

Faculty Senate Meeting March 24, 2005

Senate President Rayburn opened meeting at 3:50

Roll Call – Senator Carmen Reagan

- Present – Senators Blake, Christian, Clark, Eaves, Filippo, Foote, Franks, Goldstone, Gupton, Hodge, Hogan, Jator, Kemmerly, Kenney, King, Lane, Magrans, Maurer, Menser, Myers, Newport, Perdew, Prescott, Rainey, Rayburn, Reagan, Robison, Rocheleau, Shepherd, Snyder, Silverberg, Vanarsdel, Ex. Officio Griffy and Winters
- Absent – Senators Halbeck and Henderson.

Approval of Agenda – President Rayburn requested and received a motion to move the reports from Academic Council, Dean’s Council, and TBR Academic Sub-Committee to be presented after new business. **A motion was made, seconded, and approved to amend the agenda as requested.**

Approval of January minutes – President Rayburn requested that Senator Reagan review the minutes for presentation at the April meeting; **a motion was made, seconded, and approved as per his request.**

Approval of February 24 minutes – **A motion moved, seconded, and approved with amendments as suggestion.**

Reports

President Hoppe

- Budget update - Budget will be a continuation budget based on TNCARE reform. However, for APSU that means we will anticipate a \$645,000 loss in revenue due to TBR implementation that DSP tuition will be at community college rate; the impact varies across the system. A tuition increase is unknown at this time but a minimum of 3% is needed to offset loss. Requests have been prioritized so as to be prepared. Priorities include (1) \$650,000 for new faculty positions and (2) funding to allocate the maximum toward salary increases. The governor’s budget includes 1% increase in salary and 1% bonus. And the Legislature might add to that. Last year the TBR board allowed 3% and we were one of few in system to give maximum increase. Other priorities include academic success/retention, disability services (grant has been reduced and will be eliminated next year so services will be picked up), increase in scholarships and an effort to restore staff scholarships, accreditation issues (particularly Education), additional library materials, restoring academic secretaries to 100%-12 month, increasing academic budgets by 5%, restoration of reassigned time, and increases for resource development (development and marketing). None have been approved at this point (except faculty positions).

Senator Rayburn

- Faculty recruitment- He has received feedback from across campus about items such as timing of recruiting season along with paper flow process; David Denton is chairing a taskforce that is looking at Human Resources processes including hiring. At a future point, David will be invited to discuss their project.
- President’s Cabinet meeting –
 - Evaluation of deans by faculty members - initially faculty members would be evaluating chairs and directors but he indicated that faculty also wanted to evaluate deans, so same evaluation instrument will be used with chairs, directors, and deans.
 - Student Scholarship hours - based on a review of policies at other universities in the system, the # of hours that students are allowed to work during a term will change from 96 to 75; this will be effective fall term.

Old Business

- List of terminal degrees will be discussed at the April meeting.
- Title III review will be discussed at April meeting.
- Student Bill of Rights (Senate bill 1117) – Ex Officio Senator Loretta Griffey distributed a statement from an ad hoc committee. **A motion was made and seconded to accept the statement.** Extensive discussion ensued and included several amendments to the statement. The first amendment was to eliminate the third sentence (bullet); the second amendment was to change the second bullet and eliminate the fourth bullet; the third amendment was to move the last bullet to become the first bullet. **For each amendment a motion was made, seconded, and approved. Two motions were also made, seconded, and approved to extend the discussion for five minutes each.** Dr. Hoppe indicated that the perspective of the President’s Council is that the policy is already in effect to protect student’s rights. Senate discussion included a statement that the Constitution of United States already has language to protect freedom of speech, a discussion of the impact of the bill, and a suggestion that concerns be included in a separate statement from the one just presented, amended, and approved.

New Business

- Faculty Handbook – A special session of the Faculty Senate will be held on April 5 to discuss changes to the handbook. Micky Wadia, chair of the committee provided a preview of the session which will include a discussion and rationale for the 13-14 recommended changes. After the Senate approves the changes, they will be forwarded to the Dean’s Council. One issue relates to dossier preparation, most changes will be to 5060 and one change to 5061. Changes will be posted to web before meeting but will not include rationale. Senators were asked to print out and bring changes to meeting. Changes will be bold face and in blue. **A motion was made, seconded and approved to extend discussion for five minutes.** He further indicated that the new handbook needs to be in place by July 1 and that the deans have requested six changes.
- Departmental/School Personnel Tenure Committee Composition -To participate in the discussion of these issues Senate President Rayburn yielded the floor to Vice President Robison to chair the discussion. **Senator Myers made a motion to recommend a change to policy 5:060 to require all tenured faculty members in a department/school to participate in the tenure decision and to drop the option to have a sub-committee. A motion was seconded.** The discussion included questions and comments relative to the role of the department chair, the need for flexibility, the current practices of large departments, and the logic and selection processes for sub-committees. President Rayburn shared input he had received from a survey of department chairs. **A motion for 5 minute extension was made, seconded, and approved. Following the discussion the motion carried with the majority of ayes.**
- Personnel Committee Quorum – **President Rayburn motioned that a quorum of the College level personnel committee be designated as a majority of members of the committee. The motion was seconded. A motion to amend was made, and seconded to add the word “eligible to vote”. The motion failed by a vote of 4 ayes and 18 nos.** Dr. Hoppe explained that the issue would be addressed by the President’s Cabinet and will be sent back to the Senate for a second review and recommendation. She indicated that this was due to an incident this year in which a promotion decision was made with only two individuals present at a college level committee meeting and TBR indicated that the decision was invalid and required that the committee re-convene for a review and recommendation of the candidate. Vice President Robinson yielded the floor back to Senate President Rayburn to continue as chair of the meeting.
- DSP Re-organization – Senate President Rayburn provided a recap of a forum to discuss changes in the structured of the DSP program. He indicated that students, faculty, and staff attended and specific questions and comments related to Veterans, assignment of grades, attendance, and disability accommodations. He further indicated that per item eight of the APSU policy for reorganization, the Senate has an opportunity to make a

statement to Academic Council about the recommendation to move DSP to Academic Support Services Area. **A motion was made and seconded in support of the recommendation to move DSP to Academic Support Services.** The discussion included questions about the technology and physical location of the program, grading of students, and teaching loads. Dr. Hoppe commented that issues need to be separated (organization structure vs curriculum, workload, etc). A suggestion was made to hear all issues before a vote; other comment indicated that this is strictly organizational issue.

The motion was passed with majority approval to move DSP to Academic Support Services. Senator Hodge discussed and asked for an investigation into changes in DSP specifically related to the President's role in changing instructional methodology, the impact of scheduling faculty to work 30 hours in lab, 100% computerized courses, academic integrity, criteria for flexible delivery, reducing costs, consistency with TBR guidelines for operating DSP program, discrimination toward at risk students, impact on costs and students. **A motion was made, seconded, and passed for an additional 5 minutes of discussion.** The discussion continued to include comments on the role of the program to develop success skills, the precedence this action may set for other academic program changes, the impact on the 5 hour math course, repeating failed courses, racial composition of DSP students, success rates, and comparison of other computerized programs. **A motion for another 5 minute extension was made, seconded, and approved.** Dr. Hoppe indicated that the discussion started in year 2000 and many proposals and counter proposals were discussed. The thought processes were based on previous studies of student success. Fall 2004 data indicate that near or more than half of DSP students failed DSP courses. The final criteria for the decision were to reduce cost over long run, save APSU faculty jobs, and increase success rate of our students. If the program was discontinued and services were contracted with Nashville Tech, our faculty would lose jobs or be transferred to Nashville Tech. Research favors computer format (Berea). Dr. Hoppe indicated that she had lengthy discussions with TBR and they advised that blended options would not be acceptable. Chancellor Manning sent a letter giving authorization for Hoppe proposal and addressing faculty load; the letter indicates faculty can be reassigned from 12 hours in the classroom to 30 hours in lab. **A motion for 5 more minutes was made, seconded and approved.** The question was raised to Dr. Hoppe about the conflict between academic freedom and the President's role in deciding how courses would be taught. She indicated that this is a unique situation because of decisions made at the State level due to funding mechanism but we could not agree on an alternative. **A motion to table the discussion was made, seconded and approved.**

- **Academic Advisement** – Senate Vice President Robbie Robison distributed copies of academic advising assessment on the web and a syllabus. He requested that questions about either issue should be e-mailed to him within the next two weeks. A “Best Advisor” award will be given at the end of the year.
- **Strategic Planning update** – Senate President Rayburn distributed a working document to review and indicated that comments and suggestions should be forwarded to Houston Davis, who will make update at the April Senate meeting.
- **Other New Business** – Senate Vice President Robbie Robison suggested that faculty opinions matter and asked the colleagues to get involved in Faculty Senate. Other comments indicated concern about the loss of faculty control over the academic issues and the need for a special meeting to address the DSP issue.
- **Reports-** Senate President Rayburn suggested that reports of the Academic Council, Dean's Council, and Academic Sub-Committee be posted to the web. **A motion was made, seconded and approved to post these documents to the web.**

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn the meeting at 6:16.

Respectfully submitted,

Carmen C. Reagan, Secretary

