

**Austin Peay State University
Faculty Senate
Meeting of Thursday, March 26, 2009
University Center, UC 307
3:00 pm
Minutes (unapproved)**

Call to order – Senate President Dr. Tim Winters called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Recognition of Guests – Pres. Winters recognized guests Pat Perdew and Jack Deibert.

Roll call of Senators – Secretary Elaine Berg called the roll. The following senators were absent: Benita Bruster, Mercy Cannon, Roger Clark, Dwonna Goldstone, Christopher Hardin, and Marcus Hayes.

Approval of today's agenda – Today's agenda was unanimously approved.

Approval of minutes for meeting of February 26, 2009 – The minutes of February 26, 2006, were unanimously approved.

Remarks

Senate President – Dr. Tim Winters

- He met with President Hall this week. The good news is that the tuition increase will be significantly lower, 3-4 % over next several years. TBR is considering a 90% reduction for any hours over 12 with the lifting of the tuition cap. There will be a gradual easing in so students don't have to bear the brunt all at once.
- President Hall wants ads prepared for faculty positions that are open soon so that we can advertise the positions if the hiring freeze is lifted. Departments should get them written as soon as possible. Senator Said asked about money for hiring the temporary faculty that have been in a position for 3 years. Pres. Winters was unsure of those details. Pres. Hall doesn't have a reply back to the request for exceptions from TBR at this time.
- Pres. Winters has been urging Pres. Hall to continue SASI grant funding. Pres. Hall thinks they can be funded at the same level as this year. The question "what are SASI grants" was asked. Pres. Winters explained quickly what they were and their purpose. Pres. Winters and Senator Sara Gotcher shared details of the SASI grants they were awarded this year. The question was asked how likely it will be to get the same grant funded for next academic year. The selection of grant recipients will still probably be handled by the Faculty Senate. There was about \$75,000 distributed this academic year. The Faculty Senate Executive Committee will get SASI information out to faculty as soon as possible. Pres. Winters encouraged faculty to apply for these grants. Senator Said said the committee made some recommendations about the grants this year and he asked where those

recommendations are now. Pres. Winters said the recommendations were made to Dr. Jaime Taylor. There will be a narrow timeframe for the SASI Committee for this year.

- There is a called meeting of the Senate on April 9, 2009, at 2:30 in UC 307 for proposed changes to the Faculty Handbook.
- Pres. Winters told the Senate that it will take awhile to sort out the state budget (Gov. Bredesen's & the stimulus money) and that APSU may be in really good shape.
- Springfield & Dickson extended campuses—Pres. Hall is still moving forward with these two sites. Dickson is taking a little more time because of some issues that need to be resolved.

University President – Pres. Hall was not present because he had to attend a TBR meeting.

Provost – Dr. Tristan Denley was not present because he had to attend a TBR meeting.

Reports from Faculty Senate Representatives

Academic Council – Sen. Phil Kemmerly

- Met on March 25, 2009.
- Astronomy-simple revision to the minor to have a more quantitative focus.
- Political Science-revision of the Legal Studies minor: add mock trial and online constitutional law course as substitutions for the program.
- Sociology-modified Family Studies minor --loss of faculty means major revision, restructuring & merging.
- Languages & Literature-revisions to French classes to better meet interests of students and expertise of the faculty.

Deans' Council – Sen. Ron Gupton

- Met on March 4, 2009.
- The report is posted to Senate website (<http://www.apsu.edu/senatef/dc/dc.htm>).
- Sen. Gupton said there is really no way to insure that there will be widespread participation if we go to online evaluations.
- Sen. Gupton said that item 2 on his report includes only developmental courses (with Nashville State Tech. teaching all of these classes). Sen. Haralson asked if it included anything else such as remedial courses. Sen. Gupton said the idea was to remove those who were doing so poorly from the pool for retention and funding (first time, fulltime students). Pres. Winters mentioned that Pres. Hall had discussed a plan for the 300 conditionally admitted students—that they would not count in the first time, fulltime mix if they were taught by Nashville State Tech.

TBR Faculty Subcouncil – Sen. Kay Haralson

- TBR Subcouncil has not met since the last Senate meeting. They will meet on April 17, 2009. Loretta Griffy will attend.
- The TBR Presentation to the Senate Education Committee is available on the Faculty Senate website under TBR Subcouncil.
- UT student representatives said they had not voted to uncap their tuition.

Old Business

Report from Ad Hoc Committee on Student Travel Policy

- Sen. Carson-Grefe reported that the committee met with Provost Denley. It was a good meeting.
- They discussed many troublesome issues. Provost Denley seemed open to the idea of issuing a memo with wording that the committee has been discussing.
- The committee is still discussing the exact wording for the policy. They want to get the wording as tight as possible. Pres. Winters thanked the committee for all of their hard work. Whatever is drafted will be sent out to the campus at large. There are such a large number of faculty who travel with students. Sen. Kemmerly asked if the Provost's statement is going to be released soon. Pres. Winters and Sen. Carson-Grefe said it's possible.

Report from Faculty White Committee on RTP Issues

- The committee handed out a preliminary report. Sen. Moore asked senators to take the report back to their departments and discuss with faculty. Please call any committee member to discuss.
- Documents are on the senate website.
- The preliminary report says that the departmental criteria shouldn't be changed more than every four years. Would not be in effect for four years. See illustration on website. There should be no surprises and faculty would know what the changes will be and when they will occur.
- Tim thanked the committee for their hard work and pointed out that these changes must go through Faculty Handbook Committee, Academic Council, the Provost's Office, and Deans' Council. It will not happen this year. Senators need to take this back to their departments and get faculty to talk about it. Sen. Mike Gotcher asked for clarification on whether senate was endorsing this. Pres. Winters said we were not voting on this issue this year, but merely forwarding to the appropriate offices.

Report from Faculty Red Committee on Faculty Sick Leave - no new report.

New Business

Report from ad hoc Committee on Student Evaluations

- Pres. Winters reported that the committee met with Provost Denley and discussed online evaluations. Dr. Steve Ryan (committee chair) told Pres. Winters that the discussion ended without any conclusions being drawn.

- We probably will have to go to online evaluations because the cost of using paper evaluations is very high. Pres. Winters hopes that faculty are around to consult since the decision will probably be made during the summer.

Standing Committee Selection & Senate Elections (Vice Pres. Buchanan)

Standing Committee Preferences

- Submit online request for committees by 4:30 on 4/3.
- Faculty representation on university committees plays an important role in shared governance. Through service, we have an opportunity to learn more about the different areas that make up our university, to contribute to the decision-making processes, and to become acquainted with our colleagues across campus.

Senate Rules Committee

Committee examined the numbers of faculty in represented areas in order to determine the appropriate number of senate seats in each designated area.

Timeline for Nominations & Elections to the Senate

- Nominations March 26 – April 2 at Noon
- Elections April 9 – April 15 at Noon
- Runoffs? April 17 – April 21
- Results April 23

Academic Council Election – Senate Rules Committee

- Past Representation – 2 per College + 1 FtC for total of 7
- Two seats open – new Colleges of Education and Business
- Future Representation – 1 per College + 1 FtC + at large? = 7 [COAL, COSM, COHBS, COE, COB, Ft. Campbell]

A motion was made and seconded to accept the proposal of the Rules Committee on how to handle the Academic Council Elections, that is, to designate the two open seats on Academic Council to the new colleges of Business and Education (one each). Discussion about the make-up of the Academic Council followed. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Library Athenaeum with Dr. Barry

Vice Pres. Buchanan encouraged attendance at this Library Athenaeum. Sen. Kemmerly also encouraged faculty to attend.

Spring meeting of AAUP

- Will meet on Saturday, March 28, 2009, in Nashville.

- A panel will meet with legislators who are members of the Committee on Higher Education. Topic of discussion is the reorganization of the public higher education system in Tennessee.
- Sen. Kemmerly is moderating the panel.
- Representative Joe Pitts is on this committee. Dr. Rich Rhoda from THEC will attend.

TUFS (Tennessee University Faculty Senates)

- Meeting on April 3-5, 2009 at Fall Creek Falls State Park.
- Kim McMillan will be one of the speakers.
- Will discuss some of the changes that may be coming for higher education in Tennessee.

Proposed Changes to Faculty Handbook

Sen. Wadia mentioned that the Faculty Handbook Committee has prepared a document with the proposed changes for the called meeting on April 9. Please send him anything that bothers you in 5:060.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine W. Berg
Faculty Senate Secretary