



Minutes of the Faculty Senate

Presiding: Jeffrey S. Berman (Psychology)

Date: 2-2-10

Secretary: Cynthia G. Tucker (English)

Senators Present: Narahari B. Achar (Physics), Leonardo G. Altino (Music), Thomas E. Banning (Engr Tech), Pinaki S. Bose (Economics), David C. Burchfield (Public Health), Gloria F. Carr (Nursing), Amy L. de Jongh Curry (Biomedical Engr), Guiomar Duenas-Vargas (History), Richard D. Evans (Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate), Edwin G. Frank (Univ Libraries), Reginald L. Green (Leadership), Derek E. Hopp (Mil Science, Naval Sci), Wade M. Jackson (Management Info Systems), Linda D. Jarmulowicz (Audiology & Speech-Lang Path), William H. Jermann (Elec & Comp Engr), Candace C. Justice (Journalism), Robert Kozma (Math Sciences), Stephen J. Leierer (Counseling, Education, Psy & Res), James M. Lukawitz (Accountancy), David N. Lumsden (Earth Sciences), E. Trey Martindale (Instruction & Curriculum Leadership), Michael S. O'Nele (Theatre & Dance), Cedar L. Nordbye (Art), Edward H. Perry (Mech Engr), Lawrence A. Pivnick (Law School), Hoke Robinson (Philosophy), Vasile Rus (Computer Science), Stephan J. Schoech (Biology), William T. Segui (Civil Engr), Keith D. Sisson (Univ College), Sharon A. Stanley (Political Science), Robert J. Thieme (Marketing & Supply-Chain Management), Joseph C. Ventimiglia (Sociology), Kathryn S. Whitted (School of Urban Affairs & Public Policy), Robert R. Wiggins (Management) and Amanda J. Young (Communication)

Senators Present by Proxy: Richard L. Irwin (Health & Sports Science), Lawrence W. Weiss

Senators Absent: Robert P. Connolly (Anthropology), Thomas E. Mason (Architecture), Tarek R. Farhat (Chemistry), Jaime M. Ferran (Foreign Language & Literature) and Yaschica D. Williams (Criminal Justice)

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

Faculty Senate Information Officer: Margaret E. Robinson (University Libraries)

Guests: David N. Cox (President's Office), Stanley E. Stevens (Faculty Athletic Representative), Thomas J. Nenon (Provost's Office), David G. Zettergren (Interim Vice President for Business and Finance, Assistant Vice President for Finance) and Sharon L. Hayes (Director of Budgeting)

The three-hundred-and-seventy-eighth meeting of The University of Memphis Faculty Senate was held Tuesday, February 2, 2010, in the Auditorium, Room 124, E.C. Ball Hall.

02.02.10.01 Call to Order

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

02.02.10.02 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved.

02.02.10.03 Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved.

02.02.10.04 President's Report

1. New Faculty Pay Issue: At Senator C. Norbye's request, President J. Berman asked Interim Vice President (VP) David Zettergren whether new faculty members could be issued paychecks before to the end of September. There was no response until President J. Berman queried the Interim VP again, and what he was told was that D. Zettergren sees no evidence of this being a common need, and in any case, such a change would be costly. The Executive Committee (EC) will therefore bring to the Faculty Senate (FS) a motion that the Faculty Input Committee be charged with putting out a short survey to determine whether new faculty members have actually found it a problem to get through September without receiving a paycheck.
2. Message to provost regarding oversight of Faculty Ombudsperson: President J. Berman has informed the provost of the FS's vote to withdraw from its oversight role, a function that has been thwarted by the ombudsperson's unwillingness to communicate with us. Nor will the FS pursue the issue of its involvement in choosing the ombudsperson until the position is vacant again.
3. Announcement of course drop/add channel: There have been many positive responses to the new drop/add channel, which was added to the MyMemphis system the day before the Spring Term began. Senator T. Banning has also received some suggestions for further improvements.
4. Events surrounding higher education bill in special session: While other higher education Tennessee faculty senates and Tennessee University Faculty Senates (TUFS) had a role in proposing the language that made its way into the bill, our own administration did not involve us in the process. This lack of communication underscores the barriers that stand in the way of shared governance.
5. Online access to department budgets: Thanks to the able assistance of Sharon Hayes and her staff in the Office of Financial Planning, faculty will now be able to access their departments' budgets and watch its activity online. Instructions and guides are now ready. An announcement will be sent out on Monday, February 1.
6. Upcoming visit to Faculty Senate: Dean Sylverna V. Ford, University Libraries will meet with the Faculty Senate on February 23. Standing committees' questions for her should reach the senate office by February 12.
7. Continuing discussion of T&P language: Senators C. Tucker and M. O'Nele met with David Cox, Executive Assistant to the President before the holiday break to work on a policy statement acceptable to all sides. The EC, in turn, has come up with some language that it will submit to the Faculty Policies Committee for its prompt consideration so that it can be discussed at the senate's meeting on February 23.

8. Task force on evaluating teaching effectiveness: Having recently received the provost's suggestions for members who might serve on this task force, the Committee on Committee will proceed with making its nominations.

02.02.10.05 President-Elect's Report

President-Elect W. Jackson reported on the January 22 Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) Faculty Sub-Council meeting. There were no action items, but there was a good deal of discussion about the state's education bill. The faculty workload issue was also discussed.

NOTE: As a point of information, Thomas Nenon (Provost Office) stated that the TBR has not abandoned the idea of mandating workloads for graduate faculty.

02.02.10.06 Guest Speaker: David G. Zettergren, Interim VP for Business & Finance

Interim Vice President for Business and Finance and Assistant Vice President for Finance, David G. Zettergren and Sharon Hayes, Director of Budgeting attended the meeting.

Interim VP D. Zettergren took questions from the Faculty Senate Standing Committees and responded as follows:

1. From the Academic Support Committee: *It is clear that funding levels from the state will continue to create fiscal challenges for the University in the foreseeable future. Recently, the administration has employed various strategies to reduce costs. What strategies are being employed by the administration to increase funding from non-state sources and how successful have these efforts been? Specifically, how has funding from non-state sources in the past two years compared to funding from these sources in prior years?* Increasing enrollment and raising student tuition are major strategies. U of M fees and tuition are low on the scale of competing schools, so we can increase and still be "a deal" for students. Private gifts and contracts such as we have with the ARRA (American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009) are other good sources of revenue.

2. From the Faculty Policies Committee: *How can the University create a greater sense of community via pay incentives?* The Business & Finance Office is sensitive to the need for equity in awarding merit raises and providing incentives to incoming faculty. The university has been in discussion with TN Board of Regents, Chancellor Charles Manning regarding salary increases. The last salary increase was in 2007. Salary increases are a difficult area to be addressed.

3. From the Research Policies Committee: *If the University has to spend \$100,000 on research to get paid \$125,000 for the sponsored research, what budgeting process is in place that will guarantee that the administration will not think that it can cut the budget \$100,000 by eliminating that project? Isn't expansion of sponsored research one of the most appropriate ways for the University to adjust to decreases in funding from the State of Tennessee?* Research remains a protected focus area. Research dollars are not put into any other funds. And unrestricted dollars are separately accounted for.

4. From the Academic Policies Committee: *We saw in the news that University successfully lobbied for legislation to form the “Memphis Research Consortium.” What are the financial consequences of the MRC if they are known? Or what is the procedure/plans to establish a firm financial basis for MRC? How could this development be factored in the ambitious goals of the University presented by President Raines to be a research university with \$100M research revenues by the year 2012 (which has now shifted perhaps to 2015).* Although there is no new state money for this right now, the potential for new money coming to us is “huge.”

5. From the Library Policies Committee: *What can your unit and the University Libraries do—together or separately—to enhance, and improve our library holdings and activities? The university’s doing its best. “The library won’t be forgotten.”*

6. From the Executive Committee: *How much money are we giving to intercollegiate athletics out of general education funds?* Counting a one-time allocation for scholarships, \$2.2. million is budgeted for the 2010 fiscal year. In 2009, \$1.5 million was budgeted.

VP D. Zettergren invited senators to contact him by email (dzttgrn@memphis.edu) or telephone (678-2121) with any question or questions. S. Hayes, briefly informed the senators of President J. Berman involvement in getting the university’s department budgets online for faculty viewing. And she thanked President J. Berman for his assistance.

02.02.10.05 New Business

1. Motion on Improving Library Resources: E. Frank, chair Library Policies Committee presented the following, three-part motion along with its rationale:

Rationale:

The University of Memphis Libraries have traditionally been underfunded in comparison to those of the University's peer institutions. In recent years this has threatened our membership in the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL), and could well do so again, with dire consequences for, among other things, Inter Library Loan services, and the stated aspiration to be one of America's great metropolitan research institutions. The motions below represent different avenues toward that goal. Motions 1 and 2 are based on recommendations generated by Chemistry Department faculty in the summer of 2009.

Motion to Senate:

Part 1: The UM administration should seek an additional 3% annual increase of the Libraries acquisition budget at the state level, independent of the UM budget, similar to that afforded to the UT-Knoxville libraries, to address inflation.

Part 2: The consortia for contracts for online periodicals and databases should be statewide rather than system-wide (confined only to the UT or the TBR systems), to the extent that this is not already the case.

Part 3: The UM administration should modify the grant process so that a fixed percentage of grant funds comes "off the top" and is used to acquire library materials, as is already the practice at some universities.

The motion was voted down---18 for, 14 against---and returned to committee for revision.

2. Motion on Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA) "Academic First" Resolution on Athletics:

Rationale: Last fall the faculty at the University of Berkeley, while dealing with a very severe budget crisis, found out that their Athletic Department had run up a \$160 million deficit and was still expanding their budget. The outrage among Berkeley faculty led to the passage of a resolution (http://academic-senate.berkeley.edu/meetings/meetings_background.html; click on "Intercollegiate Athletics Resolution").

As a result of discussions with the Berkeley faculty who sponsored the resolution and in conjunction with the leaders of the Drake Group, we jointly drafted a template resolution based on Berkeley resolution. The goal of this effort is to send out the resolution to all 115 Division 1A (aka FBS) institutions with faculty senates for their review and consideration. The resolution is a template because we understand that each school is unique and may not feel comfortable with all of its parts or wording. It is hoped that this resolution will stimulate internal dialogue and by its passage send a message that faculty insist that athletics be integrated more fully into the academic mission of the institution.

Motion to Senate: The University of Memphis Faculty Senate approves the use of the Academic First resolution as a template for discussion by each Division 1A faculty senate.

Adopted by unanimous voice vote on February 2, 2010.

02.02.10.08 Committee on Committees Nominations

C. Justice, chair Committee on Committees, presented the nominations of individuals who have expressed an interest in serving and agreed to be nominees for appointment to administrative standing committees of the university.

Motion to Senate: Move that the Faculty Senate elect the following faculty members to serve as faculty representatives for appointment to the following university administrative standing committees.

Division of Business and Finance standing committees:

For the Facilities and Services Committee: Kevin D. Richmond (Music) and Jerry L. Anderson (Civil Engr)

For the Fee Refund and Appeals Committee: M. Ruth Williams (Health & Sport Sciences), Gayle H. Shiba (Nursing) and Terra L. Smith (Health & Sport Sciences)

For the Public Records Committee: Peter L. McMickle (Accountancy) and George E. Relyea (Community Health)

For the Traffic and Parking Committee: Mitchell M. Withers (CERI), and Pepper E. Walker (Student Support Services)

Office of the Provost committee:

For the Academic Freedom and Responsibility Committee: Michael S. O'Nele (Theatre & Dance), Robin S. Poston (Management Information Systems), and Candace C. Justice (Journalism)

Adopted by unanimous voice vote on February 2, 2010.

02.02.10.09 Standing Committee Reports:

With no time remaining, committee reports were postponed until our next meeting.

02.02.10.10 Announcements/Events:

1. The Marcus Orr Faculty Senate Lecture in Higher Education will feature Mary Burgan, Professor of English Emerita at Indiana University and former General Secretary of the American Association of University Professors (1994-2004), will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, February 4, 2010, in Room 123 of the Fogelman Executive Center.
2. Standing Committees will meet next on February 9.
3. The Faculty Senate will meet on February 23.

02.02.10.11 Adjournment: 4:20 p.m.