

UTK Faculty Senate Executive Council

Committee Reports for Consent Agenda for January 14, 2019

Appeals

- No report

Athletics

- No report

Benefits and Professional Development Committee

- No report

Budget and Planning

- No report

Diversity and Inclusion Committee

- No report; Meeting at 2:30 January 14, 2019

Faculty Affairs

January 7, 2019

Submitted by: Michelle Kwon, Chair

Committee Members:

Michelle Kwon, Chair	Todd Freeberg
Misty Anderson	Nathalie Hristov
Monica Black	Beauvais Lyons
David Butler	David Patterson
Jennifer Fowler	Phyllis Thompson

1. Chapter 3 revisions to implement sections of Board Policy (BT0006) without substantive change or adaptation (termination of tenure, tenure upon initial appointment, EPPR)
 - a. 11-8-18: Sent FAC comments to J. Zomchick
 - b. Proposed changes will be posted to the Provost's website for Faculty comments. Note that no Faculty Senate vote will be solicited because these revisions mirror Board policy BT0006.
2. Chapter 3 revisions to implement sections of Board Policy (BT0006) that require Board approval (early tenure consideration)
 - a. 11-19-18: First reading at Faculty Senate
 - b. 2-4-19: Faculty Senate to vote on proposed Handbook changes
 - c. 2-15-19: Deadline to submit policies to Board for their March 1 meeting
3. Chapter 4 Revisions (Non-Tenure Track Faculty Issues)
 - a. 12-14-18: Laurie Knox and Crystal McAlvin, co-chairs of Non-Tenure Track Issues Committee, and Michelle Kwon met with J. Zomchick and Frank Lancaster, Office of General Counsel, to discuss their comments
4. Joint Faculty Appointment Revisions
 - a. 12-14-18: Michelle Kwon met with John Zomchick and Frank Lancaster, Office of General Counsel, to discuss their comments
 - b. 12-19-18: Received revised comments from J. Zomchick
 - c. 1-3-19: M. Kwon sent responsive comments to J. Zomchick, F. Lancaster, and Lela Young, OGC

5. Early Tenure Consideration and Suspension of Tenure Clock
 - a. 12-27-18 through 1-1-19: M. Kwon and J. Zomchick exchanged emails regarding the necessity of Board approval of early tenure for faculty who receive a suspension of the tenure probationary period, but decide to be considered for tenure during their sixth year despite the tenure clock suspension.
6. Academic Bullying
 - a. 11-12-18: Members of the Faculty Affairs Committee met with Bill Nugent, Faculty Ombudsperson and Elaine Wynn, Staff Ombudsperson to discuss draft academic bullying proposal.
 - b. 1-7-19: Received revised proposal from N. Hristov incorporating comments from 11-12-18 meeting.

Graduate Council

Summary of Graduate Council November 29, 2018 Meeting

Academic Policy Committee

Two proposals brought up by the Academic Policy Committee were discussed.

- 1. Proposal one: catalog clean up: understanding of concurrent master's and how to interpret.
- 2. Proposal two: catalog clean up: clarify the number of hours from a masters (or other graduate degree) earned at another institution that can be counted toward the doctoral degree.

Graduate Council discussed the modified language for both proposals. After discussion: Graduate Council voted unanimously to approve both APC proposals.

Appeals Committee

The Appeals Committee met recently and reviewed one appeal. After careful review, a recommendation was made to Dean Dixie Thompson. Dean Thompson notified the student of the appeal decision.

Curriculum Committee

- Curriculum proposals from two colleges were submitted for our review, along with the Courses Not Taught in Four or More Years Report.
- Courses Not Taught in Four or More Years Report.
- The Courses Not Taught in 4 or More Years Report, is sent to each college/department for review to determine if their course should be dropped or retained.

There were 89 courses on the report: 37 marked to drop, 47 marked to retain and 5 not marked. After the Curriculum Committee reviewed and discussed the report the following transpired:

1. The five courses not marked were voted to retain (because for four of the courses it was their first time to appear on the list and the fifth was given a reprieve).

2. The courses listed below were marked by their departments to retain. But, because no clear concrete plan was indicated as to when the courses would be taught, the curriculum committee voted to DROP the courses – with the option that the department may attend Graduate Council and give justification for retaining the course.

Mathematics (MATH) 538, Sociology (SOCL) 543, Recreation and Sport Management (RSM) 555, and Nuclear Engineering (NE) 577.

With the above action, the report now shows 48 courses to be dropped and 41 courses to be retained. After discussion, all items were approved and are recommended to Graduate Council for approval. No faculty members from the above departments attended today's meeting to appeal the decision to drop their respective courses. Therefore, the courses will be dropped.

Graduate Council voted, and with one abstention, voted to approve the Curriculum report as presented.

Student Faculty Research Award Committee (Sara Bradberry) (Attachment 3)

The fall 2018 SFRA call for proposals yielded 84 applications from six colleges and intercollegiate programs. The total funds requested was over \$370,000.00.

With an annual budget of approximately \$106,000, plus \$18,000 in carryover money, we could not fund all requests. The committee conducted a rigorous review of the applications and funded 16 applications. At least one proposal from each college and intercollegiate program was funded. The total amount funded for fall 2018 was just under \$70,000.00.

Administrative Reports and Announcements:

The Endowed Graduate Fellowships and Access and Diversity Fellowships nomination application will be available January 9, 2019, for both new and returning students. For new students, the nomination applications are due February 8, 2019. For returning students, the nomination applications are due March 20, 2019.

- The \$1M in GTA salary increases was distributed to colleges.
- The Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week is scheduled for April 1-5, 2019.

Please see details of our meeting at the following link...

https://trace.tennessee.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1101&context=utk_gcminutes

Library and Technology

- No report.

Nominations and Appointments

- No report.

Non-Tenure Track Issues Committee

After a productive meeting with Dr. Zomchick and UT General Counsel Frank Lancaster, we are hopeful that our revision of the Chapter VI of the Faculty Handbook (approved by the Senate last Spring) will come before the Board of Trustees for a vote very soon. We are making good progress on our revision of Chapter VI of the Manual for Faculty Evaluation; it should be ready to send to the Faculty Affairs Committee after our next meeting, in mid January. Our work on these projects has raised important issues regarding the integration of NTTF into the university community. We have not yet heard any follow-up from the Vice Provost's Office to our survey about the use of Elements by NTTF and their supervisors, nor to the questions we submitted to him and the FS Executive Committee regarding the use of Elements with NTTF. (These questions were included in the consent agenda for FS Executive Committee meeting of Nov. 5, 2018).

Research Council

Brief overview of the Research Council activities during 2018 Fall semester.
Soren Sorensen, 2018-2019 Chair of the Research Council

The Research Council (RC) works as an interface between the UTK faculty and the UTK Research Administration with approximately half its members being research active faculty and the other half being research administrators ranging from the Associate Deans for Research to the Vice Chancellor for Research.

Its monthly meetings focus on discussions of topics that have been agreed upon by the members as being currently of importance. During the fall semester the RC have discussed issues related to the overall research budget for UTK, core research facilities, potential financial impact if a larger proportion of UTK faculty were receiving external grants, and funding levels for graduate students performing research. The Vice Chancellor for Research has promised that the RC will be involved in setting the priorities for the research budget for FY 2019-2020. For the spring 2019 semester the RC will focus on the external communication of UTK's research successes, the interactions with ORNL and the role of the UT system in the organization of UT research activities.

The other aspect of the RC's work is a set of sub-committees making recommendations concerning selection of a) faculty members for research awards (Chancellors Awards Committee), b) proposals for internal research support (SARIF Equipment Committee), and c) graduate student support (SARIF Graduate Research Assistantship Committee). In addition, the RC members serve on a number of other standing or ad-hoc committees related to research, like the Core Facilities Advisory Committee, the Institutional Compliance Committee, and the Working Group for Human Subject Research as well as various screening committees for selection of external proposal.

Teaching and Learning Council

Teaching and Learning Council

Co-chairs: Samantha Murphy and Pat Rutenberg

Report: January 7, 2019

The Teaching and Learning Council is in the process of evaluating nominees for the Chancellor's Excellence in Teaching Awards. This year, a robust 108 students, faculty, and alumni nominated outstanding teachers for this award. After accounting for faculty with multiple nominations, faculty ineligible for the award because they had won it recently, and faculty who decided not to

continue with the nomination process, thirty-six nominees submitted materials to the committee for review. Committee rankings of the materials are due by January 8. The next step is to notify the top nine nominees and ask them to move forward as finalists. Committee members will perform class visits for the finalists over the end of January into February. Ultimately, the committee recommends four faculty for this award to the Chancellor's Office.

The Teaching and Learning Council is also in the process of evaluating nominees for the Chancellor's Excellence in Advising Awards. This year, 182 nominations were submitted for the advising awards. Several of these nominees were ineligible because they had already won the advising awards, were not advisors, or were not at UT for the required minimum of three years. Of the 66 eligible nominations, there were 36 for professional advisors of undergraduates, 25 for faculty advisors of undergraduates, and 5 for faculty advisors of graduate students. Past winners of the advising awards serve as the interview committee and will conduct nominee interviews on February 18 and 20. The Teaching and Learning Council will recommend awards for two professional advisors of undergraduates and two faculty advisors of either undergraduate or graduate students to the Chancellor's Office.

Undergraduate Council

Submitted by Robert Mindrup, Chair

The UG Council has not met since October 16. Our next regularly scheduled meeting will occur January 29.

- General Education – Update

All proposal forms for each Gen Ed. category (new and existing) have been finalized and are posted on the UG council website. <https://ugcouncil.utk.edu/> All proposal forms have include a standard cover sheet designed to assist the timeliness and clarity of the review process. Molly Sullivan is working to upload final edits and additions to the website to include the revised learning objectives and wording for each of the new Gen Ed. categories.

The Gen Ed. Implementation working group has met on multiple occasions to form an implementation calendar along with clarifying internal review processes. The name of the New Gen Ed. (NGE) has been discussed on multiple occasions, including input received from SGA and UT Communications. A vote to name the Gen Ed. will occur on Wednesday January 16 during the regularly scheduled Gen Ed. subcommittee meeting. "Volunteer Experience" (Vol-X for short) seems to be the favorite.

University System Relations Committee

- No report.