

**Austin Peay State University
Faculty Senate
Meeting of Thursday, September 22, 2011
University Center, UC 307
3:00pm**

Call to order – Senate President Jack Deibert

Recognition of Guests: Beverly Boggs, Tina Rousselot de Saint Ceran, Mickey Wadia

Roll call of Senators – Secretary Pat Perdew. Absent Senators: Frenzoz (excused), Griffy (excused), Lowrance.

Today's agenda approved.

Minutes for meeting of August 25, 2011 approved.

Remarks

1. Senate President – Jack Deibert

- Reminder of deadline for Statement of Intent on the RASI grant due October 1.
- Complaints from faculty in Harned regarding the noise in the UC plaza. Had conversation with Andy Kean, Director of University Facilities, who stated he'd lessen the noise. Senator Shea or President Deibert will collect complaints any faculty member has. The Senate Executive Committee will meet with the Provost regarding this issue.

2. University President – Dr. Tim Hall

- Absent due to a TBR meeting. However, he left a statement regarding the compensation plan: "On Friday, the Board will act on our request for 2% to be applied to our compensation plan and for a \$1,000 bonus to be distributed to employees with at least 2 years of service within our system or within state government. In spite of my advocacy to allow APSU to add an additional 2% towards our compensation plan, I have been informed that this requested exception will not be presented to the Board. I am told by Dale Sims that he canvassed the members of the finance committee about the request exception and received a negative response. He did receive indications that our request might be received in the spring, and I will certainly press for this consideration."

3. Provost – Dr. Tristan Denley

- Absent due to a TBR meeting.

4. Associate Provost for Enrollment Management and Academic Support – Dr. Beverly Boggs

- Expressed happiness about being at APSU. Mentioned that many things were going on.
- Red Light - Green Light Project: Planned that by April 1 a red-yellow-green light

indicator in One Stop will show students their status concerning financial aid. In the future it's planned that a student's status in other areas, such as the Bursar's Office, will also be indicated this way.

- There is now a faculty-dedicated phone line at the registrar's office.
- The several offices under Enrollment Management answered several thousand phone calls from students and processed nearly 5000 transcripts.
- A task force has been formed to discuss the impact of Nashville State Community College coming to Clarksville. This can be viewed as an "opportunity instead of a challenge."
- Student Transitions is the new name of First Year Programs. Its role is expanding.
- "Regaining Hope" will be a program to help sophomores regain their lost Hope scholarships. This will impact retention.
- Regarding Summer Welcomes, there will be orientation sessions tailored to transfer students, non-traditional students, and perhaps evening welcomes sessions for evening students.
- Ellington now has personnel available until 6:00 pm on Mondays and Tuesdays.
- Question regarding the Red Light – Green Light project. The indicator will show the student's status in real-time. The status can change which may cause confusion. Students will need to check periodically.
- Comment about the possibility of students being notified of any status change through an app.
- There will be upcoming searches and hires for a Director of Student Transitions and a permanent Director of Admissions.
- Question: How can a student regain the Hope scholarship? Part of the requirements is for the student to get a 3.0 GPA. Jennifer Ellis in Financial Aid may be contacted for all the requirements.
- Customer service is being emphasized in Enrollment Management. "Because We Care" buttons are being worn. A "Peay"-formance award will be given and a plaque will be displayed showing winners. Also a "Peay"-formance partner award will be given to people across campus who've given great customer service.
- A quarterly newsletter will be on the Enrollment Management website starting on November 1.

5. Reports from Faculty Senate Representatives

- Dean's Council – Senator Loretta Griffy
 - Sen. Griffy was absent but had submitted a written report:
 - Dean's council met once since the last senate meeting. Two items:
 - Engaged in a group activity related to campus initiatives for improving student success.
 - The possible conversion of chairs to an 11-month contract is on hold as APSU plans to direct as much funding as possible toward equity compensation.
- Academic Council – Senator Carrie Brennan
 - Had not met since last senate meeting.
- TBR Faculty Sub-council – Senator David Kanervo
 - Had not met since last senate meeting.

Old Business

- None.

New Business

- **Course Internationalization Grant – Tina Rousselot de Saint Ceran**
 - The Study Abroad program has had a 50% increase in the last year and a 200% increase over the last five years.
 - Efforts to ensure that the Study Abroad courses meet students' requirements for their degrees.
 - The Provost provided funding to give this grant.
 - It is primarily for the highest enrolled courses (100+ enrollment). There are 33 of them. Would like to have international options for them.
 - Faculty applying for a grant are to envision a way to internationalize the course and to think of a time it should be offered (May-mester or summer) when students could travel.
 - Three Statements of Intent were submitted by the September 15 deadline. May be possible to reopen for submission of more.
 - The grant will also be available next year.
 - Like the RASI grant, Faculty Senate chooses which proposals get funded.
 - The award is \$4400 for the faculty member to develop course. A site visit is required. The funding is for the visit expenses. The implementation is in 2012-13.
 - Question: What are the 33 high-enrolled courses? A list will be send to President Deibert.
 - The grant is not limited to the 33 high-enrolled courses.
 - It is good for our students to have international experience before they leave APSU.
- **Nominations Open for Special Senate Elections – Vice President Berg**
 - Information is on the Faculty Senate website. Nominations period ends September 30. Election period is from October 10 – 19.
 - Asked current Senators to get the word out and encourage people to run. Newly elected senators will be able to attend October meeting.
- **Academic Classroom and Misconduct Policy – President Deibert**
 - Background: Senator Kanervo, TBR Sub-council representative, got information about these proposed changes on September 2. Institutions were informed they could submit a position paper by October 14.
 - Sheryl Byrd, Vice President for Student Affairs, and Greg Singleton, Dean of Students, have stated that what APSU will submit regarding academic dishonesty in the Code of Student Conduct has no proposed changes.
 - In the TBR proposed changes (see Faculty Senate website), number 2 on academic dishonesty had the main change: the removal of the option for the instructor to submit a grade of F for the course.
 - Questions and Comments followed:
 - Question regarding number 3 in the proposed changes. Greg Singleton's office handles student disciplinary actions. APSU also has a grade appeal process.
 - Much displeasure was expressed about the proposed change that

- would preclude the ability to assign an F for the course.
- When asked by a show of hands, nearly all Senators indicated they have the statement from the Code of Student Conduct in their syllabuses that states an F for the course can be given for plagiarism/academic dishonesty. Also, about one-third of Senators present indicated they had given students an F for the course for the offence of plagiarism/academic dishonesty.
- Comment made that a purpose of APSU 1000 is to show students what plagiarism/academic dishonesty is and warn of consequences. So there is no excuse. Another commented that APSU 1000 is no longer required to cover academic dishonesty. Many expressed view that coverage should be reinstated and that the coordinator of APSU 1000 be contacted about this.
- Cheating shouldn't be tolerated in a university. It's not tolerated in the business world. Do not wish to be softer on students with respect to cheating.
- With current policies, students can already appeal an F grade if they believe it was unjustly received. The appeal does have to wait until the end of the semester, however.
- The proposed change removing the ability of assigning a course grade of F impinges on academic freedom.
- In number 3 of the proposed changes it also says the course can't be dropped pending resolution of an allegation of academic misconduct.
- Number 2 has phrasing that opens the door to a student arguing for partial credit on parts they didn't cheat on.
- TBR is attempting to tell us how to evaluate our classes. No one wants that.
- Opinions expressed that students also be put on academic probation for plagiarism/academic dishonesty.
- View expressed that if cheating on a test that the student be expelled from university.
- Concern expressed with number 5 regarding attendance being omitted on the proposal.
- What APSU is submitting is unchanged and will still have that item regarding attendance.
- Required to take attendance for VA and Financial Aid purposes.
- The Student Code of Conduct says the penalty for academic dishonesty may include an F in the course and expulsion from the university. Comment made that the threat of a stick to warn of severe consequences serves as a deterrent. Changing that takes away the threat and also affects academic freedom.
- Comment made about websites where you can bid on the solution to a problem in computer science. This so-called "contract cheating" is far beyond typical cheating.
- It is currently unknown if APSU can be more strict than TBR regarding this policy, though it is believed that the university will be given more leeway.
- The Executive Committee will draft the position paper on this issue.
- The Senate came to a consensus on certain points that they want addressed in the position paper. Also comments may be sent to President Deibert or Senator Kanervo.

- The Senate agreed that the power to give an F in the course be retained.
- The Senate also expressed concern on number 5 regarding attendance being omitted.
- The Senate wants to keep the current language in the Code of Student Conduct about academic dishonesty.
- A desire expressed to expel someone who is a repeat offender. Also commented that the Dean of Students, Greg Singleton, wishes to have cases reported to him.
- Comment made that the TBR Regents are not faculty. This proposal was put together by TBR staff because of legal cases on some of these issues.
- The TBR committee discussing this proposal does have some faculty representation.
- MTSU and Southwestern Community College have both drafted position papers against the proposed policy changes.
- Their papers also cite AAUP.
- Comment made that if TBR is concerned about the loss of Hope scholarships then that may be reason for the removal of the attendance rule. A grade of FA causes the loss of the Hope scholarship.
- Point made on how transfer students with 12+ hours don't take APSU 1000, when it was again mentioned that it should reinstate discussion on academic dishonesty. Point also made about informing dually enrolled or middle college students.
- Comment that all faculty should put information in their syllabus about academic dishonesty and go over the syllabus at the start of each semester to ensure students hear about the consequences.
- Point made that consequences for faculty who plagiarize are worse than for students, loss of their job.
- Commented that faculty members are trying to retain students and ensure they progress. Faculty are not trying to get rid of students by capriciously assigning F's.

Meeting adjourned at 4:06 pm.