

Tentative (unapproved) Minutes for  
**APSU Faculty Senate Meeting of October 27, 2005**  
**Sundquist Auditorium, E106A SSC**

**Preliminary Information**

Call to order by Faculty Senate President Dr. John Foote at 3:54 p.m.  
Roll call taken by Senate Secretary Silverberg, Senate Secretary. Senators absent: Black, Dyer, Magrans, Myers, Robison, Tracy.  
Approval of Agenda was unanimous.  
Senator Perdue moved approval of the Minutes for meeting of September 22, 2005 as posted on the Senate website; Senator Griffy seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Remarks:**

**University President's Remarks**

Dr. Sherry Hoppe described four new Strategic Initiatives originating from the Tennessee Board of Regents:

1. Regents Academic Leadership initiative
2. Resourcefulness: regional collaboration is valued, examples include regional nodes in east Tennessee.
3. Quality: Austin Peay will be engaged in an academic audit this next year.
4. Access: Dr. Hoppe is a member of subcommittee directing this initiative. One idea is to restrict eligibility for lottery scholarships to recent graduates. Another is to study admissions standards and try to raise them. A third focus is working with legislators so that lottery scholarships will cover cost of community college tuition and fees.

**University Provost's Remarks**

Dr. Bruce Speck followed up on the academic audit mentioned by Dr. Hoppe. Austin Peay State University was not involved in an academic audit last year. There is a shift from five-year reviews to academic audits for unaccredited programs. Audits ask about outcomes rather than inputs.

Austin Peay Departments undergoing Academic audits this year include two at Fort Campbell Center, Health and Human Performance. Deans have a list of programs that need to be examined and/or audited. Diane McDonald is responsible for setting up next year's review/audit program; this list should be complete by November 7.

Dr. Speck fielded questions regarding training, procedures, and protocol in academic audits. Dr. Speck stated that the academic audit involves a protocol of practices, including a self-study. External auditors may not be specialists in the discipline audited; they check processes. The TBR website has much information. Dr. Speck commented that some aspects of appropriate language and/or jargon such as the meaning of "co-curricular activities" must be learned.

Dr. Foote noted that the process is not a prescribed as previously, and Dr. Speck concurred with this assessment.

### **Senate President's Remarks**

Dr. John Foote remarked that when the last Southern Association of Colleges and Schools occurred, Austin Peay's Quality Enhancement Program planned an assessment of advising, with the Faculty Senate as a major player. Senator Filippo will lead the Academic White Committee in reviewing this issue.

Nominations are need for the Senate's representative to the Academic Council. A new Group 6 Senator is being elected to replace Senator Janet Tracy, who resigned. Vice President Prescott noted that votes are coming in and the voting will continue through Friday.

A few weeks ago, a question was asked about changing requirements for promotion and tenure while faculty are in the process. Does the faculty handbook (for the year hired) serve as a contract? There is as yet no firm answer, Kay Clark at the TBR is being consulted.

Another question was raised about faculty members nearing retirement. Members of non-Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System plans (such as the ORP or Optional Retirement Program are not able to count unused sick leave toward retirement; it is simply lost. New faculty may not know or understand this.

Visiting faculty member Dr. Tim Winters (not a senator at present) asked if this policy has been challenged in court, in a class action lawsuit, for instance. Dr. Foote responded that he did not know, and Dr. Winters replied that he thinks it would be a good thing to do.

### **Reports**

**TBR Subcouncil** representative Senator Griffy told the Senate that the TBR Chancellor, Charles Manning, reports that Governor Bredesen is presenting a challenge to increase access to higher education through community college "pushdowns": dual enrollment for high school students is being facilitated. Dr. Paula Short reported that the RODP is now under ROCC Campus Collaborative; RODP is having a shakedown and is being worked on. There is now a new transfer degree, the AST (Associate of Science in Teaching) in community colleges.

The Students Bill of Rights issue has put the TBR on offense. The Statement on Academic Rights to be adopted by TBR will be modeled on the AAUP version; many organizations are endorsing this. Complaints on the common calendar should be sent to Senator Griffy.

The TBR and UT (University of Tennessee) systems have not yet come up with common General Education Core.

A faculty workload task force is headed by Dr. Kay Clark; it is concentrating on the sciences.

### **Academic Council**

Reporting for Senator Goldstone, who was unable to attend the meeting, Senator Foote noted that the Academic Council approved proposals for a Minor in Professional Writing, for Vocal and Instrumental Music Education baccalaureate degrees, changes in some music education courses and in credits for senior recitals; changes to curricula in computer science and in the Geographic Systems minor. Asian studies was approved as a part of the College of Science and Mathematics.

### **Deans Council**

Senator Hogan reported on the five meetings of the Deans Council held since the last Faculty Senate meeting.

Kevin Kennedy, the President of the Student Government Association supports the idea that SGA is no longer being an activity, as it is now involved in academics; he seeks to discuss issues with SGA/Deans/Senators. Diane McDonald and Susan Calovini presented a new policy regarding the appointment of Department Chairs. Two ranked names for candidates for chair will be presented by the Department. This policy will come before the President's Cabinet, all changes are in bold on the draft of this policy (No 5:029). The policy also outlines the process for emergency appointment of chairs, and the process to be followed if a chair does not get tenure. Chairs are evaluated on the Employee Review Form.

### **New Business**

#### **Changes in university admission standards**

##### **Presented by Dr. Harriett McQueen**

Dr. McQueen supplied senators with a draft of new admission standards. Under the new plan, students under 21 will need an ACT score from 19 to 20 OR GPA 2.75+. A high-school graduate can have no more than one sub 19 ACT score for unconditional admission. Current admission standards do not have these limitations. There are no current requirements for students 21 years or older; only ACT or Compass scores, which may place the in one developmental studies course (one subject area).

Dr. McQueen presented the projected impact of the proposal:

In Fall 2002

133 full-time freshman were 21 yrs or older

834 were under 21

765 met standards

The number not admitted if new standards were in effect = 9.3%

Considerable discussion followed; Dr. McQueen noted that the university has greatly limited the number of students admitted by exception in the recent past.

### **New Faculty Mentoring Guidelines**

Dr. Mickey Wadia, chair of the Faculty Handbook Committee, introduced his committee's work adding New Faculty Mentoring Guidelines to the Faculty Handbook. The Committee has prepared the guidelines for inclusion in the 2006-07 Handbook. Dr. Wadia asked Dr. Charles Pinder, Dean of the College of Graduate Studies, to give a history of this initiative, which Dr. Pinder supplied. This handbook was created to represent best practices. Dr. Wadia noted that the document is a guideline, not a policy, and he will take suggestions. Several senators had questions and Dr. Pinder noted that it will be possible to amend the document. A new title was suggested for the Guidelines: Mentoring Guidelines for New Faculty, and a motion to use this amended title passed unanimously.

Discussion of adoption of the document followed. A vote to accept the document resulted in unanimous approval.

### **Hybrid and Web-Enhanced Courses: Definitions**

Definitions of and differentiation between hybrid and web-enhanced classes were projected for viewing.

A hybrid courses is a blend of face-to-face instruction with online learning. In a hybrid course, a minimum (an amendment deleting this word passed unanimous) 50% of the course is online

An enhanced course uses an online environment to complete some of the assigned coursework. An enhanced course also meets at all regularly scheduled meeting times as noted in the class schedule.

A lively discussion of these definitions followed, with no conclusions or further motions being made.

### **Faculty-Authored Textbooks**

Dr. Foote brought up the issue of the adoption of faculty-authored textbooks

University counsel Richard Jackson has sent the faculty a legal advisory and amendment Conflict of interest disclosures should be submitted to supervisor; and these shall be reviewed by standing committee. Faculty who use such items in class that they have interest in must submit Conflict of interest disclosure.

### **Smoke-Free Campus**

President Foote brought up the issue of a Smoke-Free Campus and the stipulations of Tennessee Code Annotated. On smoke-free campuses, smoking not allowed beyond parking lots.

Senator Blake made a motion to oppose instituting a smoke-free campus; Senator Eaves seconded discussing the question.

A discussion of considerable duration involving many senators followed.

The Faculty Senate voted on the motion to oppose instituting a Smoke-Free Policy on the campus of Austin Peay State University. Nine votes were counted in favor of the motion; seven votes opposing the motion were cast. The motion to oppose instituting a Smoke-Free Policy at Austin Peay passed.

A **motion to adjourn** was unanimously passed at 5:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann L. Silverberg  
Faculty Senate Secretary