

**Austin Peay State University  
Faculty Senate  
Meeting of Thursday, October 25, 2012  
University Center, UC 307  
3:00pm**

**Call to order** – Senate President Elaine Berg  
Recognition of Guests: Dr. Lowell G. Roddy

**Roll call of Senators** – Secretary Paul Nicodemus. Absent Senators: Blake, Di Paolo, Gray, Haralson, Hicks, Hock, Johnson, Jones, Lebkuecher, Lewis, Lowrance, Pitts, Robertson, Shipley, Starnes, Thompson

**Agenda Approved**

**Minutes for meeting on September 27, 2012 approved**

**Remarks**

1. Senate President – Elaine Berg
  - D2L upgrade scheduled for some time during Winter Break has been rescheduled for the end of May 2013 (Memorial Day weekend)
  - Wintermester length has been changed to 6 weeks
  - Provost Denley and Senate President Berg have discussed the use of D2L system for e-dossiers
    - Need to determine if we need to stay with this system or move to another system that would work better for e-dossiers
    - Provost Denley and Senate President Berg agreed that faculty committee needs to look at this issue
    - Senate President Berg is asking the Faculty Red Committee to take on this task
    - Senator Wadia and Mitzie Thompson have agreed to be resource people for this committee
    - Issue needs to be examined from standpoint of both faculty members creating an e-dossier and those reviewing the e-dossier
  - QEP (Quality Enhancement Plan) Committee has met
    - Charged with identifying what our QEP will focus upon
    - Time provided at end of meeting for questions of Dr. Griffy
  - Faculty/Staff Appreciation Day that was scheduled for Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> has been moved to Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup> and the time of tailgate has been moved to 9 a.m.-11 a.m. because football game starts at 11 a.m.
2. University President –Tim Hall
  - Presented information on funding situation
    - In November THEC will make recommendations for funding
    - Passing out funding numbers now to make certain everyone is clear with judging their funding numbers
    - Points are awarded for certain types of results such as students progression from one school year to the next to graduation

- Funding (UT & TBR schools) results ranged from decrease of 2.4% to increase of 6.5%
- APSU funding results were an increase of 6.5%
- APSU experienced a significant increase in the number of graduates
- Capital projects
  - Trahern should reach initial stage on list for authorization this summer
  - Governor Haslam's new policy is to have 25% of cost from the institution for capital project
  - This will be 5 to 6 million dollars for the Trahern project
  - This money is typically the cost of the design for the project-we have the needed funds for this project
  - Has been suggested that we may be better off building new building and just refreshing Trahern rather than renovating
  - Costs of new addition will be more than renovations
  - Priority is achieving better class space
  - If new structure is built it will probably be in Trahern parking lot or MMC parking lot
  - Library is on a list but not on one that is a priority for funding
  - THEC requires TBR to have list of what might be built
  - New projects get on list as the funded projects are completed and are removed from list
  - TBR gives a higher score to projects that increase classroom space
  - This is why library is down on list
  - Getting new library is less likely since it is not favored in scoring
  - New classroom building would probably be funded immediately (within 2 year period)
  - With Governor Haslam's funding policy we will need to put substantial funds into each project
  - Increased enrollment is how we obtain money through the extra tuition
  - This extra money is put aside each year, if enrollment is not sufficient then money will not be available
  - Governor Haslam has suggested universities might get funds for their part of new project funding through private donors
  - May be detrimental because donors typically give money for scholarships or building, but wouldn't not give money for both
  - Their giving to facilities will probably take money away from student scholarships
- Questions from senators
  - Do we know if current downturn with enrollment is due to deployments
  - May be part of it, but not the whole answer
  - Downturn for us was about 2.6% with the entire TBR institutions being approximately 3%
  - The 2.6% decrease was approximately 200 students-we are still waiting on Fort Campbell's Fall II numbers
  - Expression of gratitude for President Hall working to get us the equity adjustment in salaries
  - Would library building funds be more likely if we included class space
  - Library has a different structure
  - Space design is more for students who are working on group projects
  - This does not necessarily mean less space

- If we considered building project we would certainly look at more classroom space in library

### 3. Provost – Tristan Denley

- Commented on some other thoughts concerning library improvements
  - Main floor of library looks different than years before
  - Beginning to take on new look
  - 93,000 students came to library in September
  - Do not see the role of library diminishing but changing
  - Air conditioning in library is going to be overhauled
  - Meeting last week to discuss the length of project
- Downturn in enrollment was not uniform across all student categories
  - Highest increase in enrollment was students scoring 26 and above on ACT, accounted for 25%
  - HOPE scholarship supported for 1300 students
  - AP Day substantially increases likelihood of student coming to Austin Peay when attending event
  - Want to make AP Day a spectacular event with awarding a \$500 prize to the department and student organization that has the best table display
  - Campus tours play an important role in students deciding to attend APSU
  - Encouraging Admissions to partner with departments for student visits
  - Major selling point to have the student tour the facilities in the department of interest
  - Need to maximize the opportunity to show them the department's offerings
  - Paying special attention to these things should result in enrollments we experienced before
  - Appears to be evidence that the fewer students seen now are because of downturns in the birthrates 18 years ago
- Questions from senators
  - What is the outlook for our special money sources
  - Summer money is secure
  - Hope students bring in more funding, not Pell grant students
  - This is opposite of what has been seen in past
- Spring 2013 schedule
  - It should be coming out soon
  - The timing is about what it has been and when it should be available
- Asked to explain why the preregistration schedule is during Veteran's Holiday and Thanksgiving Holiday
  - Preregistration sequence is organized by TBR so our schedule is determined by them so that is why it is when it is

### 4. Vice-President – Chad Brooks

- Introduced the three new faculty senate members
  - Susan Cockrell filling unexpired seat in Business
  - Brian Hock filling open seat in Social Sciences
  - Tracy Nichols filling unexpired seat in Humanities

### 5. Dr. Lowell G. Roddy, Director of Student Counseling Services

- Talked about what the center does with students

- Mental health and academics go hand in hand
- Five counselors have not been able to keep up with the workload
- Talk about relationship breakups and jobs
- Presented with the woes of students and complaints of not getting work completed
- Along with academic responsibilities they have jobs and too many balls to juggle
- Presented the percentages of mental health issues seen in the center
- Presented the percentages of various health issues experienced by the students seen in the center
- Provided information on some of the special issues experienced by students
  - These include such things as homesickness, suicide ideations and attempts, and sexual abuse
- Presented problems that are seen with drug and alcohol abuse
- Office of Student Counseling Services has seen 30 to 60% more student this year as compared to earlier years with more intense issues
- Indications of when to refer students
  - They state they have a problem
  - Observe students with flat affect
  - Suddenly do poorly in class
  - Asks for help and you are not certain what to do
  - Zones out or demonstrates panic
- How to refer a student
  - Talk to student to let them know you are concerned and that they may need to talk with counselor
  - Discuss service options
  - Assist student with making contact with center
- Questions from faculty
  - Statement that it had been noticed that students seem to be caring for elderly family members and putting off other responsibilities to take care of them
  - It was reported that Counseling Services see some students like this, but not as many as you might expect

## 6. Reports from Faculty Senate Representatives

- Dean's Council – Senator Mercy Cannon
  - Performance evaluations
    - HR is moving forms to People Administration (online)
    - This year our performance funding score was 92 points out of 100
    - Three years ago we were at 83 out of 100
    - Program review (ensures quality and standards) and major fields tests scores are part of this funding score
    - Each point is worth \$10,000
    - Also included in the score-making progress toward DFW rates in gateway courses, and some kind of survey of students (NSSE), alumni, and employers (this year), etc.
  - Grants and Sponsored Research
    - In spring, invited U. S. Attorney General's grant fraud agency to speak on issues such as purchase of gift cards with grant money
    - 3 TBR schools under FBI investigation for grant fraud

- Currently at 2.6 million dollars in grants, about 800,000 short from last year - attributable to High School Upward Bound
- Working to create equity among graduate coordinator duties and compensation
- Enrollment Management
  - 326 students registered for November AP Day
  - Last year 340 attended
  - 4270 Academic Alerts were issued equals 2674 students were alerted
  - Only 1.5 people in this office reaching out to these students
  - Asking for help from Student Support Services to reach students
  - Asking faculty (advisors, APSU instructors, mentors, etc.) to help as well
  - Email going out about new “note” section in advising page
  - Whatever is entered is visible to the students and to anyone else who has access to the site
  - Provost Denley is putting together reviewing committees for transfer pathways
  - Asking for faculty involvement on these committees
- Questions from senators
  - What were those universities being investigated for
  - Grant fraud
  - No specific information of what the fraud entails
- Academic Council – Vice-President Brooks
  - Core change to go before TBR approval
    - HIST 1210 and 1220 will move from Social and Behavioral Sciences core to History Core to go in competition with HIST 2010 and HIST 2020
  - Sociology underwent considerable changes with one being a change in numbering from SOC 2010 to SOC 1010
    - Several areas changed with a change in requirement number to 36 hours
    - Changes were unanimously approved
  - TBR approved the Master’s in Science and Technology
  - Computer Science will have additional course, but major does not change
  - RODP nursing program will require a statistics course
  - Questions from senators
    - When will History change-not certain
- TBR Faculty Sub-council – Dr. David Kanervo
  - Comments made by Chancellor Morgan
    - Governor Haslam continuing to explore efforts to decide what his higher education agenda will be-he wants to make capital outlays
    - Need to find a permanent leader in Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
    - Paula Short vacated this position since then a search has been going on for this position
    - Questioned if position requires a terminal degree
    - Adopted a resolution wanting an earned doctorate in an academic area for Vice Chancellor

- Dr. Kanervo voted no-he explained that he felt this had something to do with limiting candidates who have a JD
- Established a task force to head up an examination of where system should go in next 10 years
- Also create a task force for Academic freedom/shared governance
- President Hall recommended as a member on this working group because of his openness for shared governance with us
- Action items
  - Limited English proficiency
    - Under Title VI (Civil Rights Act of 1964) all institutions must have a process
    - Campus may use identification cards or posters to determine persons of language
    - Provide information on staff interpreters
    - Will need to provide an outside interpreter when in-house person is not available
    - Dealing more with non-faculty and non-students visiting campus
  - Common calendar
    - Intended to go into effect fall of 2014
    - Needs to be approved by Student Affairs and President's sub-council
    - Institutions need to determine if the 2 days will be used for fall break in October or if Monday and Tuesday during Thanksgiving
    - Wednesday will be a part of the Thanksgiving Holiday
    - As a university at some point we will have to decide what way we want to go
    - RODP will follow the community college calendar
    - Some faculty members may not have a fall break if teaching RODP classes and our breaks differ with the community college calendar
    - Passed
- Discussion items
  - Sick leave bank policy
    - Sick leave bank cannot be used for taking care of an ill family member
    - Can use personal sick leave to take care of family members, but cannot use sick leave bank
    - This is according to law
    - Recommended that we look into the need for change in law
  - Issues with temporary appointments
    - Can a temporary contract appointment be ended with 30 days notice
    - At this time it appears to be legal under current policy
    - Need to see where faculty stands
  - UT Faculty Senate Resolution supporting benefits for same-sex couples
    - UT Chancellor turned the request down
    - Seeking a resolution from each of the faculty senates throughout the state to support them
    - Need to see where faculty stands on this issue
  - Arrest of Faculty Senate President at TSU
    - Decision was made to not take any action
    - Question about whether individual faculty senates might want to take action
- Information items

- Update on GPA concerning junior college transfers
  - Policy passed in which transfers' GPAs will not follow them when they transfer
  - Transfers will begin with a zero GPA when they come to us
  - Will come into effect summer of 2014
- Questions from senators
  - Has it ever been discussed about possibly ending fall classes before Thanksgiving
  - Once we come back from Thanksgiving we only have between 1 to 2 weeks left and the students are not very motivated
  - Not a discussion of ending the semester before Thanksgiving by sub-council
  - Some supposition that at least one week of classes must be held after Thanksgiving to allow for academic review before final exams
  - Motion made, seconded and passed to extend the discussion period
  - Question regarding the request to support UT proposal for same-sex benefits and how we proceed with that
  - Dr. Kanervo read the request for support
  - Wanted to know if there is a time issue
  - Did not know if there is, but felt since it has been turned down once, would like to have it at the end of this year
  - Faculty Senate President requested that the Executive Committee discuss this and bring it back to the November meeting
  - No objections for the Executive Committee to proceed

### Old Business

- Update on Foreign Language Resolution – Senator Tim Winters -- **Information Item**
  - A proposal was presented to the General Education Committee
  - Requested to add a foreign language option to the Communication core
  - Council appeared to be positive about the proposal
  - Some discussion about possibly adding it to the Humanities core
  - Proposal cannot be sent through at this time
  - Will be working with the appropriate dean to submit in January
  - Need to determine if it will be placed as an inclusion or an option
  - Possibly an option in lieu of speech
  - Merely trying to reinstate the previous program of having it as part of the core before it was removed when we changed to the 120 hour policy for graduation
- Questions from faculty
  - Wanted to know if it was going to be a one semester course
  - Indicated that the language faculty would like it to be both 1010 and 1020, but the recognize the problem with the number of hours
  - There are still a couple of items that they are working on

### New Business

- Student Course Grade Appeal Policy (3:033) – Senator Mickey Wadia -- **Information Item**
  - Discussed faculty input on revisions for Policy 3:003
  - Policy was revised 4 years ago
  - Multiple committees are trying to work this out
  - There is no basic problem with this policy

- The issue lies with the formal grade appeal and the short semesters schedule creating some issues with appealing within the deadline
- Presently only 1 appeal has been declared
- Indicated that policy should not be revised if only one problem has occurred
- Encountered problem last summer with 1 student processing a formal grievance with requesting to have a grade change
- Because of the nature of summer being a shorter timeframe than a long semester questions arose concerning the process of review since faculty are not on campus
- Issue is that agreement must be decided if problem occurs in summer session the appeal must be handled in the fall
- Problem we are faced with is that if faculty has left after completing the summer session and a student wants to appeal their grade
- The committee handling this matter has been told that they need to consult with our attorney for her recommendations and approval as a safeguard
- For an appeal in spring II the earliest day to appeal should be beginning of fall I
- Indicated that telling the faculty they have to be available when off contract may not be possible since they are technically not under contract
- The process of appealing and deadline dates may have potential problems for adjuncts, temporary faculty, and graduate assistants who teach
- Need to consider the policy language of who would serve as substitute in these special circumstances
- No language is currently included in the policy

**Meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.**