



## Minutes of the Faculty Senate

**Presiding:** Wade M. Jackson (Management Information Systems)      **Date:** 4-28-15

**Secretary:** R. Jeffrey Thieme (Elected this meeting.)

**Senators Present:** Randel T. Cox (Earth Sci), Dipankar Dasgupta (Computer Science), Donald R. Franceschetti (Physics), Charles W. Crawford (History), Jill A. Dapremont (Nursing), Jeffrey G. Marchetta (Mech Engr), Lorraine Meiners-Lovel (Univ College), Ladrica C. Menson-Furr (English), Michail Gkolias (Civil Engr), Erno Lindner (Biomed Engr), George E. Relyea (Public Health), Michael Schmidt (Art), Vania Barraza Toledo (Foreign Lang & Lit), Nicole Thompson (Instr & Curr Ldrship), William P. Travis (Health & Sport Sci), Somogy Varga (Philosophy), Máté Wierdl (Mathematical Sciences), James F. Williamson (Architecture), Mohammed Yeasin (Elec & Computer Engr), Stephen A. Zanskas (Couns, Ed, Psy & Res)

**New Senators Present:** Charles D. Bailey (Accountancy), Thomas E. Banning (Engr Tech), Richard D. Evans (Fin, Ins, & Real Estate), Robert A. Hetherington (Theatre & Dance), Meghan E. McDevitt-Murphy (Psychology), Richard D. Evans (Fin, Ins, & Real Estate), Reginald L. Green (Leadership), Mark H. Danley (Univ Libraries), Wade M. Jackson (Mang Info Systems), Donna R. Jones (Law), Benwari Kedia (Management), James C. McCutcheon (Crim & Criminal Justice), Gray Matthews (Communication), R. Jeffery Thieme (Mrktng & Suply Chain Mang), Steven D. Schwartzbach (Biology), Joseph C. Ventimiglia (Sociology)

**New Senators Present by Proxy:** To be elected (Music) David W. Spencer, Micah M. Trapp (Anthropology) Michael R. Duke, To be elected (Chemistry) Yongmei Wang, Walter H. Manning (Comm. Sci. Disorders) Lisa Lucks Mendel, Ashley D. Furrow (Journalism) Ronald E. Spielberg, Dursun Peksen (Political Science) J. Harvey Lomax

**New Senators Absent:** Economics (vacant), Military Sciences (vacant), Sch Urb Aff & Pub (vacant), To be elected (Social Work)

**TBR Representative:** Michail Gkolias (Civil Engr) elected this meeting

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

**Guests:** William Akey (Leadership), other faculty members, and Jennifer Backer (The Commercial Appeal)

The four-hundred-and-twenty seventh meeting of the University of Memphis Faculty Senate was held Tuesday, April 28, 2015, in the Senate Chambers of the University Center.

### 4.28.15.01 Call to Order

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

#### **4.28.15.02 Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved as written. President Jackson informed the body that for informational purposes the tracked changes-DRAFT version of the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) with feedback (4/24/15) from the Administrative Policies Committee and Research Policies Committee was included in their meeting materials. The Senate agreed that this will be forward to the 2015-16 Senate.

#### **4.28.15.03 Approval of Minutes**

The minutes for April 21, 2015, were approved as submitted.

#### **4.28.15.04 Presentation To Reginald L. Green**

President Wade M. Jackson presented Reginald L. Green a plaque for his year of service to the Faculty Senate as the 2014-15 President.

President Jackson asked if there were any outstanding issues from the previous Senate. Senator Wierdl inquired regarding the status of the List of Strategic Resource Investment (SRI) Budget questions that had been sent to Provost Karen Weddle-West. Past-President Reginald L. Green informed the Senate that the Provost was given the list and asked to respond. However, it was noted by President Jackson and agreed to by the Past-President that some of the questions may not be answerable due to the budgeting process itself and meetings that may occur over the summer. President Jackson agreed to follow up on the matter.

#### **4.28.15.05 President's Report**

President Jackson addressed the assembly about setting the tone for 2015-16 senate session. He informed the Senate that he will not speak unilaterally on any issue. Instead, he will transmit information to administration that has been recommended by the Faculty Senate.

President Jackson requested that senators meet immediately after the meeting to elect a chair or chair pro-tem for each standing committee. NOTE: Most senators had previously stated their preference for membership on one of the six standing committee of the Faculty Senate via submission to the Senate Office Secretary, Carolyn Featherstone.

#### **4.28.15.06 2015-16 Faculty Senate Orientation**

President Jackson stated that Faculty Senate meetings will be governed by the procedures outlined in Robert's Rules of Orders as specified in the senate's Constitution as the rules relating parliamentary law. Orientation will take place sometime this fall. The orientation will cover the role and responsibilities of Officers and standing committees and will be open to new and returning senators.

#### **4.28.15.07 Discharge Outgoing Senators**

President W. Jackson expressed his appreciation to and discharged the outgoing senators.

#### **4.28.15.08 Approval of Minutes**

The minutes for April 21, 2015, were approved as submitted.

#### **4.28.15.09 Appointment of Tellers Committee**

President Jackson appointed a tellers committee to distribute, collect, count (ballots) and announce the vote to the Senate president. Members of the Tellers Committee: Gray Matthews (Communication), William P. Travis (Health & Sport Sci), and James Williamson (Arch).

#### **4.28.15.10. Election of Faculty Senate Officers**

President Jackson asked for nominations from the floor for President. Senator Gkolias was nominated. President-Elect and TBR Faculty Subcouncil Representative: Senator Michail Gkolias (Civil Engr) elected by acclamation.

President Jackson asked for nominations from the floor for Secretary. Senator Thieme was nominated. Secretary: Senator R. Jeffrey Thieme (Mrktng & Suply Chain Mang) elected by acclamation.

President Jackson asked for nominations from the floor for Parliamentarian. Former Senator Jeffrey S. Berman (Psychology) was nominated but is ineligible due to the fact that he is not a senator but he was appointed by President Jackson as Faculty Senate Information Officer. Senator Banning nominated. Parliamentarian: Senator Thomas E. Banning (Engr Tech) elected by acclamation.

President Jackson informed the senators that at the TN Board of Regents (TBR) quarterly Faculty Subcouncil meeting the TBR Chancellor stated that for this year a pool representing a 1.5% across the board raise for faculty has been set aside, but it is up to individual institution if merit or across the board raises will be done. Longevity Pay for current employees is not affected by these recent changes. Also, he had a discussion with Provost Weddle-West about accepting junior level courses from Southwest Community college. The negotiation process will continue.

#### **4.28.15.11 Election of Two At-Large Members**

At-Large Members of the Executive Committee: Senators Robert A. Hetherington (Theatre & Dance) and Steven D. Schwartzbach (Biology) elected by ballot vote.

#### **4.28.15.12 Election of Five Members to the Committee on Committees**

President Jackson gave a brief background about the purpose of the Committee on Committees. Senator Evans was nominated from the floor and declined the nomination. The members of Committee on Committees were elected by acclamation. Senators Nicole L. Thompson (Instr & Curr Ldrship), Michael Schmidt (Art), William P. Travis (Health & Sport Sci), Máté Wierdl (Math Sci) and Donald R. Franceschetti (Physics). Postscript: Senator Thompson elected by the committee members as chair.

#### **4.28.15.13 Old Business**

President Jackson asked the Senators to review the Acceptable Use Policy. NOTE: Both the Administrative Policies (Jeff, Marchetta, chair) and Research Policies (Don Franceschetti, chair) Committees have agreed on the proposed language for the Information Technology Services (ITS) Acceptable Use of Information Technology Resources Usage Policy, UM 1535, also called Acceptable Use Policy (AUP). The link to the TBR Acceptable Use Policy is: <https://policies.tbr.edu/guidelines/it-acceptable-uses>. The Senate will return to this issue in the fall.

President Jackson stated that administration wants to add an informational item to the Faculty Handbook per Senator Franceschetti. Senator Franceschetti, Faculty Senate representative to the E-Textbook Task Force, stated that faculty should take into consideration the cost of textbooks. He further stated that language of this nature will be included in the next edition of the Faculty Handbook and the consideration is advisory in nature.

Both of the above items will be discussed when the Senate convene in the fall.

#### **4.28.15.14 New Business**

There was no new business to be discussed.

#### **4.28.15.15 Announcements**

**Professional Privilege Tax**, State of TN's legislation permitting a governmental entity to remit the \$400 Professional Privilege Tax on behalf of its eligible, full-time employees. The U of M will remit the tax for faculty and staff; refer to <http://www.state.tn.us/revenue/tntaxes/proftax.shtml> for a listing of professional licenses subject to this tax. The TN license must be current and active in order to qualify. These payments will be included on your W-2 as taxable income. To qualify for this payment, complete the form on <http://bf.memphis.edu/hr/workforce/privilege.pdf>. Should you have any questions, feel free to contact HR Associate, Armie Williams, at ext. 2604 or via email at [ajwillms@memphis.edu](mailto:ajwillms@memphis.edu). The deadline to submit: on or before May 15, 2015.

**Study Week** reminder, which is the four-day period preceding final examination. For more information, please see UM Policy #1704, Study Week and Final Examination Scheduling, available at <http://policies.memphis.edu/UM1704.htm>

**Commencement of the University of Memphis** on Saturday, May 9, 2015, Fed Ex Forum:

10:00 a.m. – College of Arts and Sciences, College of Communication and Fine Arts, University College and Doctoral candidates for these colleges

2:30 p.m. - Fogelman College of Business and Economics, College of Education, Health and Human Sciences, Herff College of Engineering, Loewenberg School of Nursing, School of Public Health, Kemmons Wilson School of Hospitality and Resort Management, School of Communication Sciences and Disorders and Doctoral candidates for these colleges/schools.

\*Cecil C. Humphrey's School of Law graduation ceremony Saturday, May 9, 2015 at 5 p.m. at The Cannon Center for the Performing Arts.

NOTE: If the NBA decides the Grizzlies Basketball Team will play on the 9 of May, the Main Commencement Events will move to SUNDAY, May 10, 2015 at 12:00 p.m. & 4:30 p.m.

**4.28.15.16 Adjourn:** 3:25 p.m.