



Minutes of the Faculty Senate

Presiding: Jeffrey S. Berman (Psychology)

Date: 4-28-09

Secretary: Linda C. Finch (Nursing, elected this meeting)

Senators Present: Thomas E. Banning (Engr Tech), Richard D. Evans (Fin, Ins, & Real Estate), Edwin G. Frank (Univ Libraries), Wade M. Jackson (Management Info Systems), Candace C. Justice (Journalism), David N. Lumsden (Earth Sciences), James M. Lukawitz (Accountancy), Edward H. Perry (Mech Engr), Hoke Robinson (Philosophy), Stephan J. Schoech (Biology), William T. Segui (Civil Engr), and Sharon A. Stanley (Political Science)

Senators Absent: Robert P. Connolly (Anthropology), Jaime M. Ferran (Foreign Lang & Lit), Frances Pearson (Leadership, explained), Lawrence A. Pivnick (Law School), and Seok P. Wong (Math Sciences)

New Senators Present: Jeffrey S. Berman (Psychology), Amy L. de Jongh Curry (Biomedical Engr), Tarek R. Farhat (Chemistry), Derek E. Hopp (Mil Sci, Navy ROTC), Richard L. Irwin (Health & Sport Sci), Wade M. Jackson (Management Info Systems), Linda D. Jarmulowicz (Audiology & Speech-Lang Path), E. Trey Martindale (Instr & Curr Ldrship), Susan L. Roakes (SUAPP, City and Reg Plan), Keith D. Sisson (Univ College), Cynthia G. Tucker (English), Joseph C. Ventimiglia (Sociology), and Robert R. Wiggins (Management)

New Senators Present by proxy: Art (William C. McKeown), Elec & Computer Engineering (William H. Jermann), Music (Nicholas V. Holland III), Jeff Thieme (George Deitz), Yaschica D. Williams (Criminal Justice, Margaret Vandiver) and Physics (Donald R. Franceschetti)

New Senators Absent: Thomas E. Mason (Architecture), CEPR (TBA), Communication (TBA), Economics (TBA), Michael S. O'Nele (Theater and Dance), and Guiomar Duenas-Vargas (History, explained)

TBR Representative: Wade M. Jackson (Management Info Systems, elected this meeting)

Guests: David Cox (President's Office); Thomas Nenon (Provost's Office) and Lee E. Allen (College of Education/Instruction & Curriculum Leadership) Information Officer

The three-hundred and seventy-third meeting of The University of Memphis Faculty Senate was held Tuesday, April 28, 2009, in room 124, the Auditorium, E.C. Ball Hall.

04.28.09.01 CALL TO ORDER

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

04.28.09.02 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

An amended version of the agenda was approved, with two items removed: guidelines for Study Week and a second item for establishing a Budget and Finance.

04.28.09.03 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved to approve the minutes of the Faculty Senate meeting of April 7, 2009.

04.28.09.04 WELCOME NEW SENATORS

President J. Berman welcomed six new senators who provided introductions. Returning senators provided introductions and department representations. President J. Berman thanked returning senators for their service.

President J. Berman briefly articulated Faculty Senators responsibilities that include attendance at scheduled Faculty Senate and assigned committee meetings both held on Tuesdays from 2:40 pm until 4 pm. He expressed that if Senators had conflicts with complying with these responsibilities they should ask to be replaced by another department representative who can fulfill these meeting obligations and commitments.

04.28.09.05 ELECTION OF FACULTY SENATE OFFICERS

President J. Berman asked for volunteers to serve as the Tellers Committee (count the votes) for election of senators to serve on the Executive Committee, At-Large, and Committees on Committees. The volunteers were: W. Segui, E. Frank, and E. Perry.

1. Secretary- L. Finch was nominated and elected.
2. Parliamentarian- M. O'Nele was nominated and elected.
3. President-Elect (TBR Faculty Subcouncil Representative)-W. Jackson was nominated and elected.

The Senate elected new officers: President Elect, Wade M. Jackson, Secretary, Linda C. Finch (re-elected), and Parliamentarian, Michael S. O'Nele.

The Senate elected two At-large members to the Executive Committee: Thomas E. Banning and E. Trey Martindale (re-elected).

The Senate unanimously accepted the self-nomination of five members to serve on the Committee on Committees: Candice C. Justice, Susan L. Roakes, William T. Segui, Lawrence A. Pivnick, and Amy L. de Jongh Curry.

The Senate elected the Chair of the Marcus Orr Faculty Senate Lecture in Higher Education Committee: Cynthia G. Tucker.

04.28.09.06 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President J. Berman presented the following items.

1. *Faculty Sub Council Meeting (April 17, 2009).*

The Faculty Subcouncil is comprised of representatives from faculty senates of the 34 TBR schools. The Faculty Subcouncil makes recommendations to the Presidents' Council which, in turn, makes recommendations to TBR.

At the April 17, 2009 meeting there was further discussion regarding the criteria Presidents can use for furloughs. Previously, the Subcouncil had developed criteria for use of furlough with supporting rationale. However, these criteria were not discussed by the Presidents' Council. After inquiry as to why the Faculty Subcouncil recommendations were not discussed, it was learned the Faculty Subcouncil is considered as an advisory board and as such, does not have to be heard nor heeded.

2. *Information Officer (Faculty Senate)*

The newly appointed/approved Faculty Senate Information Office was introduced: Lee E. Allen. The person in this role will serve as an ex officio member of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

04.28.09.07 OLD BUSINESS

Department Approval of Chairs (motion)

This motion was originally brought forth at the April 7, 2009 meeting of the 2008-2009 Faculty Senate. No action was taken, the motion was withdrawn, and referred back to the ad hoc Shared Governance Committee for review. A revised motion was submitted for consideration.

Rationale:

Mandating that department chairs be selected with majority departmental approval will increase the perception that faculty opinions are trusted and valued.

Initial Motion:

That the university president codifies that department chairs must be selected and supported by a majority of the tenure-track faculty in the respective departments, except in unusual circumstances.

Discussion initially centered on “. . . must be selected and supported by. . .” with concerns expressed related to this terminology, there was consensus to strike the phrase.

Further discussion centered on the phrase “except in unusual circumstances.” A vote was taken to amend the motion to exclude this phrase with results:

For inclusion: 9

Opposed to inclusion: 11

Abstentions: 7

With the abstentions and votes for inclusion accounting for 16 votes, the motion to amend the motion to delete “except in unusual circumstances” failed.

There was a motion to amend the original motion to include insertion of “. . . ‘tenured faculty’ . . .” which passed unanimously by voice vote.

Final Amended Motion:

That the university president codifies that department chairs must be recommended by a majority of the tenure-track and tenured faculty in the respective departments, except in unusual circumstances.

Adopted by unanimous voice vote on April 28, 2009

04.28.09.08 NEW BUSINESS

1. Establishment of *ad hoc Faculty Input Committee*:

Rationale

The Faculty Senate needs to know the views of faculty throughout the university to represent the entire faculty adequately. The purpose of the proposed committee would be to aid the senate in this task by collecting information on faculty ideas, opinions, requests, and other issues related to the life and function of the university.

Motion:

An *ad hoc Faculty Input Committee* shall be established, comprised of the senate’s Information Officer as chair and four (4) other faculty members who can be either senators or non-senators. The committee is to collect information on faculty views by developing and administering periodic surveys and to report the results of these surveys to the Faculty Senate in a timely fashion.

Adopted by unanimous voice vote on April 28, 2009

2. Past President as Ex-Officio member of Executive Committee:

This motion would change the Faculty Senate *Standing Rules* to allow for the immediate past president of the Faculty Senate to serve as an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee.

Rationale

To maintain continuity of Faculty Senate activities across academic years, the Executive Committee would benefit from the input and advice of the immediate past president of the senate. Faculty senates from other institutions typically include this past president position.

Motion:

The immediate past president of the Faculty Senate shall serve as an ex-officio member of the senate’s Executive Committee.

Adopted by unanimous voice vote on April 28, 2009

04.28.09.09 FORMATION OF FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEES

The Senate authorized the Committee on Committees to designate Standing Committee members based on Senators' previously submitted committee choices.

04.28.09.10 ANNOUNCEMENTS/EVENTS

1. Faculty Scholarship Week and Twenty-second Annual Faculty Convocation Award Ceremony, Wednesday, April 29 at 2:00 p.m., in the Mike Rose Theatre

The University honors professors and others for outstanding achievement in teaching, research, and engaged scholarship. The procession will start from the Communication and Fine Arts Building at 1:30 pm.

2. Spring 2009 Commencement

Saturday, May 9, 2009 10 am:

Arts & Sciences, Communication and Fine Arts, University College, Communication and Fine Arts, University College; Doctoral Hooding for these Colleges and Schools

Saturday, May 9, 2009 2pm:

Business & Economics, Education, Engineering, Nursing and Audiology and Speech Language Pathology; Doctoral Hooding for these Colleges and Schools

Sunday, May 10, 2009 3pm:

The Law School Commencement at the Rose Theatre.

Additional information can be found at: <http://saweb.memphis.edu/commencement/>

3. U of M Electronic Recycling Day - 2009

For the second straight year, the U of M is joining with Apple Inc. to sponsor a major electronic equipment recycling effort, May 14-16, 2009, that will allow the public; U of M faculty, staff, students; and local institutions (small business & hospitals).

Drop off e-recyclables on Saturday, May 16, from 9 am to 3pm on the Southern Avenue Parking lot.

04.28.09.11 ADJOURN: 4:00 p.m.