

**Austin Peay State University
Faculty Senate
Meeting of Thursday, February 23, 2012
University Center, UC 307
3:00pm**

Call to order – Senate President Jack Deibert

Recognition of Guests: Toby Boulet, Phil Kemmerly, Telaina Wrigley

Roll call of Senators – Secretary Pat Perdew. Absent Senators: De Young, Garber, Gray, Hayes, Hicks, Major, Matthews, Myers, Shea, Shipley, Snyder, Sutt, Thornton, White-Major

Today's agenda approved.

Minutes for meeting of January 26, 2012 approved.

Remarks

1. Senate President – Jack Deibert

- The Faculty Lounge opened a couple of weeks ago in UC 103A. It is open 11:00 – 1:00, Monday through Friday. All faculty are encouraged to use the lounge. President Deibert, Vice President Elaine Berg, and Secretary Perdew are there at different times during the week.
- SASI grant proposals are due March 30. (The form and information is on the SASI webpage of the Faculty Senate website.) The program was started by President Hall to encourage faculty/student interaction outside the classroom.
- An email was recently sent by President Hall about the Leadership Clarksville program. Faculty are encouraged to participate. Senator Griffy serves on it now.
- Two members of the APSU community recently passed away: Dr. Lewis Tatham, Jr., was a professor of English and chair of the Department of Languages and Literature who retired in 1995. Also, one of our students, Tyler Head, died in a car accident on February 3. Another student, Lucas Haley was seriously injured in the wreck. A moment of silence was observed.

2. University President – Dr. Tim Hall

- Away in Texas visiting alumni.

3. Provost – Dr. Tristan Denley

- The call for proposals for Summer Research Fellowships has been sent out. The deadline is March 2. Up to 20 faculty may be selected for a fellowship.
- For fall 2012, the number of admitted incoming freshmen has been up 20 - 25% for the last 10 - 12 weeks. This large increase is expected to level off to a 5 - 8% increase. The fall 2012 incoming freshmen class may be the largest ever at APSU. Overall enrollment at the university is expected to grow about 3%.
- On April 13 & 14, APSU will host a College Completion Academy. This will be the first ever held on a university's campus. The Provost will meet with different campus groups to prepare for this. About 80 people from across campus will be involved in the event. One new group is the Lyceum which will consist of faculty members who've received the Socrates, Advising, Hawkins, or Distinguished

Professor award over the past three years. Each college will have a team at the academy in April. The team will ascertain what should be done in their unit to further improve student success. They will also to begin to refine what should be the QEP for the upcoming SACS reaffirmation.

4. Reports from Faculty Senate Representatives

- Dean's Council – Senator Loretta Griffy
 - Met yesterday.
 - There will be a change in Financial Aid on campus. In the past, APSU's student-loan default rate was 5 - 6%. The default rate recently surpassed 10%. Due to this, federal sanctions will be placed on us beginning fall 2012. Incoming first-time freshmen who borrow money will have their loan funds held 30 days. These students will still be able to access other funds, confirm classes, and get books, but their refund check will be delayed. This only impacts incoming first-time freshmen. The default rate will be reevaluated each year. More sanctions may be imposed if it goes up again. Faculty are encouraged to speak to students about their obligations when borrowing money and the effort required to earn a degree. At APSU, \$64 million a year is currently being borrowed by students. This is up from \$12 million in the early 2000s.
 - The GPA proposal from TBR Sub-council reported at the last senate meeting was withdrawn. No explanation was given.
 - Students who will graduate Summa Cum Laude will be recognized at Awards Day.
 - The Director of Institutional Research reported that half of our graduates were transfer students and a third of graduates had a stop-out period.
 - The call for proposals for Faculty Research funds has gone out. Currently we have \$5.9 million in grants and should have total of \$8 million for the year.
 - The post-tenure review form is on the Academic Affairs website. Faculty members and their chair should each complete one.
 - The QEP process has begun for the upcoming SACS reaffirmation. APSU 1000 was initiated during the last cycle. It was first discussed on February 22 at Dean's Council for the upcoming SACS review.
 - The College of Graduate Studies no longer asks for letters of recommendation for students. Departments may still request them.

- Academic Council – Senator Carrie Brennan
 - Senator Perdew gave the report.
 - The following items were approved at the meeting yesterday:
 - From the Department of Psychology: Psychology major, revision; School Counseling Concentration (M.S.), revision; and Community Counseling (M.S.), revision.
 - Chemical Engineering Technology (A.S.), revision.
 - From the Department of Geosciences: Global Environment & Development Concentration, revision; and Geology Concentration, revision.
 - Music Education major, revision.
 - Professional Education minor, revision.

- Academic Council Constitution, revision. (This changed a portion describing the makeup of Academic Council. Instead of four deans, now three members from among vice presidents, deans and directors [or comparable positions] will be appointed by the President.)
- TBR Faculty Sub-council – Senator David Kanervo
 - Had not met.

Old Business

- None.

New Business

- TUFSS Information - President Toby Boulet
 - Dr. Boulet, a professor at UT Knoxville, presented information about Tennessee University Faculty Senates (TUFSS). (Please see the Document Archive on the Faculty Senate website for the PDF of this presentation.)
 - The President of TUFSS can only speak about a topic of concern to the legislature if a motion passes TUFSS and then it passes a majority of the faculty senates at the member institutions.
 - One thing TUFSS currently desires is language protecting faculty members' academic freedom in each institution's faculty handbook.
 - Questions: What is the relationship between TUFSS and TBR. Answer: None, TUFSS is independent.
 - Senator Winters encouraged faculty to go to a TUFSS meeting.
 - The next meeting is at UT Martin on March 30, 31, and April 1.
- Faculty White Committee report on Annual Evaluation of Department Chairs – Senator Pitts
 - The committee solicited suggested topics for the chair evaluation form. (Please see the Document Archive on the Faculty Senate website for the compiled list of suggested topics.) Currently, different colleges have different forms. Dean Webb will look at the committee's report.
 - Senator Pitts thanked the committee members: Senators Frentzos, Semler, and Thornton.
- Ombuds – Phil Kemmerly
 - Dr. Kemmerly was in faculty senate for many years and was one of the founding fathers in 1975 that wrote the senate constitution.
 - He presented information on the role of the Ombuds. (Please see the Document Archive on the Faculty Senate website for the PowerPoint.)
 - The Ombuds' purpose is to help settle disputes.
 - The Ombuds cannot interfere in the university's normal processes. If a faculty member is not satisfied after the usual processes, then he or she may come to the Ombuds.
 - Dr. Kemmerly may be contacted via APSU email, and campus or home phone.
 - Question: Does the Ombuds' role stop if a lawsuit is filed. Answer: The Ombuds' involvement doesn't have to stop. However, he isn't subject to subpoena under current state law.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm.