

UTK Faculty Senate Executive Council

Committee Reports for Consent Agenda for March 11, 2019

Appeals

- No report

Athletics

- No report

Benefits and Professional Development Committee

- No report

Budget and Planning

- No report

Diversity and Inclusion Committee

Diversity & Inclusion Committee of the Faculty Senate Monday, 2/25/2019, Meeting Summary

Committee members in attendance: Jennifer Akerman (Architecture), Joel Anderson (Nursing), Misty Anderson (English), Sarah Eldridge (Modern Foreign Languages), Thura Mack (Library), Lisa Amber Roessner (Journalism), Casey Sams (Theater), Jessica Westerhold (Classics)

The Diversity & Inclusion committee of the Faculty Senate convened on February 25, 2019.

Members present framed a Faculty Senate Resolution Endorsing the SGA Statement on the Comptroller's Report and Campus Free Speech (see below):

[WHEREAS, the Campus Free Speech Protection Act encourages the broadest possible latitude to students to "speak, write, listen, challenge, learn, and discuss any issue" and prohibits the university from denying "student activity fee funding to a student organization based on the viewpoint that the student organization advocates,"

WHEREAS, the Comptroller's report Special report: Sex Week at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville includes troubling suggestions that could have a chilling effect on campus free speech; and,

WHEREAS, the Student Government Association, seeking to represent the student body at large, has replied with insight and temperance to the Comptroller's report and to the administrative reply to it; and,

Whereas, high-achieving students exercising their first amend rights are point of pride for this University;

WHEREAS, the SGA holds that students should be the primary decision-makers when determining what programming will be funded by elective student fees; and,

WHEREAS, the SGA represents student views and needs to the administration; and,

WHEREAS, the support of student learning and of a vibrant campus climate for freedom of inquiry is of central concern to the faculty,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the UTK Faculty Senate applauds the SGA's statement on the Comptroller's Report and their efforts to become primary decision-makers when determining the distribution of funds for student programming.]

We also discussed final preparations for the Discussion Forum About Free Speech and Hate Speech to be held at 4 p.m. next Wednesday, March 6, in Student Union Room 272, and Roessner requested that committee members circulate the following text to community listservs (see below):

[Where is the line between free speech and hate speech? In the aftermath of hateful messages and threats scrawled on the Rock by white supremacists in 2018, we need to discuss and clarify the definitions of free and hate speech, the damaging effects of hate speech, and the ways in which our campus could respond. We hope the perspectives provided by our panel of UT faculty and staff, including Rob Blitt (College of Law), Michelle Christian (Department of Sociology), Jioni Lewis (Department of Psychology), Mike Martinez (School of Journalism & Electronic Media) and Frank Lancaster (UT Office of General Council) will begin this process. In conjunction with the 2nd Annual United at the Rock, this Discussion Forum About Free Speech and Hate Speech will held at 4 p.m. Wednesday, March 6, in Student Union Room 272.]

Our next meeting will be held at 3:30 p.m. Monday, March 25, in COM 402 (the John and Patty Williams Conference Room of UT's College of Communication & Information's Scripps Lab). The preliminary agenda includes, Updates on Old Business; A Chat with Interim Vice Chancellor for Diversity & Engagement Tyvi Small on Assistance from Our Committee; New Business.

Faculty Affairs

Report of the Faculty Affairs Committee - March 5, 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. Academic Bullying
 - a. 2-13-2019: Received J. Zomchick's initial reactions to proposal
 - b. 2-25-2019: M. Kwon forwarded J. Zomchick's reactions to subcommittee (N. Hristov and T. Freeberg)
 - c. 3-4 and 3-5-2019: M. Kwon received comments from subcommittee
2. Evaluation and Promotion of Non-Tenure Track Faculty – Part VI of Manual for Faculty Evaluation
 - a. 2-24-2019: Received memo from Crystal McAlvin and Laurie Knox, co-chairs of Non-Tenure Track Issues Committee, explaining proposed changes
 - b. 2-27-2019: Sent proposed comments along with explanatory memo to Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) for review and comment. Comments due 3-6-2019
3. Appendices from MFE (APPR Improvement Plan, Dossier Assembly, Annual Evaluation Process)
 - a. 2-13-2019: Received proposed changes to Handbook from J. Zomchick
 - b. 2-20-2019: Sent proposed changes to FAC
 - c. 3-5-2019: Sent FAC comments to J. Zomchick
4. Chapter 3 – MFE integration and JFA
 - a. 2-25-2019: Received proposed changes to Handbook from J. Zomchick
 - b. 2-26-2019: Sent to FAC on 2/26/19
 - c. 3-5-2019: Sent FAC comments to J. Zomchick

Graduate Council

- No report

Library and Technology

- No report

Nominations and Appointments

- No report

Non-Tenure Track Issues Committee

Having completed our proposed revision of the *Faculty Evaluation Manual* Part VI, we invited President Anderson to our February meeting to help us think through what we should take on as our next initiative. In addition to monitoring the approval and implementation process for our revisions to the Faculty Handbook and Manual, we have decided to focus next on developing white papers on two topics: the protection of academic freedom for contingent faculty and the appeals process for NTTF dealing with potential violations of Faculty Handbook policies. We will begin researching these topics before the end of the semester so that we can hit the ground running in Fall 2019.

Research Council

Attendance:

Elected Members present: David Butler, Jay Chen, Qiang He, Rebecca Koszalinski, Bob Muenchen, Andreas Nebenfuehr, Tore Olsson, Greg Reynolds, Casey Sams, Carol Tenopir, and Soren Sorensen (Chair)

Ex-Officio Members present: Chris Boake, Bill Dunne, Holly Mercer, David White

ORE Members present: Jean Mercer

Call to order:

Soren Sorensen called the meeting to order. A regular meeting of the Research Council was held at Blount Hall room A004 on February 13, 2019. The meeting called to order at 3:35 pm.

New Business

University of Tennessee Research Organization – Stacey Patterson, Vice President of Research, Outreach and Economic Development

Dr. Stacey presented the information about the UT's Research Organization and UT Research Foundation (UTRF) which are two separate entities. At the system level, UT Research is responsible for UT research system-wide, the federal partnership with ORNL, and state representatives including the Board of Regents. She is responsible for all compliance and reporting for the UT system, working closely with ORE. The presentation is business confidential and for that reason the presentation will not be shared. Some of the discussion is shared below.

Statements (S), Questions (Q) and Answers (A) from the Council

Q: How much is ORNL involved in JIAM? A: Robert Nobles, Stacey Patterson and Michele Buchanan continuing look for collaborative opportunities, not just in JIAM, but other Joint Institutes.

S: IACMI is a \$259M program over 5 years. Dr. Patterson is working with all stakeholders on how to sustain after the 5 year funding ends. IACMI has been a big boost raising UT's reputation.

S: UTRF is the 2nd oldest research foundation in the country. It was originally created with UTIA's super strawberries.

S: Due to UT's non-profit status, UT is not able to own equity in a corporation and thus the foundation was born. The foundation helps to expedite leasing and contracts for real estate as well.

Q: How does UT compare with profit sharing with the PI? A: UT is more generous than most.

Q: What is the status of Cherokee Farms? A: Cherokee Farms may be fully occupied with a potential upcoming agreement.

Q: What is the barrier to Life Science Research? A: UT's medical school is in Memphis which limits much of the life science collaboration.

S: Dr. Patterson is

Adjournment: The Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:15 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Paula Brown

Next Meeting: March 13, 2019 @3:30 pm in Blount Hall A004.

Teaching and Learning Council

Co-chairs: Samantha Murphy and Pat Rutenberg

Report: March 6, 2019

The Teaching and Learning Council has finished its work in directing the Chancellor's Excellence in Teaching Awards and the Chancellor's Excellence in Advising Awards. Since our last report, the Teaching Award subcommittee observed the finalists, wrote evaluations of their teaching and materials, and chose four faculty as award winners. Also since our last report, the Advising Award subcommittee interviewed the finalists and chose four advisors as award winners. The Chancellor's office will notify the winners and all winners will be awarded at the Chancellor's Honors Banquet in April.

Undergraduate Council

Undergraduate Council Summary Report from February 26, 2019

Submitted by Robert Mindrup, Chair

Minutes of these meetings are available on the UGC website, with full summaries on the first page of each.

https://trace.tennessee.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1098&context=utk_undergradcouncil

Summary report:

- **Academic Policy** – No report
- **Advising** – No report
- **Curriculum** – (February 12) Informational Items only. A special curriculum committee was called to discuss the status and implementation process for the Contemporary Issues and Solutions graduation requirement. The CIS committee will begin looking at credit-bearing courses initially. A university wide Zoom meeting overviewing the CIS and next steps will occur after Spring break. We will use university channels to advertise this meeting with CIS working groups to follow.
- **General Education** – (February 13) Informational Items only. Presented an overview of Volunteer Core to the committee as well as the course application process, rubrics for assessment, as well as the timeline for implementation.
- **Appeals** – No report.
- **Associate Deans** - No report.

University System Relations Committee

- No report