Minutes of the Faculty Senate

Presiding: Wade M. Jackson (Business Information Tech)  Date: 9-1-15

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 (Mang Info Systems), Benwari Kedia (Management), Henry A. Kurtz (Chemistry), Jeffrey G. Marchetta (Mech Engr), James C. McCutcheon (Crim & Criminal Justice), Lorraine Meiners-Lovel (Univ College), R. Jeffery Thieme (Mrktng & Suply Chain Mang), Steven D. Schwartzbach (Biology), Joseph C. Ventimiglia (Sociology), David W. Spencer (Music), Micah M. Trapp (Anthropology), Walter H. Manning (Comm. Sci. Disorders), Dursun Peksen (Political Science), George E. Relyea (Public Health), Ronald E. Spielberger (Journalism), Nicole Thompson (Instr & Curr Ldrship), 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: Erno Lindner (Biomed Engr) John L. Williams, Ladrica C. Menson-Furr (English) Joshua Phillips

Senators Absent: Michael Schmidt (Art), Gray Matthews (Communication), Economics (vacant), Mohammed Yeasin (Elec & Computer Engr), Donna R. Jones (Law), Military Sciences (vacant), Sch Urb Aff & Pub (vacant)

TBR Representative: Michail Gkolias (Civil Engr)

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

Guest: Janis B. Brownlee (Provost Office)

The four-hundred-and-twenty eight meeting of the University of Memphis Faculty Senate was held Tuesday, September 1, 2015, in the Senate Chambers of the University Center (room 261).

9.01.15.01 Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 2:40 p.m. with a quorum present.
9.01.15.02 Approval of Agenda
The agenda was modified and approved. Modification stated by President Jackson, Vice Provost Richard (Dick) Irwin would not be speaking to the body today, due to a conflict in his schedule. The Vice Provost is requesting to speak at the next Senate meeting.

9.01.15.03 Approval of Minutes
The minutes for April 28, 2015, were approved with revisions.

9.01.15.04 President's Report
President Jackson addressed the assembly about setting the tone for 2015-16 senate. 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. As previously stated in the April FS meeting, President Jackson informed the Senate that the 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 to parliamentary law.

President Jackson informed the Senate that the Provost Office created the Academic Freedom, Free Speech, and Social Media Taskforce in response to social media comments attributed to a former UofM faculty member. The Task Force is charged with determining what content can be released on official University social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and blog). The Task Force will also look at its guidelines when responding to matter such as these. President-Elect Gkolias is the Faculty Senate representative on the Task Force.

President Jackson informed the senators that faculty should become more involved in fiscal responsibility of their individual colleges, departments, and or areas due to the university moving forward with our new budget model, Strategic Resource Investment (SRI).

President Jackson stated that administration wants to change the commencement for hooding of doctoral students due to the duration of the current ceremonies. The hooding ceremony will take place in the Michael D. Rose Theatre and Lecture Hall.

President Jackson informed the Senate about the TN Universities Faculty Senates (TUFS) fall general meeting. Senator Banning strongly encouraged senators to attend this state-wide meeting of faculty senates because the group addresses common issues in higher education at the state level including discussions on legislative actions.
9.01.15.05 President-Elect's Report
President-Elect and TBR Faculty Subcouncil Representative Senator Gkolias reported on the quarterly TBR Faculty Subcouncil July 17 meeting. In summary, there were four presentations by TBR Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, Tristan Denley. The presentations were: The Conversation, Read2Me, AppVisor Demo, and Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL). Senator Gkolias will share his personal notes of the meeting and handouts with Senate members via e-mail.

9.01.15.06 Guest Speaker
President Jackson stated, Interim Vice Provost Richard (Dick) Irwin, Topic: Complete to Compete presentation cancelled.

9.01.15.07 Report of the Executive Committee
President Jackson presented to the Senate the following motions

Motion 1: Curriculum
Move that the Faculty Senate direct Michail Gkolias, Jeffrey Berman and Wade Jackson meet with President Rudd to convey the Faculty Senate’s desire to recognize the constitutional right to determine the General Education courses and the degree requirement changes.
Adopted by hand vote 24 for, 1 against and 1 abstention on September 1, 2015.

Motion 2: Shared Governance
Move that the Faculty Senate recommends that the constitutional rights to approve degree requirement changes and the courses that will be considered General Education courses be included in the Shared Governance Conference.
Adopted by voice vote with 1 against and 1 abstention on September 1, 2015.

Senator Banning on behalf of the Executive Committee put forth the following motion to eliminate an oversight regarding membership on Teaching and Learning Advisory Committee (TLAC). TLAC is a university advisory committee to the Chief Information Officer and the Provost on technologies and issues related to teaching and learning.

Motion 3: TLAC:
Move that the Faculty Senate elect Senator Robert (Bob) A. Hetherington (Theatre & Dance) to serve as Faculty Senate representative on TLAC.
Adopted by unanimous voice vote on September 1, 2015.
9.01.15.08  Report of Committee on Committees
Senator Thompson, Committee on Committees chair put forth the following faculty nominees for administrative committees, councils, and board.

Safety Committee: David C. Burchfield (Sch of Public Health)

University Undergraduate Council (UUC) also called the Undergraduate Curriculum Council: Senator Thompson asked for nominations from the floor for UUC. The person elected will serve as President Jackson’s designee and will report to him/the Senate on the activities of the UUC. Senator Máté Wierdl (Math Sciences) self-nominated.

Space Policy Council: Senator Thompson asked for a nomination from the floor to fill the vacancy. Senator Thomas E. Banning (Engr Tech).

Faculty Sick Leave Reporting ad hoc (3 faculty representatives): Kenneth R. Lambert (Sch of Accountancy) and Eddie Jacobs (Engr) nominees, Senator Thompson asked for a nomination from the floor to fill the 1 remaining vacancy. Senator Jill A. Dapremont (Nursing) self-nominated.

Attendance Committee ad hoc: Senator Ladrica Menson-Furr (English)

Dinning Services Committee: Terra L. Smith (Health Studies)

Policy Review Board (PRB): The person elected will serve as President Jackson’s designee and will report to him/the Senate on the activities of the PRB. William P. (Pat) Travis (Health Sciences), Senator Thompson asked for nominations from the floor for.

Senator Thompson submitted all of the above nominations as a slate to the FS. All nominees were elected by acclamation on September 1, 2015.

9.01.15.09  National Conference Undergraduate Research
Faculty Senate Representative Jeffrey Berman made a report on the National Conference Undergraduate Research (NCUR) conference. The conference is in the planning stage. Large classrooms will be utilized for the conference. Faculty in every department will be asked to serve as reviewers. Request Senators go back to their respective departments and inform their colleagues about the conference and being reviewers.

9.01.15.10  Old Business
President Jackson asked if there was any old business to bring before the Senate. Senator Wierdl requested status on his department questions on SRI that were presented in the previous senate session. President Jackson will take action to follow up on his concern.

Senator Williamson inquired about the status of the Senate’s Faculty Compensation report. President Jackson stated that Provost Weddle-West accepted the report and it his understanding per the Provost’s comments to him that the accepted report included the section on merit pay.
Senator Gkolias encourage the Senators to speak their minds when any subject or issue is brought before the body. In his opinion internal communication within the body is critical.

9.01.15.11. New Business
There was no new business to discuss.

9.01.15.12. Announcements
E-Textbook Task Force member and Faculty Senate representative, Senator Franceschetti reported 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.

Early Intervention System (EIS), “Failing Students” Change in EIS
TN University Faculty Senates (TUFS), fall general meeting, hosted by the University of TN Health Sciences Center (UTHSC). September 11-13, 2015; free and open to the public.

Math Library, closed, integrated into the McWherter Library. The active collection will be integrated into the collection in McWherter. The historical collection into stored collection in Brister. Target completion date September 2015.

Shared Governance conference fall 2015 – late September, sponsored by the Office of Provost
Read2Me Literacy Program, www.read2me.us, (847) 722-4639, source of information: TBR
Faculty Subcouncil Meeting July 17, 2015

National Conference Undergraduate Research (NCUR), hosted by UofM, April 5-8, 2017, UofM points of contacts Drs. Richard Irwin and Melinda Jones, estimated 3,000 student participants, faculty volunteers needed to review and or read students abstracts, training summer of 2016.

9.01.15.13 Adjourn: 3:30pm