

The University of Tennessee Faculty Senate
MINUTES
May 7, 2012

Absent: Itamar Arel, Caula Beyl, Robyn Blakeman, Stan Bowie, Patricia Carter-Zagorski, Chris Cimino, Michael Clark, Jim Conant, Sherry Cox, Lloyd Davis, Lt. Brian Delamater, Jerzy Dydak, Hillary Fouts, Todd Freeberg, Alberto Garcia, Matthew Gray, Martin Griffin, Rob Hardin, Joan Heminway, Jennifer Hendricks, Tricia Hepner, Robert Jones, Ron Kalafsky, Kurt Lamour, Brent Mallinckrodt, Lane Morris, Kim Newkirk, Lynne Parker, Randal Pierce, Joan Rentsch, W. Tim Rogers, Juergen Schumacher, Fernando Schwartz, Michael Sims, Carrie Stephens, Otis Stephens, Michael Stewart, Sam Swan, Adam Taylor, Dwight Teeter, Klaus VanDenBerg, Mark Windham, Mike Zemel*, Mary Ziegler

*Alternates: Ralph Brockett for Mike Zemel

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Establishment of a Quorum (J. Deeken)

J. Deeken informed V. Anfara a quorum was present.

President's Report (V. Anfara)

V. Anfara referred to his written President's report.

Anfara thanked Sarah Gardial for all her work this year and expressed the Senate's hope that she prospers in her new position at the Tippie College of Business at the University of Iowa.

One item on his agenda for this year was to finalize a policy on courses not taught in four or more years. However, the issue is still under discussion by the Graduate and Undergraduate Councils and will carry over until next year. Also carried over to next year is the discussion on Non-Tenure Track Faculty (NTTF). P. Daves was thanked for his leadership of the Faculty Affairs Committee in discussing this issue.

Anfara then introduced Sharonne Winston and thanked her for her 14 years of service to the Faculty Senate. Sharonne's position is shared by the Faculty Senate and the Student Success Center. He also thanked Liz Tramm for her work as GA for the Faculty Senate. Liz introduced Danielle South who will assume the GA position next year.

J. Deeken was recognized with a resolution and a plaque with gavel in thanks for her service as Faculty Senate Secretary 2010-2012. The resolution states:

*The University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Faculty Senate*

WHEREAS, JoAnne Deeken, is a highly respected colleague and researcher; and

*WHEREAS, she has served with distinction as Secretary of the Faculty Senate from 2010—
2012; and*

WHEREAS, she has provided outstanding service to the Faculty Senate;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the University of Tennessee, Knoxville Faculty Senate expresses its sincere appreciation to

JoAnne Deeken

for her outstanding and devoted service to the Faculty Senate and the University of Tennessee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be presented to Associate Professor Deeken and that the Resolution be made a part of the minutes of the Faculty Senate meeting held on May 7, 2012.

Vincent A. Anfara, Jr.
President

Steve R. Thomas
President-Elect

V. Anfara announced a reception beginning at 5:30 p.m. in McClung Museum featuring Dr. H. Coleman (Coley) McGinnis, Chair of the Tennessee Conference of the AAUP. C. McGinnis stated he was happy to hear the Faculty Senate discussing the NTTF. This issue is on the agenda for AAUP as well. Legislatures and administrators need to hear from faculty through one voice. Tenured/Tenure Track and Non-Tenure Track Faculty need to speak with one voice. TUFS is a step in that direction. The Kentucky Conference of AAUP had Faculty Senates Chairs, AAUP chairs, and faculty members of Board of Trustees all speaking with one voice to the Legislature. It was effective. Faculty and staff cannot afford to be speaking with multiple voices to the Legislature. When lobbying the Tennessee State Legislature, even one phone call or contact can make a huge difference. In many cases that one contact is all they hear from a constituent on an issue.

Chancellor's Report (J. Cheek)

There was no Chancellor's report. Chancellor Cheek contacted Anfara about his absence from the Senate meeting.

Provost's Report (S. Martin)

Provost Martin reported that the Legislature ended their session with the budget proposal passing more or less as UT wanted. The Administration of UTK is very pleased with the budget as passed.

The Provost is pleased with the procedure the Senate endorsed for promotion (to Senior Lecturer) of adjunct faculty. The Colleges each put forward the paperwork to consider individuals for this promotion. The Provost will inform the Senate on the number of promotions granted. S. Gardial worked very hard on developing this process with the Senate Faculty Affairs Committee. She also helped determine how the plan would be implemented.

The groups working on the UT System Strategic Plan has completed their work. There is a draft of the Plan. The Provost is looking forward to seeing the end result.

S. Martin ended with remarks about the leadership of the Faculty Senate in the past several years. We have all been lucky with the quality of that leadership for many years. Anara was thanked for bringing several big concerns to the table. The Senate is the Administrations "go to" body for Faculty input. She is delighted to be working next year with S. Thomas and D. Golden. She encouraged Senators to speak with others and to share information about working on the Senate.

MINUTES

Faculty Senate Minutes

The minutes of the April 2, 2012, Senate meeting were moved by N. Mertz and seconded by D. Birdwell and approved unanimously.

Faculty Senate Executive Council

The minutes of the April 23, 2012, Executive Council meeting were distributed as an information item.

MINUTES POSTED ELECTRONICALLY

Undergraduate Council (G. Kaplan)

G. Kaplan began his report by thanking Cheryl Norris for her work on the Council. On April 10, the Council approved two policies on class attendance. Please check page U2296 of the minutes for details of the new policies. S. McMillan was thanked for her efforts on alleviating the bottle neck courses issues. That process is going well. There was much discussion about classes not taught in four years. This discussion centered on the "strictness" of the rule: should it be enforced strictly? Should there be exceptions? Could there be a standing list of inactive courses that could easily be reactivated? There was no resolution and the discussion will continue next year. John Levin has accepted the role of Vice Chair/Chair-Elect for next year with Matthew Theriot serving as Chair. Tom George is leaving the Council after attending 150 meetings. Jeff Mellor retired after 42 years of service. Accomplishments of the Committee are available in their end of the year report on the Senate's web site. The curricular reforms of Arts and Sciences will continue to be discussed by next year's Council. B. Lyons moved approval of the minutes. The minutes passed unanimously.

Graduate Council (R. Brockett)

Ralph Brockett (Chair-Elect) reported in the absence of M. Zemel. He thanked Zemel for all his work this year. The Council approved the Change of Program and Readmission proposal. The Concurrent Master's Degree Program was also approved. Nine faculty members were approved to direct dissertations. The issue of classes not taught in four years was discussed. That discussion will continue next year. Donald Hodges will be the Chair-Elect next year. The minutes of the meeting on April 12, 2012, were accepted unanimously.

PREVIOUS BUSINESS

S. Thomas reported there is one candidate for Secretary of the Senate for next year. Dr. Fritz Polite is an Assistant Professor in Sports Management, heads the "I Lead" program, and is involved in cultural and global engagement. He was approved unanimously. S. Ohnesorg has agreed to continue her service as Information Officer. Thomas also announced the date of the Fall Senate retreat. It will be held September 7 in the University Center Shiloh Room. The afternoon sessions will have time for committee meetings. If a current committee chair wishes to continue serving in that role or if anyone else wishes to volunteer for a chair, please inform Thomas as soon as possible

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Athletics Committee (J. Koontz)

J. Koontz and S. Thomas introduced a proposal from the committee changing the names of officials in the Senate Bylaws in that area to reflect recent hires and changes. The measure passed unanimously.

Budget and Planning Committee (S. Gilpatric)

S. Gilpatric and C. Plaut introduced "2010-2011 Assessment Study" and a resolution based on the report. Gilpatric read aloud the 12 assessment principles from the report. B. Lyons proposed an amendment to the resolution deleting the second "resolved" clause. Gilpatric accepted it as a friendly amendment. C. Shepardson also spoke in support of the change. D. Birdwell suggested that there appeared to be a huge problem with accountability at the UT System level which appears to be a "heavier" than in the past. What effect can we have on the System? Gilpatric replied that we can shine a light on the issue. Plaut stated it was very difficult to differentiate between the campus and the system when gathering data. At the system level there appeared to be issues both in size and in salaries. Birdwell feels it is not just salaries. He brought up issues he has with the Min Kao building where he saw loss of control. He would like to see additional accountability in the bidding process. The motion as amended passed unanimously.

Research Council (L. Han)

L. Han introduced a resolution from the Research Council clarifying issues in the description of the Committee for the Senate Bylaws. The resolution passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

B. Lyons introduced a motion from the Executive Council recognizing Chancellor Cheek and Vice Chancellor Cimino and Associate Vice Chancellor Irvin for announcing and implementing the insourcing of custodial staff. The motion passed unanimously.

S. McMillan began a discussion on assessment and student learning outcomes. We need to know what we are doing—to keep our programs relevant and graduate students who are citizens of the world. There is both internal and external pressure to meet this goal. We need to formalize our plans and create a culture of assessment. We all need training to develop measurable outcomes. We have to help the students know what our expectations are. Assessment is an on-going process, not just something required every five years for SACS accreditation, but to teach better. McMillan acknowledged the work of the group headed by J. Koontz. This group prepared the report "Preparing for the Future: Assuring Student Learning." Another report, "Student Ownership, and the College Experience" was written by a group of students. The latter report addressed the students need to feel engagement in learning. They need to know what the expected outcomes of teaching are so they can take ownership of the learning environment.

The Koontz group identified immediate tasks for the campus. These include changing the academic review to include assessment based on learning outcomes. Professors who teach in accredited programs are a step ahead since accrediting agencies have been requiring assessment based on learning outcomes. There is a need to share this knowledge for other areas.

Before faculty can be assessed in this manner, the Senate needs to change *The Manual for Faculty Evaluation* and *The Faculty Handbook*. For now, the SACS review is setting our deadline. D. Birdwell reported other programs are doing this. The College of Engineering is already dealing with it. They don't want another layer on top of what they are doing. McMillan agreed. She said that whenever the College (or Department) goes through a process and collects the requisite information, she should be sent a copy and will include that in any reports. Birdwell suggested there

needs to be a cascading effect. Another Senator said that setting goals and outcomes is not useful. High schools focus on passing a test, not on basic theory or topics. Colleges have to go back and teach basics so the goals in their courses have to be lowered. McMillan replied that we have the responsibility to help students learn why they are here. We are bringing in better and better students. A Senator stated that the Dean of Engineering had announced that the average GPA for all their 450 freshmen was 4.0. We have to be realistic and face the fact that the learning outcomes would need to address the basics and that the current syllabus assume students already know things that experience shows they do not know. There was agreement with this statement. Gilpatric stated that sometime UT does set standards, such as in foreign languages. L. Han felt that progress on learning outcomes should be a part of faculty evaluation, but also should be broader and look at the entire curriculum, not just a class.

Anfara then thanked B. Lyons for his mentoring and his level-headed advice to the Executive Council of the Senate. He has been associated with the Faculty Senate for 15+ years. He also thanked Becky Jacobs for a fabulous job in working with him as a Parliamentarian. When Anfara accepted the nomination for Senate President, dealing with *Robert's Rules of Order* was his biggest fear and she had made it very easy through the entire process.

ADJOURNMENT

Multiple motions to adjourn and second were made simultaneously. The Senate adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnne Deeken, Secretary