



Minutes of the Faculty Senate

Presiding: Jeffrey S. Berman (Psychology)

Date: 10-13-09

Secretary: Cynthia G. Tucker (English)

Senators Present: Narahari B. Achar (Physics), Leonardo G. Altino (Music), Thomas E. Banning (Engr Tech), Gloria F. Carr (Nursing), Amy L. de Jongh Curry (Biomed Engr), Guiomar Duenas-Vargas (History), Richard D. Evans (Fin, Ins, & Real Estate), Edwin G. Frank (Univ Libraries), Richard L. Irwin (Health & Sport Sci), Wade M. Jackson (Management Info Systems), Candace C. Justice (Journalism), Robert Kozma (Math Sciences) James M. Lukawitz (Accountancy), Thomas E. Mason (Architecture), Cedar L. Nordbye (Art), Michael S. O'Nele (Theater & Dance), Edward H. Perry (Mech Engr), Lawrence A. Pivnick (Law School), Hoke Robinson (Philosophy), Stephan J. Schoech (Biology), William T. Segui (Civil Engr), Keith D. Sisson (Univ College), Sharon A. Stanley (Political Science), Jeff Thieme (Mrktng & Suply Chain Mang), Joseph C. Ventimiglia (Sociology), Kathryn S. Whitted (Sch of Urb Aff & Pub Pol), Robert R. Wiggins (Management) and Yaschica D. Williams (Criminal Justice)

Senators Present by Proxy: Robert P Connolly (Anthropology, Kathryn A. Hicks), Linda D. Jarmulowicz (Audiology & Speech-Lang Path), Caroline A. Royal-Evans; and David N. Lumsden (Earth Sciences, Gregory N. Taff)

Senators Absent: Pinaki S. Bose, (Economics), David C. Burchfield (Public Health), Jaime M. Ferran (Foreign Lang & Lit), vacant (Leadership), Derek E. Hopp (Mil Sci, Naval Sci), William H. Jermann (Elec & Comp Engr)

TBR Representative: Wade M. Jackson (Management Info Systems)

Faculty Senate Information Officer: Lee E. Allen (College of Education/Instr & Curr Ldrship)

Guests: David N. Cox (President's Office); Thomas J. Nenon (Provost's Office) and David H. Ciscel (University of Memphis Association of Retirees, [UMAR])

The three-hundred-and-seventy-fourth meeting of The University of Memphis Faculty Senate was held Tuesday, October 13, 2009, in the Auditorium, Room 124, E.C. Ball Hall.

10.13.09.01 Call to Order

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

10.13.02.02 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved.

10.13.09.03 Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved.

10.13.09.04 President's Report

1. TUFS Position Paper

Having received a majority vote of support from Tennessee's state universities, the Tennessee University Faculty Senates (TUFS) position paper was sent on to Nashville. Governor Bredesen and legislators have acknowledged having received it and promised to give it careful consideration. Newspaper articles and editorials have been supportive. Legislators are talking about aspects of the TUFS proposal. At the very least, the report will spur thinking about the need for reorganization.

2. New Campus Data Security Policy, UM 1691

The Information Technology Policy and Planning Council has created UM 1691, whereby all computing devices must have restricted university data encrypted. Faculty who do not comply with the policy will be liable for unauthorized access. Compliance will include completing an online tutorial, which is currently being developed.

3. Provost's Liaison to Senate Committees

The Provost's office has notified the EC that the following liaisons will be available to senate committees as resource people and will attend meetings upon request:

Executive Committee: Ralph J. Faudree, Provost

Academic Policies: Shannon L. Blanton, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Programs

Academic Support: Thomas J. Nenon, Vice Provost for Assessment, Institutional Research and Reporting

Faculty Policies: Karen D. Weddle-West, Vice Provost for Graduate Programs

Research Policies: Andrew W. Meyers, Vice Provost for Research

Administrative Policies: Daniel J. Poje, Assistant Vice Provost for Academic Programs and Effectiveness

Library Policies: Daniel L. Lattimore, Dean of University College and Vice Provost for Extended Programs

4. Visit by Vice President Robert Eoff at November Meeting

As our November guest speaker, Robert "Bob" Eoff, Vice President for Communications, Public Relations and Marketing, will be answering questions pertaining to community relations and the university's plans for its centennial in AY 2012. Standing Committees were asked to submit their questions to the senate office by Friday, October 30.

10.13.09.05 Guest Speaker: Dr. Ralph Faudree, Provost

After our guest, Provost Faudree, was welcomed by President J. Berman, the Standing Committees presented the following questions for his response:

1. From the Research Policies Committee: *How should funded research get increased emphasis in promotion and tenure decisions?* Dr. Faudree replied that this is an issue that varies so much from department to department, and even within the same disciplines, that one cannot simply assume, as the question implies, that funded research is not being emphasized adequately. He took this occasion to stress that funding was only a tool for research. He urged us to look at the research results, not just the dollars behind it, and cautioned against the view that grants are the only measure of great universities.

2. From the Faculty Policies Committee: *Although teaching, research, and service are all important functions of the university's faculty, which is viewed as the most important in terms of promotion and tenure?* Dr. Faudree's impression is that departments put the greatest weight on teaching and scholarship/research and less on service until junior colleagues get tenure.

3. From the Academic Support Committee: *[We have a] report provided by the Task Force to Evaluate the SIRS Instrument (Petry, 2008),[but] what has been done to assess the validity of items on the current SETE? Likewise, what is the impact of department-and-instructor-authored items on the tenure and promotion process?* Dr. Faudree cited a March 19, 2002 report of the SIRS Evaluation Committee, which recommended use of multiple methods to evaluate faculty teaching. As for the department-and-instructor-authored questions, it is hard to judge their impact because they have not been heavily used. In response to follow-up questions, Dr. Faudree cited studies that show that our strongest students are also most likely to fill out the SETEs. He does not believe that faculty who are seeking promotion or tenure or both feel pressured to give better grades. He acknowledged the problem of using the SETEs for online courses. He did not suggest any remedy but stated that he was open to any review of SETEs that our Senate committees decide to conduct.

4. From the Library Policies Committee: *What plan does the university administration have for maintaining and increasing University Libraries funding when the ARRA money dries up?* The provost observed that our higher enrollment numbers (reflecting better recruitment and higher rates of retention) will help a bit, but there will still have to be cuts. He will not, however, allow any cuts in material acquisitions.

5. From the Academic Policies Committee: *We are concerned about the process for determining the academic calendar. Because the spring semester starts on a Thursday and the following Monday is a holiday (Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday), Tuesday-Thursday classes have met for a week-and-a-half before Monday night classes have their first meeting. Meanwhile, Monday-Wednesday-Friday classes have more absent students on the first Friday because the long weekend gives them five days before the class meets again. Would it not be more reasonable either to start the Monday before the MLK holiday or the Tuesday after it?* Dr. Faudree agreed it would and explained that he had objected strenuously when the academic calendar was set by TBR.

6. From the Administrative Policies Committee: *Many students and faculty are on campus evenings and nights. Concerns exist about nighttime security. Can the university improve nighttime light distribution, increase the visibility of security patrols, and increase student/faculty awareness of the existing escort service.* Dr. Faudree informed us that better and more efficient lighting is being installed.

7. From the Executive Committee: *During the past calendar year, how many contacts has the Faculty Ombudsperson had with faculty, how many resulted in the Ombudsperson making a recommendation to you, and of these, how many resulted in a resolution to the satisfaction of the faculty member? Also, why is contact information for the Ombudsperson not available anywhere on the university's web pages?* Noting first that the ombudsperson does not report to him, Dr. Faudree estimated that there were some fifteen *serious* interactions, and that in three or four of these cases, the faculty member asked that the ombudsperson accompany him to speak with a superior. Dr. Faudree acknowledged that the only way for someone to reach the ombudsperson is through the senate office. In response to follow-up questions, Dr. Faudree said that the current ombudsperson, whom he appointed, Dr. E. W."Bill" Brody will remain in that position at least for this academic year. The senate will therefore not have a chance to elect a person for that position.

10.13.02.06 Election to Fill Committee on Committees Vacancy

W. Jackson on behalf of the Executive Committee presented the following motion: Move that the Faculty Senate elect Kathryn S. Whitted, School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy (Sociology), to serve on the Committee on Committees.

Adopted by unanimous voice vote on October 13, 2009.

10.13.09.07 New Business

W. Jackson on behalf of the Executive Committee presented the following motion:

Move that the Faculty Senate support the two part motion in becoming a member of Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA).

1. The University of Memphis Faculty Senate should become a member of the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics.
2. Edward H. Perry will serve as the Faculty Senate's representative to the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics.

Adopted by unanimous voice vote on October 13, 2009.

T. Banning presented the following motion that the Faculty Senate support the resolution approved by the Executive Committee:

3. Move that the Faculty Senate support the resolution from the Executive Committee in recognition of University's Police Services. Ensuring the physical safety of members of the university community is an essential condition for a university to function effectively. In light of the recent report by the Tennessee Bureau of investigation highlighting the low level of crime at the University of Memphis, the Faculty Senate would like to recognize and commend the accomplishments of the university's Police Services and its director, Bruce Harber, in keeping our campus a safe environment.

Adopted by unanimous voice vote on October 13, 2009.

10.13.09.08 Committee on Committees Nominations

1. C. Justice, Chair of the Committee on Committees Move that the Faculty Senate elect the following faculty members to serve as faculty representatives on the following university standing committees:

Undergraduate Grade Appeals Committee (2 primary, 2 alternates):

Primary: Guiomar Duenas-Vargas (History) and David A. Rosenthal (Health Services & System Program)

Alternates: Kevin D. Richmond (Music) and Maureen E Gray (Nursing)

Program Assessment Committee:

Richard L Irwin (Health & Sport Sciences) and Gladius Lewis (Mechanical Engineering)

Space Policy Council:

Cedar L. Nordbye (Art)

Faculty Convocation Planning Committee:

Kate Schaffzin (Law) and Eleanor R. Sanders-Lawson (Leadership)

Division of Business and Finance Standing Committees, (4):

Facilities and Services Committee:

Cedar L. Nordbye (Art), Kevin D. Richmond (Music), Jerry L. Anderson (Civil Engr), and Michael S. O'Nele (Theatre & Dance)

Fee Refund and Appeals Committee:

M. Ruth Williams (Health & Sport Sciences), Gayle H. Shiba (Nursing), Terra L. Smith (Health & Sport Sciences), and Lawrence A. Pivnick (Law)

Public Records Committee:

Peter L. McMickle (Accountancy), George E. Relyea (Community Health), Laurenda K. Cunningham (University Libraries), and Robin S. Poston (Management Info Systems)

Traffic and Parking Committee:

Mitchell M. Withers (CERI), Pepper E. Walker (Student Support Services), Lawrence A. Pivnick (Law), and Robert L. Willis (Journalism)

Others

Safety and Security Committee:

David C. Burchfield (Health Administration)

Dining Services Committee:

Beth Egan (Health & Sport Sciences)

Adopted by unanimous voice vote on October 13, 2009.

2. Candace Justice then Move that the Faculty Senate elect the following faculty members to serve as faculty representatives on the following Faculty Senate ad hoc committees:

Ad hoc Marcus Orr Faculty Senate Lectureship Committee:

Jonathan Judaken (History)

Ad hoc Budget and Finance Committee:

Donna R. Jones (Law)

Ad hoc Legislative Liaison Committee:

Robert L. Ivey (University Libraries), Thomas Hrach (Journalism), and Carl R. Williams (Engineering Tech)

Ad hoc Shared Governance Committee:

Belinda D. Fleming (Nursing)

Ad hoc Information Technology Committee:

Thomas E. Banning (Engineering Tech)

Charles J. Biggers (Biology)

Maurice A. Crouse (History)

Michael J. Gootzeit (Economics)

Mahmud Hossain (Accountancy)

E. Trey Martindale (Instruction & Curriculum Leadership)

Clif Mims (Instruction & Curriculum Leadership)

Michael S. O'Nele (Theater & Dance)

Adopted by unanimous voice vote on October 13, 2009.

10.13.09.09 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05p.m.