

Austin Peay State University
Faculty Senate
Meeting of Thursday, August 27, 2015
University Center, UC 307
3:00pm
Minutes

Call to order – Senate President Tim Winters

Recognition of Guests: Christy Allan, Jack Diebert, Taylor Emery, Provost Rex Gandy, Ty Jesinoski, Jasmine Linares, Cherilyn Padgett, Pat Perdew, Will Roberts, Jeff Rutter, Becky Starnes, Jennifer Thompson

Roll call of Senators – Senate Secretary Christina Chester-Fangman

Absent Senators: Dennis Pearson, Allyn Smith, Charla White-Major

Approval of today’s agenda: Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve agenda

Approval of minutes for meeting of May 7, 2015: Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve minutes from May 7 *with the clarification that the Trahern *parking lot* (not the building) would be closing in August for the construction on the new arts building

Remarks

1. Senate President – Dr. Tim Winters (10 minutes)

- Welcome! Senate President Winters would ask as we begin the academic year that we promote the fact that we are on senate to our colleges and let our faculty members know they can bring issues to us; we are an advisory body, and will represent their interests to the administration.
- A note of thanks to Dr. Mercy Cannon, immediate past Senate President, and to those who have served; Senate President Winters commented that he is at the beginning of his nineteenth year here at APSU and most of those years has involved his work with faculty senate.
- He reminds us that there is a wonderful relationship between the faculty and administration and that we are in a great position in that we have a university president working hard for us and a provost protecting research time and wanting to help with the salary issues.
- It is his sad duty is to notify us of those faculty and staff members who have passed away during this year: Dr. Thayer Beach, Charles McWhorter, Dr. Ernest L. Woodward, Dr. Lewis Paul Hyatt, Sr., Dr. James Thomas Stack, and Dr. George Fisher; in addition, WEB DuBois passed away on 27 Aug. 1963; senators observed a moment of silence in commemoration.
- Senate President Winters entertained questions on parking:
 - Q: Can we stop parents of middle school parents from parking in the Marks lot?
 - A: He said that he will pass this on to Chief Kasitz.
 - Q: When will campus police begin issuing parking tickets?
 - A: A number of senators reported this was already being done.

2. University President – Dr. Alisa White (15 minutes)

President White was at a meeting and could not attend

3. University Provost – Dr. Rex Gandy (15 minutes)

- Provost Gandy began his remarks by thanking everyone for the fantastic welcome; he was a faculty senator himself and realizes the importance of that function; he is a believer in shared governance and appreciates our service.
- The groundbreaking for the art and design building will be September 1st at 9am and all are invited.
- The purchase of the Jenkins & Wynne property is moving positively forward; it does have to go through several levels of approval but is expected to be finalized in January or February 2016.
- We will be launching our strategic planning project very soon; our last plan was for 2010-2015 so we need another one; the administration plans to engage all stakeholders in process; we should be looking for more information on that through our departments and divisions.
- We have applied for and received preliminary approval for a pool of funds to put toward salary increases of 2 percent, 1 percent to equity and 1 percent across the board; this issue still has to go to TBR and there is a strong possibility that it will be approved; it will then be retroactively applied.
- Enrollment is up! As of today, we are at 9,760 which is up two students over this same day last year; final numbers will include Fall II at the Ft. Campbell campus, which will likely add a couple hundred more students; that number leads other TBR institutions, as the others are down an average of 1.6 percent; community colleges are up about 7 percent due largely to the Tennessee Promise.
- As for the SACS update, we had a successful reaffirmation; we are on monitoring for an area of concern that we have a year to fix that concerns the number of hours our faculty are teaching in RODP; we feel our response will be adequate and our monitoring status will be removed.
- Initiatives at the Ft. Campbell campus include schedule modifications so fall and spring semesters will be broken into two halves, and this model will apply to both campuses – so, for example, the same Fall I and Fall II semesters will run at any location and there will no longer be this proliferation of schedules; the response to this was positive when shared with the Ft. Campbell faculty on Tuesday; the second issue involves an academic reorganization in which the Department of Engineering Technology will be moved to the College of Science & Mathematics, and Professional Studies will be moved under the College of Behavioral & Health Sciences; the faculty in those areas will report to the deans instead of to Dr. Cox; he will remain the Executive Director, but this will be for operational activities and not academic issues such as the RTP process; the process to start this change has begun with a section on the Academic Affairs website open for public comments to the Provost and will then move through set of steps before eventually going to TBR in a few months.
- Our new proposed degrees include the MBA in Business, the Psy.D in Clinical Psychological Science and Counseling, and a Bachelor's in Engineering Physics.
- There has been concern expressed about low enrolled classes, but we will be keeping them – there are certain conditions under which you need them, we just need to make sure they are justified in order for us to be good stewards of taxpayer funds.
- Provost Gandy opened the floor to questions:
 - Q: What exactly is the issue regarding RODP?
 - A: 25 percent of credit hours for undergraduates and 30 percent of credit hours for graduate students need to be taken at the home institution in order for a student to graduate from that institution; if instructors at different campuses teach those courses via RODP, SACS does not consider those courses not to be ours;

we need to be more careful with advising and make sure our students watch those numbers of credit hours.

Q: In looking at new degrees, would it be possible to add our nursing program back into consideration for the DNP collaborative? That process is going on now; we would have to wait two years to join if we miss the current window; someone needs to let Vice Chancellor Denley know that we are interested in pursuing that again, as there is huge pool of students there.

A: Provost Gandy said that he would look into that.

Q: How many of our students are from the TN Promise?

A: About 300.

4. Director, Student Counseling Services – Jeff Rutter (10 minutes)

- Dr. Rutter has a 4pm meeting, so asked if he could go earlier in the agenda. He explained that “the game has changed” in counseling – they are no longer treating students for test anxiety and time management issues, but for bipolar disorder and depression.
- Unfortunately, we had three student suicides last year and the stakes are getting more worrisome; there needs to be a collaborative effort between the faculty and Counseling Services, as we are close to the students; if we can help identify high-risk students, counselors can embed where they are needed; with an additional staff member, Counseling can do this, and they have created support groups for students in Nursing and Art & Design, as well as for athletes and RAs; Dr. Rutter was recently asked about starting one for the GSA.
- How to reach out? Call campus police at 7786 or Counseling at 6162.
- Dr. Rutter asked for questions:
 - Q: In the past, faculty members were told that they cannot recommend counseling to their students. Is this correct?
A: It is human kindness to help students when they need it, just be sure not to be pejorative and make no attributions based on that need.
 - Q: How do we handle it when we have an upset student in our office?
A: Strategies include calling Counseling and using speaker phone to model the appropriate tone and behavior, so the student knows that there is someone available right then to help; another strategy someone has successfully used is walking a student over to the Counseling office.
 - Q: Is it true that students have a limited number of allowed visits the Counseling?
A: Yes, our students are limited to 12 visits to Counseling per year, but then it “resets;” a referral to a community agency might be necessary but, unfortunately, most of our students are under-insured and do not have adequate support systems.

5. Coordinator, Military Student Center – Jasmine Linares (10 minutes)

- APSU has approximately 2,400 military-affiliated students.
- Services provided by the Military Student Center include a computer lab, “Texts for Vets,” (a textbook loan program and the Center accepts donations of books or money to purchase books for this), and a graphing calculator loan program (all are signed out already).
- Green Zone Training – there will be sessions in the fall for this training program to make the campus community aware of the positive and negative challenges of dealing with the military population; sessions include deployment issues, PTSD in the classroom, and the GI Bill / Financial Aid issues; Jasmine is also working to get a session online.

- If you are able, please attend the Military & Veteran Graduate Recognition Ceremony at the end of each semester where the students are awarded their coins.
- On the web at: <http://www.apsu.edu/military-student-center>

6. Coordinator for Programs and Special Events, Student Life and Engagement – Ty Jesinoski (5 minutes)

- Please volunteer to help on family weekend; based on feedback from past years' events, the families want more interaction with faculty; Family Weekend will be September 26-27; please consider attending the Presidents Brunch on the 27th (Sunday) from 11am to 1pm where you can mix and mingle with families and get a free brunch; if you are interested, please contact Ty.

7. VP for Advancement, Communication, and Strategic Initiatives - Derek van der Merwe (10 minutes)

Mr. van der Merwe was at a meeting and could not attend.

8. President, Student Government Association – Will Roberts (5 minutes)

- SGA will be sponsoring three major events this year: “The Big Event,” the mud bowl, and GHOST; they are also hosting a voter registration drive next month and Secretary of State Tre Hargett will be here for that event; Will hopes to promote civic engagement to the students.
- Next month SGA will be sending a group of students to Tennessee Tech (TTU) for a domestic abuse and violence conference.
- SGA members will also be setting up tables in academic buildings throughout the semester every Wednesday at 4pm to meet with students and attempt to address any concerns they may have.

9. Executive Director, Extended & Distance Education - Dana Willett (15 minutes)

Did not attend

10. Reports from Faculty Senate Representatives

- Academic Council – Senator Ken Shipley – No Report
- Dean’s Council – Senator Christine Mathenge – No Report
- TBR Faculty Sub-council – Senator Benita Bruster – No Report

New Business

- **Assignment of faculty senate committees: Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve the committee slates**
 - Senate President Winters contacted the chairs about serving and heard back from everyone with generous replies; please be reminded, if you are not on a committee yet, we keep names on reserve for ad hoc committees; the complete list of faculty senate committees is below.
- **Faculty Senate – Staff Senate Tailgate for Football Game, September 5th**
 - We will be co-hosting the tailgate with Staff Senate; we will provide the food and they provide plates, napkins, cutlery, etc.; please come out if you can – the tailgate will start about 1:30pm in the Foy lot with game time at 4:00pm; he reminded us that students are aware of it when faculty show up to games, so please try to be more involved on campus; there are concerts (ex. The Community Concert Series), art shows, and all types of sporting events (season tickets are priced low for faculty to encourage attendance); students appreciate it, so please show them your support!

Announcements or Items from the Floor

- Senator Berg read a statement from Library Director Joe Weber about the American Library Association (ALA) – National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) exhibit the library will be hosting, “Lincoln and the Constitution;” the exhibit will include Civil War memorabilia and there will be a number of events campus-wide supporting the exhibit including a concert of Civil War music by Jeffrey Wood, “Divided: Mary Lincoln and Emilie Todd Helm” (a dramatic reading of the correspondence between the First Lady and her half-sister), and several presentations by History faculty members; the exhibit will run September 8-October 15; if you are interested in presenting, contact Joe at 7613; look for more information forthcoming on the library website and the Gov Says.
- Senator Burke is launching a communication lecture series and invites faculty members to speak on their research topics so that the COMM 1010 students can see modeled public speaking; she will be posting an announcement in the Gov Says soon, but if you are interested in volunteering, please contact her.

Adjourn (4:05pm)

Faculty Senate Committees, 2015-2016

Rules

Tucker Brown, Chair
Melissa Gomez
Lee Gray
Tatsushi Hirono

Budget Review

Tucker Brown, Chair
Lesley Davidson
Lisa Sullivan
Timothy Wesley

Nomination & Elections

David Major, Chair
John Byrd
Greg Hammond
Andrea Spofford

Academic Red

Doris Davenport, Chair
Holly Hollis
Katherine Honea
Tony Morris

Academic White

David Rands, Chair
Mary Fran Davis
Kristen Hershey
Allyn Smith

Faculty Red

Chad Brooks, Chair
Phyllis Camilleri
Hassan Said
Cameron Sutt

Faculty White

John Volker, Chair
Ben Ntatin
Robin Reed
Margaret Rennerfeldt

RASI

Raman Sahi, Chair
Linda Darnell
Mike Dunn
Christoph Konkobo
Nanci Woods

SASI

Noel Rennerfeldt, Chair
Andriy Kovalskiy
Adriane Sanders
Lauren Wells

Eligible for *ad hoc* Committees

Kenisha Burke
Donna Dey
Dwonna Goldstone
Robyn Hulsart
Charmaine Lowe
John Nicholson
Dennis Pearson
James Prescott
Charla White-Major