

Faculty Senate Executive Council  
MINUTES  
January 23, 2012

Attendance: Vincent Anfara, Phillip Daves, Scott Gilpatric, Lee Han, Joan Heminway, Greg Kaplan, John Koontz, Beauvais Lyons, Bruce MacLennan, Susan Martin, Carole Myers, Stefanie Ohnesorg, David Patterson, Lloyd Rinehart, Steve Thomas, Michael Zemel

Guests: David Schumann, Margie Nichols, Bob Rider, Mike Purdy, Leigh Shoemaker, Erik Bledsoe

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

V. Anfara called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

### **II. REVIEW OF MINUTES**

S. Thomas found a typo in the Executive Council Minutes from November 7, 2011. He will send the correction to S. Winston. Minutes from November 7, 2011, were approved.

### **III. REPORTS**

#### President's Report (V. Anfara)

*Caucus leaders contacted.* V. Anfara has contacted and heard back from each caucus leader. The only one that needs attention is Arts and Sciences–Social Sciences to be exact. The rest of the caucuses are using list serves that the colleges created. Anfara will contact OIT and they will correct Social Sciences within the next week or two.

*Electronic System in process.* I. Lane is working on an electronic system to track the progress of resolutions from the Faculty Senate. We will be able to see where the resolutions are in the process of approval.

*System Strategic Planning.* The website, <http://president.tennessee.edu/strategicplan/>, shows the members that comprise the task force. There is an issue with the system strategic planning concerning what are system issues and what are campus issues. B. Lyons is working on keeping his committee focused on system issues, what the system can add that is of value. In two weeks they plan on having the task force done. According to Keith Carver, some of the task forces have been asked to narrow down their lists and others have not. There are different directions that the task forces are getting from the system.

*Advising and mentoring changes voted on in October 2011.* The Faculty Senate has been concerned that "advising and mentoring" had more language devoted to it than teaching did in the *Faculty Handbook*. The changes that the Faculty Senate made on this will go into effect August 2012. We need to resolve two issues prior to that time and prior to the Board of Trustees' meeting in June. First, "Advising and Mentoring" needs to be added to Section 3.11.4, the criteria on tenure. This can be done by adding a parenthetical to 3.11.4. General Counsel caught this housekeeping matter. The second change is more substantive and may involve adding a footnote. The definition of "best practices" needs to be included somewhere. There has been discussion with General Counsel about creating a third document. Anfara thinks a third document defining this is not necessary and that either adding it to the glossary or a footnote will be the best solution. J. Heminway asked how these changes need to be

made. Anfara suggests that the parenthetical for 3.11.4 be brought before the full Senate as an information item. For the footnote, we will have to get the exact wording from Lela that will make General Counsel happy. That will need to come from P. Daves' committee to the full Senate for approval. Heminway suggested bringing both changes to the full Senate as housekeeping items and was interested in hearing more about the General Counsel's objections to a footnote.

*Mic Night.* March 7 is Mic Night at the Relix Variety Theatre.

#### Chancellor's Report (J. Cheek)

There was no report, as Chancellor Cheek was not able to attend the meeting.

#### Provost's Report (S. Martin)

*Student Online Evaluation.* There was an increased percentage of students who completed all their evaluations online from 34% in pilot to over 50.1%. Seventy percent (70%) of students filled out at least one evaluation. There is a work group meeting this week to assess how to increase participation. Martin is appointing a task force on evaluation of teaching. She has sent out nominations for that. The deadline for nominations is this week. The purpose of the task force will be to look at what other tools are available to evaluate teaching. Martin does not want to abandon SAIS before we have another alternative and does not want to create our own. S. Gilpatric will send Budget and Planning's dialog on this issue to Martin, as will L. Rinehart for Teaching and Learning. Anfara would like Rinehart to be there as chair of the Senate's Teaching and Learning Council. Martin will wait on the nominations for the task force until next Monday, as some of the EC members were not aware that this was going on.

*System Wide Strategic Plan.* Martin reiterated the importance of thinking of what are system level activities. Lyons pointed out that one aspect of the plan deals with the land grant mission and that is an example of a flawed goal of the system as the system is not a land grant enterprise. The land grant institutions are UTK and UTIA.

Anfara pointed out another example where the plan may be flawed: goal and initiative one concerns raising graduate rates and he does not see that as a system issue but a campus one. Heminway added that her group had been discussing the idea of facilitation and support as a role of the system; some campuses want the system to support them. Lyons stressed that efforts to empower the system to have more engagement in things requires looking at taxation of campuses. If specific campuses want the system to have more authority, the money has to come from them.

Anfara brought one more piece of information to the Senate. Wanda Costen went to COIA (Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics). Costen and Anfara have yet to meet but they will. She reports to Athletics next Monday.

#### **IV. OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

## **V. NEW BUSINESS**

### Center for Community Engagement (D. Schumann and B. Rider)

Schumann and Rider were invited to speak about the Task Force they co-chair. The Task Force has been working with planning the creation of a center on community engagement. The center will serve as a central organization of community efforts of the university. UTK is a member of TRUCEN (The Research University Civic Engagement Network) as are many of our peer institutions and top 25 schools. Rider will attend a TRUCEN meeting next month. The benefits of the Center will include increased retention, graduation rates, and visibility for UT.

Schumann presented a PowerPoint on the plan for the center. (See PPT presentation that is linked on the Faculty Senate website).

G. Kaplan asked whether there was a list of all the departments that had service learning classes. One was constructed last year for the Provost. This Center will serve as a composite for the Service Learning Classes. M. Zemel raised the issue of how the center will approach engagement beyond Knox area. Schumann said the Center will create partnerships with other schools and the TRUCEN organization.

### Volunteer Spirit Statement Focus Group Activity (D. Schumann)

The Learning Consortium meets every 3 weeks to talk about student learning and improving it. The group would like to create a statement about what it means to be a volunteer. Schumann asked EC members to write down thoughts on what it means to be a vol. Email thoughts to [dschuman@utk.edu](mailto:dschuman@utk.edu).

### Branding/Etc. (M. Nichols, E. Bledsoe, L. Shoemaker and M. Purdy)

The new website for campus will be debuted next week. The old one was from 2007. University websites are becoming much more standardized in the fact that there are certain things prospective students expect to see when they come to a university's website. The biggest change in the website is that it has been re-architected; it's more user friendly for mobile devices.

Lyons brought up the topic of the effectiveness of the Google search function of the site and asked if it was going to be improved. E. Bledsoe asked for some examples of bad searches so he could send them on to OIT. One example from Lyons was searching the Senate archives. Lyons also asked about the continuity of branding across departments and colleges. The web team, in February or March will law out templates for departments and expect them to adapt as time allows; there is no set deadline. Heminway asked if the new site would retain the people search function. It will. Anfara brought up the issue of the directory not being up-to-date as it has some professors on it that have not taught at the university for years (and others who are deceased).

### Teaching and Learning Council (L. Rinehart)

Rinehart passed out four documents. Rinehart provided an update on the Chancellor's Teaching Awards. In addition to teaching awards there were awards for graduate advising and mentoring and undergraduate advising and mentoring. They are in the process of hearing back from nominees. In April, Rinehart will send emails to the nominees that did not respond back and see why they did not respond. For next year there are a few things to consider: the process for solicitations is a challenge. Currently he goes through the Deans to contact

students. Also, an issue to consider is the nomination of faculty members versus professional advisors for the advising awards.

TLC met in early December to discuss the peer teaching review and SAIS. Rinehart handed out the minutes from that meeting. With respect to the peer teaching review, TLC discussed mostly "managerial aspects of the process," meaning consistency in implementation, questions of dealing with difference in teaching philosophies. At this point Rinehart began to wonder what TLC's responsibility is; what is the Faculty Affairs role in this process.

TLC also discussed the SAIS process. TLC was tasked to look into the content of SAIS. TLC ranked the SAIS questions. This year the committee wanted to look at all items of the document and redrafted it. The final document sent around was the outcome of that process. The re-drafting was mostly wordsmithing. Rinehart asked S. Martin if there was a contract with SAIS and if it any contractual relationship would hinder us from changing the document. Martin said we purchased SAIS so she did not think there would be any issue in changing what is used.

Anfara asked Rinehart if there was any resolution that needed to come before the Senate. TLC is comfortable with moving the peer review document forward with Faculty Affairs. P. Daves and Rinehart will meet to determine what needs to go in the faculty handbook and manual for evaluation or where it needs to go.

#### Library & Information Technology Committee (C. Myers)

C. Myers spoke of the transitions on the committee. There is a new contact for OIT, Bob Campbell; a new Dean of Libraries, Steve Smith; and, Holly Mercer is the Associate Dean for Scholarly Communications, who will deal with all digital library initiatives and she is dealing with New Found Press and TRACE. The committee is working on Top 25 initiatives for OIT and Libraries. Libraries are feeling pressure to put together an academic plan based on smaller revenues. Apps at UTK.edu is a new remote server (Cloud Technology) for OIT labs. Myers mentioned LanMan executive committee labs was new, but was unsure what it was. The committee also discussed the faculty reviews online and she felt the discussion in committee went well. There is a brewing issue concerning the switch from CENTRA to Blackboard Collaborate. The committee will meet next week and Myers feels like most of the meeting will be on this issue.

One final issue is fair use and monitoring this. There was a Georgia State case on copyright infringement where charges were filed against individual administrators. There is no hard fast rule on fair use and the rules are still evolving. About 10-15% of your materials can be used without problems. Course reserves are going away. Digital media services will be scanning everything and getting links through blackboard. Renee Smith is over that service and is knowledgeable. Teresa Walker in the library has produced a document on this. Anfara suggested having the document on fair use passed out at the next meeting of the Faculty Senate.

#### Shared Governance Fund (B. Lyons)

In December, Anfara and Thomas hosted the past presidents of the Faculty Senate for a luncheon. Lyons was reminded at this luncheon of the Shared Governance Fund. He would like to revive awareness of the fund. The fund was established in 2004 with the purpose of giving the Senate a source of revenue independent from the Chancellor and the Provost. Currently, it

has \$6,000 in it. The EC oversees the fund. Lyons would like to grow the fund. The past presidents need to be emailed on this issue.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn was made by P. Daves and seconded by L. Han. Meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.