Minutes of the Faculty Senate

Presiding: Henry A. Kurtz (Chemistry)  Date: 9-4-18

Secretary: R. Jeffrey Thieme (elected this meeting.)

Senators Present: Mohd Hasan Ali (Elec & Comp Engr), Reza Banai (Sch Urb Aff & Pub Pol), Thomas E. Banning (Engr Tech), Brennan K. Berg (KWS), Mary K. Boudreaux (Leadership), Eugene Buder (Comm. Sci. Disorders), Gerald Chaudron (Univ Libraries), Coriana L. Close (Art), Lorinda B. Cohoon (English), Charles W. Crawford (History), Francis Fabian (Management), David M. Gray (Philosophy), Denis D. Grélé (World Lang & Lit), Donna R. Jones (Law), Robyn L. Jones (Music), Erno Lindner (Biomed Engr), J. Joaquin Lopez (Economics Jeffrey G. Marchetta (Mech Engr), Gray Matthews (Communication), Peter L. McMickle (Accountancy), Elizabeth Meisinger (Psychology), George E. Relyea (Public Health), Sandra Richardson (Bus Info Tech), Michael Sances (Political Science), Steven D. Schwartzbach (Biology), Sajjan G. Shiva (Computer Science), Mark Sunderman (Fin, Ins, & Real Estate), Laura C. Taylor (Social Work), R. Jeffery Thieme (Mrktng & Suply Chain Mang) Harley P. Thompson (Mil Sci ROTC-Air Force) William P. Travis (Health & Sport Sci), Stephen J. Watts (Crim & Criminal Justice), Máté Wierdl (Mathematical Sciences), Jin Yang (Journalism)


Senators Absent: Michael K. Chisamore (Architecture), Leigh Falls Holman (Couns, Ed, Psy & Res), Sanjay Mishra (Physics), Esra Ozdenerol (Earth Sci), DeAnna N. Owens (Instr & Curr Ldrshp), Harley P. Thompson (Mil Sci ROTC-Air Force), Brian A.Waldron (Civil Engr), Joseph C. Ventimiglia (Social Work)

Faculty Senate Information Officer: To be Appointed (vacant)

Guests: M. David Rudd (President Office), Karen Weddle-West (Provost Office), Raajkumar Kurapati (Chief Financial Officer), Linda A. Bennett and Lawrence A. Pivnick-absent (UMAR), Martha D. Robinson (ad hoc Budget & Finance Committee/ Lambuth Liaison), David M. Kemme (Board of Trustees, Faculty Rep.)

The four-hundred-and-fifty fifth meeting of the University of Memphis Faculty Senate was held Tuesday, September 4, 2018, in Senate Chambers of the University Center, room 261.

9.04.18.01 Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 2:40 p.m. with a quorum present.
Approval of Agenda
The agenda was approved as written.

Approval of Minutes
The minutes for April 24, 2017, were approved as written.

President’s Report
1. Faculty Trustee (David M. Kemme). President Kurtz yielded the floor to Dr. David M. Kemme, the new Faculty Trustee to the University of Memphis Board of Trustees. Dr. Kemme thanked the Senate for allowing him to serve as Faculty Trustee, finishing the term of Katharine (Kate) Traylor Schaffzin. Dr. Kemme stated that he is on the Board to provide the perspective of the faculty, but that he has fiduciary responsibilities to the University primarily. The Faculty Senate (FS) is the most important vehicle for communicating the voice of the faculty at the University. University President M. David Rudd has respect for the FS. Dr. Kemme encouraged the FS to tackle faculty issues and work hard. He offered to visit academic departments upon request to discuss his role as Faculty Trustee. Dr. Kemme stated that he will try to attend as many FS meetings as possible. The floor was opened for questions. There were none. President Kurtz reminded the FS that Dr. Kemme is filling in for the second year of the term of the 2-year term of former Faculty Trustee, Schaffzin, and the Senate will elect a new Faculty Trustee soon.

2. Summer Meetings with the Deans. President Kurtz reported that the Executive Committee (EC) held meetings with the Academic Deans over the summer months. President Kurtz reported that Shared Governance was a major topic of discussion. Also, the EC encouraged the Deans to interact more with Senators on faculty issues. All Deans agreed that it was a good idea to have regular meetings with Senators.

3. Research Committee. President Kurtz reported that Dr. Jasbir Dhaliwal, Exec. VP Research Innovation, and Vice President Research, wants to create a university research council. President Kurtz stated that the Senate will work to fill positions on the council by October.

4. Faculty Senate Retreat. President Kurtz reported that the Senate discussed the budget and code of conduct issues at the retreat. In President Kurtz’s opinion, the retreat was very useful and the informal structure of the Retreat encouraged productive dialog.

5. Academic Undergraduate Renewal Policy. President Kurtz reported that his designee on the University Undergraduate Council (UUC), Senator Jeffrey Marchetta, would present to the Senate the proposed Academic Undergraduate Renewal Policy. The proposed policy was distributed to all Senators prior to the meeting. Senator Marchetta stated that the UUC is going to vote on the proposed policy in November. President Kurtz encouraged Senators to discuss the proposed policy with their department’s colleagues. The Senate will vote on the proposal at its October meeting.

Welcome New Senators
President Kurtz welcomed new Senators and asked them to stand and introduce themselves. The incoming Senators introduced themselves.
9.04.18.06  Executive Committee
President Kurtz provided a brief statement to the Senate that the Executive Committee act on behalf of the full Senate during the summer, regarding the ad hoc Budget and Finance Committee Report. President Kurtz yield the floor to Senator Thiem to present the Executive Committee motions on Faculty Salary Compression Report and Standing Rules.

Senator Thiem, speaker to the summer motions from the EC:
Move that the Faculty Senate accept the ad hoc Budget and Finance Committee, Faculty Salary Compression Report. (NOTE: The report was distributed to Senators prior to the meeting. Budget and Finance Committee members are chair, Martha D. Robertson, Kenneth R. Lambert, Craig J. Langstraat, and Genae D. Strong (Dr. Strong opted out of the report due to her busy schedule as co-chair of the ad hoc Family Friendly Campus Committee). At this point in the meeting questions was raised by some Senators. University President Rudd informed the Senate that there was 2.5% available for raises. And the lowest paid employees were paid first (.3%) and 2.2% was allocated with dean and chair recommendations.

Senator Thiem again put before the body the EC motion on accepting the report. Moved that the Faculty Senate accept the ad hoc Budget and Finance Committee Faculty Salary Compression Report. 
Adopted by voice vote, 2 against on September 4, 2018.

Senator Thiem presented the motion on Article 3, Standing Rules, Section 10, Faculty Senate Information Officer. Move that the Faculty Senate replace the current Section 10. FACULTY SENATE INFORMATION OFFICER:
An Information Officer, who is a technology-savvy faculty member, shall be appointed by the President of the Faculty Senate to serve as an ex-officio member of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. The Information Officer is charged with developing and organizing periodic surveys of the faculty and reporting the results to the Faculty Senate.

With the following section:

Section 10. FACULTY SENATE INFORMATION OFFICER
An Information Officer may be appointed by the President of the Faculty Senate to aid in communicating with the members of the Faculty Senate and the faculty as a whole. The Information Officer is not restricted to members of the Faculty Senate.
Adopted by voice vote unanimously on September 4, 2018.

9.04.18.07  Report of Committee on Committees
President Kurtz yielded the floor to Senator Travis. Senator Travis, on behalf of Committee on Committees chair, Senator Dapremont, asked the Senate to accept the nominations as a slate with an up or down vote for the following FS representatives and university committees:

1. Faculty Athletic Committee – 2-year term
Esra Ozdenerol (Earth Sci)
2. Safety Committee – 1 year term
   David C. Burchfield (Public Health)
3. Teaching Learning Advisory Committee (TLAC) – 1 year term
   Mark Sunderman (Fin, Ins & Real Estate)

Senator Travis asked for further nominations. There being none, the nominations were offered as a slate.
Adopted by voice vote unanimously on September 4, 2018.

9.04.18.08. Old Business
President Kurtz reported that there was no Old Business.

9.04.18.09 New Business
President Kurtz reported that there was no New Business.

9.04.18.10 Standing Committees Organizational Meeting
President Kurtz informed the Senate that at the conclusion of the meeting the standing committees need to meet and elect a chair (chair pro-tem) if they have not already done so. Afterwards, they should share that information with the Office of the Faculty Senate, Ms. Featherstone.

9.04.18.11 Announcements
Uof M Board of Trustees Meeting, tomorrow, September 5, 2018.

University of Memphis, host site for International Council for Educational Media (ICEM) Conference, Sep 18-21, 2018, FedEX Institute of Technology. For more information contact, Dr. Jasbir Dhaliwal, email: jdhalwl@memphis.edu.

9.04.18.12 Adjourn: 3:08 p.m.