

Reminder: The July meeting of the Faculty Senate will be  
Thursday, July 15, 1999, 3:30 pm  
in Claxton 103.

FACULTY SENATE MEETING  
Approved Minutes  
Thursday, June 24, 1999, 3:30-4:15 PM  
Claxton 103

**ROLL CALL OF SENATORS IN ATTENDANCE:** Steve Anderson, John Blake, Willodean Burton, Roger Clark, Doris Davenport, Gloria Gharavi, Meredith Gildrie, Dolores Gore, Ronald Gupton, Kay Haralson, Mark Hunter, Ellen Kanervo, Phillip Kemmerly, DeAnne Luck, James Prescott, April Purcell, Albert Randall, Adel Salama, Pete Stoddard, Cindy Taylor, Jim Thompson, David Till, Danielle White, Howard Winn, Greg Zieren.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA**

A motion to approve the agenda made by Senator Till, seconded by Senator Kemmerly. Motion to approve carried.

Correction noted on page 3 of the May Senate minutes under a statement made by Dr. Rinella, to change "*include* personnel actions" to "*exclude* personnel actions". A motion to approve the minutes of the May Senate meeting made by Senator Winn, seconded by Senator Anderson. Motion to approve carried.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**President Gupton:** The Executive Committee met with Dr. Rinella and Dr. Pontius. Issues discussed included:

- Budget for 99-00 may include \$1-1.1 million in new money. We should be able to fund at least 21.5% of the Mercer difference, maybe more.
- Matters which we felt should have been addressed since the vote of no confidence: 1) except in the area of hiring, the university is still not in good compliance with AAUP guidelines, 2) questions about Affirmative Action have not fully be addressed, 3) unfunded faculty positions, 4) summer school issues, 5) enrollment for summer school and fall semester (we do have a waiver for fall from TBR), concern is for a carry over decline for Fall 2000, when we might lose funding, 6) loss of personnel, faculty, administration and professional staff. When it was suggested to Dr. Rinella that it was due to problems with administration, he felt it could be a problem with the general unrest on campus, but not necessarily due to the administration.
- Two things of personal concern, in my opinion we still seem to have deep divisions between administration and faculty and Dr. Rinella does not want to acknowledge this. Secondly, even if the problems are acknowledged, he does not see them as the fault of the administration.

**Senator Randall:** Does the 21.5% Mercer include last year's 5%?

**President Gupton:** No. The 21.5% is new money, we may be able to do a little better than that.

**Motion made to allow Dr. Pontius the floor by Senator Anderson, seconded by Senator Gildrie, motion carried.**

**Dr. Pontius:** A recommendation for a 6% tuition increase came out of a TBR sub-committee and is going to the Board of Regents for approval. If approved we could see up to 28% of the Mercer difference funded. This would make Mercer funded 1/3 by the end of the year.

**Senator Kemmerly:** We have 4 people in Geology and Geography who will be promoted to Associate Professor effective August 1, I would like a clear explanation on how this will affect their Mercer calculations.

**Dr. Pontius:** I will talk to Bob Bird and find out the answer to your question and to Kay's question about the DSP recalculations.

**Senator Kemmerly:** Will their Mercer recommended salary be recalculated at the next rank?

**Senator Haralson:** I think we have been told that the only people who would be recalculated in mid stream until Mercer is fully funded are those that were promoted and they would be recalculated based on their new rank, adjusting their percentages accordingly.

**Senator Kemmerly:** But we don't know for sure.

**Senator Haralson:** No, because we typically can not get anything in writing. We asked this question about one of our faculty members also.

**President Gupton:** Another question is, if they are recalculated, they should get the 5% from last year added to their increase this year to keep them at the same place as everyone else.

**Senator Kemmerly:** I got that same feeling from the four people being promoted.

**President Gupton:** The Summer School Task Force is being put together. As soon as we approve the committee structure for 1999-2000, I will forward the names of the faculty to serve on this committee to Dr. Pontius. Deadline of September 30 set for this report to be completed.

There will be a budget meeting on August 12, similar to the last one.

The July senate meeting will be July 15 at 3:00 in CX 103 and the August senate meeting will be August 26 at 3:30 in this same room hopefully.

## REPORTS

**TBR Subcouncil - Senator Gore:** TBR Subcouncil has not met.

**Academic Council - Senator Randall:**

- There will be four new members to the Academic Council elected from the faculty.
- Leveling process of core courses to relate to articulation agreements with community colleges was discussed.
- Process under way with Aleeta Christian and computer services to put prerequisites in place on AP Talk. There have been problems with students registering for classes for which they are not prepared. Each department can enter the information each semester to stop this, but they are trying to find a better way to handle this problem.
- A specialization in German was approved.

**Dean's Council - Dr. Pontius:**

- There was a special meeting of the Dean's Council where Bruce Myers reported on the Tech Board. The feeling is that Academic Affairs should have more input into how the TAF funds are allocated. In the future, proposals going to the Tech Board will go through the chairs, to the Deans. The Deans will prioritize in the Dean's Council and then the proposals will be forwarded to the Tech Board. Last year the proposals went straight to the Tech Board and they prioritized. This way Academic Affairs should have more input, we felt there should be more prioritization coming from the faculty. Up until now the definition of how the funds could be used was determined by the financial area of TBR, it should be decided by the Academic Affairs area.

## OLD BUSINESS

### Concerns regarding faculty positions- President Gupton:

- My understanding was there were no new positions funded, a pool of dollars was allocated to the Deans, they prioritized positions, there was not enough funds available to fund all the lines, so some lines were unfunded. I was later told by Dr. Pontius that some positions had been reallocated. When I talked to Dean Hogan, he knew nothing about reallocation of positions and said COAS needed \$135,000 to fund the other positions needed. I asked that Dr. Pontius provide a list of all instructional positions, where they were allocated for last year and this year to see if there had been reallocations. Post-retirement positions also play a part in this. Some departments lost positions, not due to drop in enrollment in their courses, but because they were at the bottom of the priority list. Another problem surrounding this will be the increase in adjunct and overloads needed in the departments which lost positions.
- **Dr. Pontius:** When I arrived there were 276 faculty lines occupied. These were all tenure track lines, some might have been temporary. For the last 2 years all 276 of these have been filled. For this coming fall there will be 280 faculty lines filled. Academic Affairs has 281 lines allocated to Academic Affairs for positions. Some of these over time have been faculty members moved up to administrative lines, but continued to do some teaching, and have remained a faculty position allocation. These are disappearing and as of this fall there will be 280 positions if all are filled as they have been allocated. That means there are 4 additional faculty lines for this fall, made possible by converting 2 lines this summer to faculty lines, and 3.84 FTE post- retirement faculty. As a result there should be 62 fewer classes needed to be taught by adjunct faculty.
- **Senator Anderson:** Do you have any idea what percentage reduction of our number of classes taught by adjuncts this 62 sections represents?
- **Dr. Pontius:** Last year on main campus we had 188 classes taught by adjuncts or overloads. This represents a significant reduction on main campus. Our next goal is to address the number of adjuncts and overloads at Ft. Campbell. At Ft. Campbell there is 400-500 classes being taught by adjuncts or overloads.
- **Senator Winn:** On the TBR webpage the number of faculty lines listed for each year does not match the numbers you are giving.
- **Dr. Pontius:** These figures in the past have included deans, so the numbers are inflated. By the end of the year all administrative positions will be in administrative lines, not faculty. If Joe Fillippo continues as AVPAA, his faculty line in Speech will be open.
- **President Gupton:** By the end of next year, will all money currently being paid for administration out of instructional budget be back in the instructional budget for faculty lines?
- **Dr. Pontius:** Hopefully, yes.
- **President Gupton:** Since these numbers seem to indicate that we have more positions next year than last year, I am sure the question from departments which have fewer positions is "What happened to my position?" If indeed there are more faculty lines, then positions must have been reallocated at some point.

- **Dr. Pontius:** I have a preliminary draft of the document that outlines where all positions are. COAS has 180 lines, that is an increase of 2 over 1998. College of Business has 21 lines, which remains the same as last year. College of Education has 19 lines, an increase of 1 over 1998. College of Human Services and Nursing has 32.5 lines an increase of 0.5 over 1998. In the associate degree faculty at Ft. Campbell there is a decrease of 0.5 positions, which makes the total 6.5 for the School of Technology and Public Management for 1999. The Library has 10 lines, the same as 1998. A position was allocated to African American Studies in the Office of Enrichment Programs, an increase of 1 since there was not a previous faculty position in this area. I will have a full report by the next senate meeting.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Senate Committees - President Gupton:

- A list of Faculty Senate Committees for 1999-2000 is being presented to you from the Executive Committee. I have had responses from most of the chairs, who have agreed to serve.
- **Motion made by Senator Winn to approve the list as submitted, seconded by Senator Gildrie.**
- **Discussion:**
- **Senator Anderson :** I would like to serve on the Budget Review Committee, but not chair the committee.
- **President Gupton :** Perhaps the committee members can vote on a chair.
- **Dr. Pontius:** I would like to have a smaller committee to work with for the Summer School Committee.
- **President Gupton:** I will try to narrow down the committee to fewer than five.

### Motion carried to approve the list of committees as submitted.

### DSP registration screens and appeals process - President Gupton:

- DSP previously had access to SIS screens that allowed them to adjust student schedules when they had failed a DSP course and had to be taken out of the next level and re-enrolled in the lower level course. Access to these screens have been taken away from DSP and now this work load has fallen to Sheila McCoy. DSP was doing a good job in handling these, which involved 200-250 students. Two concerns: which place is the right place to do this and the work load on Sheila McCoy. Dr. Pontius has reservations about students being removed from classes, but it seems that this will have to be done by someone one way or the other.
- **Dr. Pontius:** The window existed for DSP pre-AP Talk. John Landers is working now to write a program which will resolve the issue and neither DSP or Sheila will have to drop the students as they will be automatically dropped from a DSP course which they had failed.
- **Senator Haralson:** Will the student have to call and drop the course or will it automatically be done?
- **Dr. Pontius:** The will automatically be dropped from the course.
- **Senator Haralson:** Will they be re-enrolled in the right course?
- **Dr. Pontius:** John is working on this. It has happened that students have been dropped from classes in the middle of the term by DSP.
- **Senator Haralson:** I believe the circumstances that brought about this decision was a student which was suspended for failing a DSP class several times, made an appeal to our committee, was allowed back in under the condition that she register for only 6 hours, one of them being the DSP math. She signed a contract agreeing to this. She then

registered for 12 hours and our office went into SIS and dropped her from the 6 hours she should not have been in.

- **Dr. Pontius:** I personally have a philosophical problem with a situation where a student can be dropped from my class without me having any involvement in the decision. I would like to try to figure out how to best avoid this situation and to make the process more efficient.
- **Senator Haralson:** I also have a philosophical difference with a student signing a contract saying this is what I will do if you waive my suspension and then the student not being made to abide by that contract. It is just like an appeal to the Student Standing Committee, if they do not do what the Committee says then they do not come to school.
- **Dr. Pontius:** Hopefully we will have this worked out.
- **Senator Randall:** While we are talking about philosophical differences, I think part of the problem is the number of decisions being made without involvement of faculty. While we are all concerned about the student, the action taken compromised the activities and efforts of several faculty involved. These screens were removed without talking to the department or faculty members about this. We need to stop this. Talking to the department might have prevented a whole lot of this problem. I hope you are right that this can be taken care of on AP Talk.
- **President Gupton:** If this can be system maintained and still abide by the rules, I do not think anyone would have a problem with it being handled on AP Talk. I do agree with Dr. Randall that one of the problems here is that the screens were pulled from DSP without discussion. The other item tied to this is the Student Standing Committee. Before, DSP handled their own appeals for DSP suspensions, these are now going to the SSS, which is a heavy workload. The main question is whether or not it is better to be done in DSP or the SSS.
- **Dr. Pontius:** There is also a need for a Student Standing Committee at Ft. Campbell. Currently there is no appeal committee out there. Dorosia would like this to be discussed.
- **President Gupton:** Have they just not appealed any place?
- **Senator Salama:** There is a committee. We meet and discuss the appeals and send our recommendations to the chair of the committee on main campus.

**Summer School Sections report for last year and this year - President Gupton:** Dr. Pontius is also preparing a summer school sections report for last year and this year with the total number of sections, also how many sections were canceled.

- **Dr. Pontius:** I don't have the number of canceled sections. I do have the number of sections which made for Summer as well as Fall and Spring, which is included in the packet of information being distributed to you. The pattern of enrollment on main campus in Fall has been quite stable over time. Fall enrollment at Ft. Campbell has declined, several factors beyond our control have affected this. Our numbers for Spring 1999 looked good in light of the tornado, since they had the option of withdrawing after the tornado with a full refund. We are trying to do a survey to establish needs. A survey was completed by students enrolled Spring semester, 85.9% said they were getting the classes they needed for summer term.
- **Senator Kemmerly:** Do you have a feel for the numbers for Summer II and total summer?
- **Dr. Pontius:** It should be about the same.
- **President Gupton:** The Summer School Task Force will be working on funding for summer school to try and avoid the arm-twisting that took place this year to hire adjuncts over full-time faculty.

**Policy 5:028 on Summer session, intercession, and extra compensation - President Gupton:** On page 2, section 4 it states

"Full-time faculty or staff may be assigned to teach credit courses for extra compensation only in extraordinary situations and on an exception basis to cover unexpected and unplanned staffing vacancies or credit course offerings. Every effort should be made to plan credit course offerings within the teaching load assignments of the regular full-time or adjunct faculty." I am concerned that this might be used to not allow overloads for faculty, but to hire adjuncts instead. In my opinion it would be better to choose a full-time faculty member over an adjunct if one is available and willing.

- **Dr. Pontius:** This comes directly from TBR policy. We can not routinely schedule faculty in overload classes.
- **President Gupton:** This sounds too much like the summer school issues where departments were told they must hire adjuncts rather than full-time faculty.

**Meeting adjourned 4:15.**