

Austin Peay State University  
Faculty Senate  
Minutes  
Meeting of Thursday, October 25, 2007  
Morgan University Center 305

**Preliminary Information**

The meeting was called to order at 3:04 p.m. by Senate Vice-President Dr. Loretta Griffy.

The roll call of senators was conducted by Senate Secretary Dwonna Goldstone.

Senators Baker, Dyer, Evans, Glunt, Gotcher, Kemmerly, Martin, Pitts, Schiller, Schlanger, Silverberg, Steele, and Winters were absent.

The amended agenda was unanimously approved.

The minutes for the meeting of September 27, 2007, were unanimously approved.

**Remarks**

University President Tim Hall  
Policy Making at Austin Peay

- When President Hall arrived and began to focus on the University's most urgent needs, he sensed that the making of policy had a very prominent role. He believes that making policy will always be something that the University will do, but he does not think it should be the primary function.
- The University's most pressing need is to help more students succeed and to graduate and to support faculty in their efforts to work with students.
- President Hall wants to move policy making from the President's Cabinet to a secondary body. He believes that academic policy should be approved by academics and not by non-academic bodies. President Hall proposes that the final recommendations about policy regarding academics come from Academic Council.
- Thus, President Hall wants to propose a secondary group that is not as large as the President's Cabinet. This new body would consist of: the three vice presidents, a faculty senate representative, a student government representative, a staff government representative, and the highest ranking student life officer.
- Senator Griffy believes that most faculty will support this new directive.

New Faculty Lines

- When President Hall arrived in the fall, he immediately set out to learn about the University and the community. He believes that the University will continue to grow, and he wondered how to "grow smartly." Growth at Austin Peay is feasible, but he wants to make sure that the faculty-student ratio does not get larger than it is now.
- Too many comparisons in terms of student-faculty ratio were done internally, and President Hall believed that we should be comparing departments with other peer departments at other colleges and universities.
- President Hall inherited an initiative to create a new doctoral program. The education faculty had not been very involved in the process, so he made sure

that they were on board with this project. President Hall has allocated significant resources to the Education Department, and after looking at research, he found that they were under-staffed. Thus, the department has been given five or six new lines, in part to establish this new program. Three of the lines are for the new doctoral program in order to bring in more senior professors who have worked with students putting together dissertations. President Hall also believes that the doctoral program will be important for Austin Peay and its future. He said that it is also important for this community, which will strengthen education in this region. Finally, even with this doctoral program, President Hall does not see Austin Peay as being a place that is dominated by graduate students. Consequently, these doctoral students will not necessarily be working as Graduate Assistants teaching classes.

- President Hall had also been listening to departments. About 14 new lines, new staff positions, two new police officers, a new person in alumni affairs, and a new person in the Advancement Office
  - The departments that received brand new lines: Allied health, Computer science, physics, criminal justice, language and literature, and history.
  - Old Banner money was used to fund some of these lines.
- President Hall wants to spend more money on those who support the technology and less money on buying new equipment every year.

#### Chair Searches

- President Hall has been thinking about the role the president should have in the academic realm. As he was thinking about this, a couple of chair selections arrived on his desk. APSU policy states that the president decides whether a search for a chair is to be done internally or externally. President Hall believes that external searches for chairs are better for the University in the long run, although it is not always possible to hire a chair externally and sometimes the best chair is internal. However, he thinks that the department in consultation with the Provost must decide when they are going to conduct a national search, but in general, President Hall believes that external searches are usually the best thing for the long-term strength of APSU.
  - President Hall believes that national searches help the departments to figure out what is going on in the world.
  - President Hall currently views chairs at Austin Peay as under-powered, and he believes that doing a national search will give the current chairs more power.
  - Current policy seems to suggest that President Hall would have a role in the chair search; however, he believes that his role is to see if there is money to create a new line for an outside chair.
  - President Hall resolved the issue regarding the two chair searches that ended up on his desk by letting those two chairs be interim chairs for a year and deciding to do a national search for the following year.
- President Hall wants to go to a department in need of a chair and discuss with them what they would like to do. He would like to encourage more departments to think about national searches for chairs, though he understands that not all chair searches can be—or should be—national.

#### Michael Becraft (Special Assistant to the Provost)

##### Textbook Policy

- Otherwise known as the Textbook Cost Law

- The policy has been written to address the cost of the textbooks, not a faculty member's selection of a textbook
- APSU's policy can be found at:  
[http://www.apsu.edu/senate/Documents/2007-2008/Consolidated%20draft%20-%20Cost%20of%20Textbooks%202007%20-%20Clean%20\(4\)%20\(2\).pdf](http://www.apsu.edu/senate/Documents/2007-2008/Consolidated%20draft%20-%20Cost%20of%20Textbooks%202007%20-%20Clean%20(4)%20(2).pdf)
- APSU's policy does not address how the bookstore will follow APSU's policy because they are independent entities

#### David Davenport (Director of University Recreation)

- University Recreation has been asked to extend the weekday hours until 11 p.m. Not enough people workout on Saturday to justify keeping it open longer.
- Drew Simmons Fitness Center is open Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; 2:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.
  - Davenport wants to cater it to faculty/staff
  - He is thinking about making it open to women only during certain times.
  - There is heavy usage during lunch time.
- Students/Faculty who do not have their card can only get into the Foy Recreation Center with their social security number.
- Davenport reminded faculty that use of the Fitness Centers is a faculty benefit, but in order to gain entrance to either facility, faculty must fill out paperwork.

### **Reports from Faculty Senate Representatives**

#### Academic Council (Senator Wadia)

- Met Wednesday, October 24, 2007, and there were four proposals. One did not go through because a faculty member was not there to represent the department.
  - Political Science (a revision of adding courses)
  - Sociology (revision to general list of courses)
  - Nursing (revision of admission standards)
  - Psychology (department rep not present)

#### TBR Subcouncil (Senator Haralson)

- No report—will meet on Friday, October 26, 2007.

#### Deans' Council (Senator Berg)

- Dr. McQueen wants to add more sections of APSU 1000 and wants more of these sections to be taught by tenured- and tenure-track faculty.
- Textbook policy
- Dr. Pinder brought forth a motion to create a training program for those using human subjects for research (IRB training prior to proposal being accepted)—This motion was seconded & approved.
- Minutes can be found on the Faculty Senate website
- Dr. Speck wants to establish a chair academy to provide more training for chairs (will also include directors of programs)
- All online courses offered in spring will be Desire to Learn (D2L)
- There's a new APSU Space Allocation Committee (will review requests for space)
- Every faculty member needs to submit outside employment forms

### **Old Business**

#### Faculty White/Handbook on Policy 5:029

- At the last executive meeting, Senator Wadia asked to speak with President Hall regarding his ideas and his vision about chairs. Wadia and others will be meeting with President Hall soon, and they are ready to work.

#### Academic Red (Student Grade Appeal)

- Chaired by Senator Black
- The committee first met with Dean Dennis. The way that it stands now is that if a student has an appeal, the student goes to a faculty meeting; goes to chair; then to dean; then to Provost. Provost reviews and gives it to a grade appeals review committee. The review committee determines whether the appeal should move forward, and if they decide it should, moves to grades appeal committee.
- All the chairs agree that a student appeal should be handled at the chair's level. They are proposing that if the student does not receive satisfaction at the chair level, it goes directly to the Appeals' Committee.
- Recommend Appeal's Committee is composed of two students in good standing and a dean.
- If someone rules in favor of the student, they have the power to over turn the grade; they want all of the committees to be advisory committees--only in dire situations, the grade can be overturned
- Student Grievance Committee also looks at student grade appeals (Grade Grievance Committee)

#### **New Business**

#### Fort Campbell Proposed Term Schedule for 2008-2009

- FCC contracts will align with Main Campus faculty; Fall I and Fall II will be aligned with a standard fall and spring schedule in conjunction with Main Campus.
  - Faculty will give exams one day and students will register the next day with this new schedule, so there are logistic problems that still need to be worked out.
  - Four FCC terms will occur at the same time as Main Campus
- Another problem is that four eight-week terms do not fit in the 9-month calendar; will have to compress the term by having fewer contact hours.
  - Senator Gupton asked whether or not contact hours had been counted, and VP Griffy said that if the classes are labeled as "blended" classes, then contact hours are not counted per se....
  - Administrators are working out contract problems since many people's contracts begin at different times, so some may go a month without pay and health benefits
- Please email Loretta Griffy if you have questions or concerns.

#### Proposed Textbook Policy

- Michael Becraft said most of what needs to be said, so Senator Wadia asked the senators to look at it and make suggestions.
- Senator Wadia asked Becraft whether or not the new policy was suggesting what books professors must use, and the answer was "no"—legislators just want professors to be aware of the cost of books and to choose the lower-priced book.
- Senator Gupton moved to approve the Proposed Textbook Policy, and Senator Black seconded. The draft policy was approved unanimously.

#### Senate Special Elections

- We are holding Senate special elections (in education and humanities), and some people have had problems accessing the links.
- Voting ends October 31, and Reggie Wooden will pass along the results.

Meeting adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

Dwonna Goldstone  
Faculty Senate Secretary