans proposed the following motion: Move that the FS charge the Academic Policies Committee to investigate the proposed ACP initiative and report to the Senate.

**Motion Adopted by voice vote with 1 nay and 9 abstentions on November 10, 2015.**

#### **11.10.15.10 Announcements**

**Social Media and Marketing Forum**, (the November Forum skipped, instead learn tips and skills about the branded templates, by attending one of the Adobe InDesign classes offered by umTech), Link to sign up for classes: <https://bf.memphis.edu/training/index.php> Next forum, December 3, at 9:30 a.m. in the University Center, Memphis Room

**Articulation Agreement Reminder** general education courses, an articulation agreement governs the coordination of all aspects of degree programs in which a student might participate at the two campuses, especially the transfer of class credits.

**11.10.15.11** Adjourned at 3:30pm.