



Minutes of the Faculty Senate

Presiding: Henry A. Kurtz (Chemistry)

Date: 03-26-19

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

Senators Present: Mohd Hasan Ali (Elec & Comp Engr), Reza Banai (Sch Urb Aff & Pub Pol), Brennan K. Berg (KWS), Mary K. Boudreaux (Leadership), Eugene Buder (Comm. Sci. Disorders), Gerald Chaudron (Univ Libraries), Michael K. Chisamore (Architecture), Coriana L. Close (Art), Lorinda B. Cohoon (English), Jill A. Dapremont (Nursing), Francis Fabian (Management), Hal Freeman, Jr. (Univ College), David M. Gray (Philosophy), Denis D. Grélé (World Lang & Lit), Donna R. Jones (Law), Jeffrey G. Marchetta (Mech Engr), Gray Matthews (Communication), Peter L. McMickle (Accountancy), Elizabeth B. Meisinger (Psychology), Sanjay Mishra (Physics), DeAnna N. Owens (Instr & Curr Ldrshp), Esra Ozdenerol (Earth Sci), George E. Relyea (Public Health), Brian J. Ruggaber (Theatre & Dance), Michael Sances (Political Science), Sajjan G. Shiva (Computer Science), Mark Sunderman (Fin, Ins, & Real Estate), Laura C. Taylor (Social Work), R. Jeffery Thieme (Mrktng & Suply Chain Mang) William P. Travis (Health & Sport Sci), Máté Wierdl (Mathematical Sciences), Jin Yang (Journalism)

Senator Present by Proxy: Katherine Hicks (Anthropology) Michael V. Perez, Erno Lindner (Biomed Engr) John L. Williams, Joseph C. Ventimiglia (Social Work) Jennifer M. Loftus, Stephen J. Watts (Crim & Criminal Justice) Shelly R. Keith,

Senators Absent: Thomas E. Banning (Engr Tech), Leigh Falls Holman (Couns, Ed, Psy & Res), Charles W. Crawford (History), Robyn L. Jones (Music), J. Joaquin Lopez (Economics), Sandra Richardson (Bus Info Tech), Steven D. Schwartzbach (Biology), Harley P. Thompson (Mil Sci ROTC-Air Force), Brian A. Waldron (Civil Engr)

Faculty Senate Information Officer: To be Appointed (vacant)

Guests: M. David Rudd, absent (President Office), Thomas Nenon (Provost Office), Edward Ordman and Linda A. Bennett (UMAR), Martha D. Robinson (ad hoc Budget & Finance Committee/Lambuth Liaison), Gloria F. Carr (Faculty Ombudsperson), David M. Kemme (Board of Trustees, Faculty Rep.), Meghan Cullen (President, Staff Senate), Robert Jackson and Carolyn Hull-Toye (Info Tech Svcs), Tammy Hedges and Holly Synder (Marketing & Communication)

The four-hundred-and-sixty-one meeting of the University of Memphis Faculty Senate was held Tuesday, March 26, 2019, in Senate Chambers of the University Center, room 261.

03.26.19.01 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:42 p.m. with a quorum present.

03.26.19.02 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as written.

03.26.19.03 Approval of Minutes

The minutes for February 19, 2019 were approved as written.

03.26.19.04 Faculty Trustee Finalists

President Kurtz reported that the Senate would hear from UofM Board of Trustees finalists: Drs. Thomas J. Hrach and David M. Kemme, during a Questions and Answers session. President Kurtz introduced the finalists and yielded the floor to them for opening comments. Dr. Hrach began, followed by Dr. Kemme. President Kurtz opened the floor for questions at the conclusion of the opening comments. President Kurtz yielded to the finalists for closing statements.

03.26.19.05 President's Report

1. Faculty Senate President's Breakfast and Lunch Meetings in April. President Kurtz reported that University President M. David Rudd has set this breakfast and lunch meetings for April with Senators. President Kurtz encouraged Senators to attend the meetings.

2. Cancel Guest Speaker, Richard Irwin, other matters. President Kurtz reported that Dr. Richard (Dick) Irwin Topic: UofM Global meeting with the Senate is canceled. Kurtz will try to reschedule the presentation by Dr. Irwin.

President Kurtz reported that last month's report by Senator Lopez on salaries addressed a salary cap proposal that could be used to fund specific initiatives. He also reported the Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Raajkumar (Raaj) Kurapati has proposed several alternative financial models. President Kurtz will invite the CFO to discuss proposals at the next Senate meeting. President Kurtz summarized a few proposals including tiered flat rate raises.

03.26.19.06 Reports of Standing Committees

President Kurtz reported that the Administrative Policies Committee and the Faculty Policies Committee would be reporting today. President Kurtz yielded the floor to Senator Close, member of the Administrative Policies Committee. Senator Close reported on issues related to fossil fuel divestments. She summarized the divestment movement at 41 USA higher education institutions and the UofM. Senator Close reported that the primary arguments against fossil fuel divestments are possible loss in research monies and fiduciary responsibility. She informed the Senate that University of Memphis (UofM) investments are held by the UofM Foundation. Senator Close request Senators to informally poll their respective departments (faculty, staff, and students) for interest in divestment of fossil fuels and review the website: fossilfuel.org for more information.

President Kurtz yielded the floor to Senator Buder, chair of the Faculty Policies Committee. Senator Buder discussed Faculty Handbook Chapters 1 and 2 revisions. He summarized the

efforts of the committee on Chapters 1 and 2 and highlighted that the committee's vision for Chapter 1 is to provide more context on vision, mission, and values, etc. Senator Buder presented the motion, "Move materials regarding Academic Freedom and Responsibility, Professional Ethics, and American Association of University Professors (AAUP), from Chapter 2 to Chapter 1."

Adopted by hand vote unanimously on March 26, 2019.

Senator Buder introduced committee members Senator Ozdenerol and Senator Matthews to recognize their leadership in the aforementioned changes on Chapters 1 and 2. Senator Buder then discussed Chapter 1 draft materials for Faculty Vision, Mission, and Values and asked for volunteers to review the committee's work. President Kurtz suggested that anyone interested can contact Senator Buder directly and that the Faculty Policies Committee should send out the revisions via email for comments.

Senator Buder then discussed issues related to the revision of Chapter 4 on tenure and promotion including Office of Legal Counsel oversight. Senator Buder reported that these changes need review by other Senators outside of the Faculty Policies Committee who have different experiences, especially with respect to clinical faculty. He requested volunteers for the future review of Chapter 4 in the faculty categories: clinical, instructors, lecturer, and research professors. Senators volunteered from Nursing, Education (ICL), Public Health, Health Studies, University College, World Languages and Literatures, and the creative units, i.e. Theatre & Dance. Senator Buder to email Chapter 1 edits to Senators and distribute the draft of Chapter 4 to those academic areas referenced.

03.26.19.07 New Business

President Kurtz reported that there was no New Business. Sidebar: President Kurtz in consideration of the Guest Speakers modified the order of business by switching Senator Wierdl's discussion to the end of the meeting, with Senate agreement.

03.26.19.08 Guest Speaker

President Kurtz reported that Tammy Hedges, Vice President of External Relations, Marketing and Communication, would give a brief presentation on the UofM Website redesign. President Kurtz yielded the floor to Ms. Hedges. Ms. Hedges stated that it has been four years since the last redesign the reason for the makeover and that they will move into production in June. Ms. Hedges introduced and yielded the floor to Ms. Holly Synder, Assistant Director, Marketing and Communication, who gave a presentation on the proposed website design to the Faculty Senate. If you have any questions regarding web redesign, please contact Ms. Synder.

03.26.19.09 Old Business

President Kurtz reported that the motion, R1, dealing with the salary talk was postponed due to time concerns at the last FS meeting. President Kurtz yielded the floor to Senator Wierdl to continue his discussion on the R1 motion and an additional motion on an Across the Board Raise. Senator Wierdl provided background information and continued his discussion on the R1 Motion 2019:

“The Senate will take an active part in planning and executing the transition to a Research 1 institution, and it will inform the Faculty regularly and in detail about its progress.” Main motion amended, to add “via the Research Policies Committee.” The motion now reads: “The Senate will take an active part in planning and executing the transition to a Research 1 institution, and it will inform the Faculty regularly and in detail about its progress, via the Research Policies Committee.”

Adopted by show of hands with 1 nay and 0 abstention on March 26, 2019.

Senator Wierdl presented his second motion, Across the board raise motion 2019:

“The Senate supports an across-the-board raise for Faculty for the next academic year, 2019/2020. This means, the full 2% of the Governor’s promised raise will be given to each department.”

Discussion ensued whereby the main motion was amended by removing the second sentence. The amendment to the motion was adopted unanimously. Further discussion on the Across the board raise motion 2019, which now reads:

“The Senate supports an across-the-board raise for Faculty for the next academic year, 2019/2020.

The Senate lost quorum and meeting adjourned.

03.19.19.11 Adjourn: 4:58 p.m.