

# **Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) – Faculty Senate**

Meeting Minutes  
September 5, 2013

## **Opening**

The first meeting of the Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) – Faculty Senate was called to order at 3 pm on 9/5/13 in Room 218, University Center by Jenny Fowler.

## **Present**

David Harper, John Schwartz, Eleanor Read, Bonnie Ownley, Jenny Fowler, Phillip Daves

## **Approval of Agenda**

A formal agenda was not presented.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of previous meeting were not available; however, a copy of the “Revisions to the UTK Faculty Handbook and Manual for Faculty Evaluation” regarding Promotion of Lecturers was distributed.

## **Open Issues**

Phillip Daves, out-going chair, gave a description of the committee and the types of issues it handles. Phillip will continue to be a member of the committee although he has rotated off the senate. He will be providing guidance and direction to ease the transition to a new chair (Jenny Fowler – thanks Phillip!). The committee handles all proposals for changes to the Faculty Handbook and Manual for Faculty Evaluation, among other things.

Phillip presented the document “Revisions to the UTK Faculty Handbook and Manual for Faculty Evaluation” regarding Promotion of Lecturers to the committee. The original document was composed by our committee, approved by the Senate by vote, and then was sent to the Office of General Counsel (OGC) for the Board of Trustees. OGC sent back revisions for us to approve. The revisions were very small changes in wording and organization, and John Zomchick of the Provosts Office has approved the revised document. After discussion, a motion was made and seconded to vote to approve the document; a vote was held and the motion was passed unanimously. The Executive Committee had already approved the revised document based on FAC approval, so it will now go before the Faculty Senate for a vote at the next meeting, Sept. 16, 2013.

Two other items were discussed for future action:

A policy regarding “Romantic and/or Sexual Relationships Between Faculty and Students” will need to be completed. Input will be requested from the Commissions for Women, Blacks, and LGBT.

A policy regarding “Academic Freedom” will need to be completed. The Board of Trustees has written a statement that our committee will discuss and revise.

**New Business**

The meeting dates for Fall Semester were chosen as follows: Thursdays at 3:30 pm on Sept. 26, Oct. 24, and Nov. 21 (if needed). Location TBA, with suggested buildings: HSS, HBB, Stokely, LIB, Tickle (very convenient to Faculty pub which starts at 4 pm on Thursdays).

**Agenda for Next Meeting**

A policy regarding “Romantic and/or Sexual Relationships Between Faculty and Students”

A policy regarding “Academic Freedom”

**Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 4 pm by Jenny Fowler. The next general meeting will be at 3:30 pm on September 26, 2013, in TBA.

Minutes submitted by: Jenny Fowler

Approved by: [Name]