

UTK Faculty Senate Executive Council

Committee Reports for January 25, 2021

Appeals

- No report

Athletics

- No report

Benefits and Professional Development Committee

Benefits and Professional Development Committee

December 7th, 2020 – Meeting Minutes

Present: Jeremy Chandler, Stephanie Madison, Elena Shpak, Edward Yu

Absent: Brad Case, Tony Estep, Kyung Joon Han, Liz Teston, Forbes Walker

Discussed progress on our current goals:

- Promote Handshake to connect faculty/staff in the need of childcare with students seeking part-time or occasional employment
 - This was published in *Tennessee Today* on Nov. 5th.
- Provide professional development for faculty related to handling students with a mental illness or students experiencing a mental health crisis
 - We contacted the Student Counseling Center about assisting us in developing faculty training, an informational card, or adding components to the UT app. We have not received a response, but a few things were added to the UT app.
 - We will work on developing a draft of an informational card or something that instructors can use in their classes.
- Address faculty concerns about what would happen if they become severely ill with COVID-19
 - For the Spring semester, some departments have determined who will cover each class in case the primary instructor becomes ill and unable to teach, while other departments have not done this yet.
 - In January, we will e-mail department heads a checklist to make sure they have backup instructors identified for each course and that those backup instructors are added to the Canvas sites.
 - We discussed additional concerns faculty have related to COVID-19 for the Spring semester.
 - We decided it would be best to provide specific suggestions that address those concerns and send them in a letter to the Chancellor and Provost.
 - Weekly testing for all faculty, staff, and students

- Safer testing locations
- Require everyone to complete the daily health screening form even if they are working remotely
 - Discussed if it was possible to link this to your ability to access UT accounts (Canvas, e-mail, etc...) and/or campus buildings

Budget and Planning

- No report

Diversity and Inclusion Committee

- No report

Faculty Affairs

- November 23, 2020 Minutes: <http://senate.utk.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/16/2020/12/Faculty-Affairs-Minutes-11-23-2020.pdf>

Graduate Council

- November 5, 2020 Minutes: https://trace.tennessee.edu/utk_gcminutes/114/.

Library and Technology

- No report

Nominations and Appointments

- No report

Non-Tenure Track Issues Committee

- No report

Research Council

- All minutes from Research Council meetings can be found here: <https://researchcouncil.utk.edu/minutes/>

Teaching and Learning Council

- No report

Undergraduate Council

- November 10, 2020 minutes: https://trace.tennessee.edu/utk_undergradcouncil/117/

University System Relations Committee

- No report