

Austin Peay State University
Faculty Senate

Minutes

Meeting of Thursday, September 28, 2006
Sundquist Auditorium, SSC E-106

Preliminary Information

The meeting was called to order at approximately 2:30 p.m. by Senate President Dr. John Foote.

The roll call of senators was conducted by Senate Secretary Patrick Perdew.

Senators Baker, Deibert, Dyer, Eaves, Hatch, Hayes, Lane, Martin, Prescott, Schiller, and Truhon were absent.

A motion to amend the meeting's agenda to include 1) the appointment of one member of the 2006-2007 University Tenure and Promotion Appeals Board, and 2) address regarding NCAA certification by Bruce Myers and Mitch Robinson was unanimously approved.

The amended agenda was unanimously approved.

The minutes for the meetings of April 27 and May 4, 2006, were unanimously approved.

Address regarding NCAA certification by Bruce Myers and Mitch Robinson (this agenda item was placed before reports)

Mr. Robinson addressed the topic first. He stated that this is the normal five-year interim self-study. There is a ten-year cycle for NCAA certification. It was last reviewed in 1999-2000. There will be an external team of reviewers on campus sometime between September and December 2007. Mr. Robinson also stated the committees, and their members, which are involved in this process. He stated that increasing awareness of athletics in the APSU community, and ensuring academic integrity are among the goals of this study.

Then Sen. Myers addressed the issue. He stated that he has been involved with these reviews for some time and that he expects it to go well. Sen. Myers also stated that he is acting as our liaison to NCAA and that we should refer any comments or questions to him.

Remarks

University President Dr. Sherry Hoppe

President Hoppe was at the quarterly TBR meeting.

Provost Dr. Bruce Speck

Provost Speck was also at the TBR meeting.

Senate President Dr. John Foote

Sen. Foote commented on 1 (one) Point Solutions, the company which handles flexible benefits. Sen. Foote said company was evidently in distress, and a new company will take care of Flexible Benefits in the future. Mitch Robinson also addressed this. Sen. Griffy and Sen. Reagan had questions. Mr. Robinson said there were more withdrawals than payments put in.

Sen. Foote also commented that there is a proposal for library faculty to now get college level review for tenure. They are to be grouped with College of Professional Programs and Social Science for that purpose.

Sen. Foote remarked regarding student attendance that missing class is allowed for university business such as athletics.

Regarding office hour issues Sen. Foote discussed with Pres. Hoppe and Provost Speck, Sen. Foote commented that some work from home counts toward the 37.5 hour week. Faculty are expected to be on campus 5 days a week but not all day, every day. Faculty are also expected to have office hours most days and to take day of sick leave if out all day, unless on university business.

Regarding DSP and potential changes coming from TBR, Sen. Foote stated there is speculation that MTSU's model which combines developmental mathematics with a core class may be followed. Sen. Foote has and continues to advocate for DSP faculty to be retained in teaching positions. Sen. Robison mentioned that students wanting to take a DSP math class this summer were unable to and this put them behind in their curriculum. Sen. Haralson commented last summer was the first time in 20 years developmental math had not been offered during the summer. Sen. Foote reemphasized that the main issue was the potential complete dissolution of DSP and loss of tenured faculty.

Sen. Foote stated that the Staff Council wants a "lost and found" webpage set up.

Finally, Sen. Foote gave the floor to Sen. VP Winters for the announcement of 2006-2007 Faculty Senate committee assignments. Sen. Winters stated that these assignments will be posted on the Faculty Senate website. [Please see website for full list of committee members.]

Reports

TBR Subcouncil Senator Griffy

Sen. Griffy stated the subcouncil met in July. She stated that the subcommittee working on the statewide “whitepaper” regarding the future of DSP has only met once so far. In March 2007 they will give the report.

Another topic Sen. Griffy mentioned was the e-learning strategic plan which has 7 goals. It was approved today at the TBR meeting here. The Regents Online Degree Program was then discussed. Topics included: Standards of quality, class size, duplication of programs, and duplication of courses.

Regarding the TBR meeting at APSU today, Sen. Griffy stated that salary information was given. APSU is at 88.9% of target among peer institutions selected by THEC. Sen. Foote stated that he has thanked Pres. Hoppe for her efforts in obtaining salary increases for APSU employees.

Academic Council Senator Ziegler

Sen. Ziegler did not attend the meeting. Sen. Haralson stated that nominees were needed for upcoming academic council elections. Sen. Blake was in attendance and said the composition of academic council was discussed. Its constitution says more faculty should be on it. The council voted to constitute itself correctly and then discuss any change in its constitution regarding the composition of academic council.

Deans Council Senator Haralson

Sen. Haralson stated that the minutes for the two deans’ council meetings will be posted on the website. Among the items discussed were: background checks on graduate assistants, advisement of conditional admits will be done by CATS, the “Parsing the First Year of College” study by Pennsylvania State (some faculty may be surveyed), faculty handbook change for some deadlines regarding the e-dossier to midnight rather than close of business. Sen. Haralson also stated that Beulah Oldham addressed need for ensuring that textbook companies can make modifications for textbooks for students with special needs.

Sen. Haralson stated that Allan Irby addressed items regarding the budget: the effect of Banner’s implementation on viewing the budget, reallocation of any surplus in budget, faculty input into any such reallocation. Sen. Haralson also mentioned that the following items were also discussed: tenure-track e-faculty, 60-day period between retirement and post-retirement.

Old Business

None

New Business

Announcement regarding restrictions on 3000-4000 level courses for students requiring Developmental Studies classes, and other course restrictions on these students

Regarding restrictions on 3000-4000 level courses for students requiring Developmental Studies classes, discussion included:

Sen. Winters made a point that some students are qualified for a higher level course but have a DSP class and are restricted.

Sen. Hargrove, Sen. Griffy, and Sen. Blake mentioned difficulties created by this restriction for transfer students because of the requirement for approval from the dean of the appropriate college for any 3000 or 4000 level course.

Sen. Foote said that one dean is philosophically opposed to approving DSP students for higher level courses.

Sen. Haralson suggested that some students could be “grandfathered” in, a rules change for students who are currently juniors and seniors, and transfers with DSP requirements.

Then Sen. Winters **moved that the senate report to deans’ council and President Hoppe and Provost Speck that the sense of the faculty senate is that students with DSP requirements should be allowed to take 3000 and 4000 level courses without special approval.** Motion was seconded by Sen. Reagan.

Then discussion included the following comments:

Sen. Haralson said the rule’s purpose was to send a message to students taking DSP math several times unsuccessfully that they should focus on the DSP math course and not major courses.

Sen. Schlanger mentioned that a student in his class had to be taken out due to this rule.

Sen. Hodge and Sen. Griffy mentioned that the suspension policy regarding failure of a DSP course 3 times should make the rule less necessary.

After the question was called, the motion passed with only one opposed.

Proposal for faculty senate constitutional amendment regarding movement of departments between senate areas to be handled in by-laws rather than constitution

The Proposal was from the executive committee. The rationale for this to be handled in the by-laws is that the by-laws are easier to change than the constitution. Action on this proposal has to wait until next senate meeting. Then if it passes it goes out to all faculty for a referendum.

Announcement regarding faculty senate constitutional amendment to change election rules for faculty senators

Sen. Foote said this amendment which was previously approved by the senate, and the previous item if approved, will go out simultaneously for a ratification vote by faculty.

Addition of faculty senate standing committee in by-laws to handle the faculty research forums

The executive committee said it will be good for the faculty senate to have these forums within its purview. Provost Speck's office is not coordinating these anymore. Action on this proposal also has to wait until the next senate meeting.

Senate Confirmation of Kay Haralson as the faculty senate's representative to the deans' council

Sen. Berg was unable to serve. Sen. Robison moved that Sen. Haralson be the representative. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Policy 7:007 regarding academic misconduct in research and creative activity

This policy supersedes 99:013. Policy 7:007 states if there is suspicion of misconduct there is first an inquiry committee. If they find evidence then an investigative committee is formed. A motion and second to change the policy was made so that it requires members of the investigative committee to be tenured. Sen. Robison asked how committee members were chosen and it was stated that selection is random. The motion was unanimously approved.

Appointment of one member of the 2006-2007 University Tenure and Promotion Appeals Board

The faculty senate selects one member of this committee. The person must be a full professor, but is not required to be a senator. Sen. Kell Black was chosen.

The meeting adjourned at about 4:10 p.m.

Patrick Perdew
Faculty Senate Secretary