

Reminder: The November meeting of the Faculty Senate will be
Thursday, November 18, 1999
3:30 pm in Claxton 103.

FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Approved Minutes
Thursday, October 21, 1999, 3:30-5:30 PM
Claxton 103

ROLL CALL OF SENATORS IN ATTENDANCE: Steven Anderson, John Blake, Dewey Browder, Willodean Burton, Roger Clark, Debbie Cochener, Doris Davenport, Jim Diehr, Margaret Duffy, Gloria Gharavi, Meredith Gildrie, Bud Glunt, Dolores Gore, Frederick Grieve, David Grimmatt, Ronald Gupton, Shirley Hagedwood, Kay Haralson, Allen Henderson, Mark Hunter, Ellen Kanervo, Phil Kemmerly, J. D. Lester, DeAnne Luck, Ramon Magrans, James Prescott, April Purcell, Bert Randall, Adel Salama, Pete Stoddard, Cindy Taylor, Jim Thompson, David Till, Danielle White, Pei Xiong-Skiba, Greg Zieren.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA

Request made by President Gupton to approve a modification of the normal agenda to move Old Business before Reports. Motion made to approve the agenda as modified by Senator Anderson, seconded by Senator Browder, motion carried.

Motion made to approve the minutes of the September Senate meeting. Typographical corrections to the minutes noted on page 2 and 3. Motion made to approve the minutes as amended made by Senator Anderson, seconded by Senator Browder, motion carried.

Comments concerning the minutes of September 16, 1999 by Dr. Rinella: This is in response to Dr. Randall's quote on page two concerning the Graduate School. At the time the Senate sent their request to TBR Dr. Pontius was working with Dr. Rhoda to see what would go to the Regents and when. A committee was formed to look at the issue and it was put before the Regents the following year in March 1998. Also, in the middle of page two, Dr. Randall was quoted as saying "The letter we sent two years ago asking for information we had been unable to get from the administration was sent to three people . . ." I do not recall that the letter said the Senate could not get information from the administration. I have no recollection that this information was asked for from the administration first.

President Gupton: Was this at the time when the Graduate School was not to have a Dean?

Dr. Rinella: All the Vice President said was to study the situation. There was fear that there would not be a Graduate Dean.

Senator Gildrie: Dr. Rinella's comments can serve to clarify the information in the minutes, but can not be used as a correction to the

minutes of a quote from another person.

Comments concerning the minutes of October 4, 1999 by Dr. Rinella: On page one under the quote from Dr. Randall, the letter referred to was sent in 1997, not 1998, and the Senate voted after the letter was sent to support the letter.

Motion made by Senator Anderson to approve the October 4, 1999 minutes, seconded by Senator Hunter, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **President Gupton:** The new senators which have been elected to fill mid-year vacancies are: Margaret Duffy from the area of Humanities, Shirley Hagewood from the area of Natural Sciences and David Grimmatt from the area of Business. A list of revised committee assignments has been distributed.
- **Dr. Rinella:** On November 4 from 3:30-5:00 , we will have an all university convocation to communicate information about tax reform issues. We need to make sure our state senators know we will provide support in the next election and to courage them to support tax reform.

Senator Lester: Do you mean income tax?

Dr. Rinella: It could be any type of tax reform. The Governor has four proposals and is trying to blend them into one. Our role is to emphasize the importance of some type of tax reform. The House has enough support, and the Governor supports it, the matter now rests in the hands of the Senate.

Senator Hunter: Do we know Senator Kurita's stand on tax reform?

Dr. Rinella: She has not made a stand one way or the other. The reality is that the senators must face reelection next year.

- **Dr. Pontius:**

- Next Monday we will submit the 14th day report for Ft. Campbell to THEC. The head count will be up over Fall 1998, but the FTE will be down some. Our retention efforts have shown a significant increase of over 5% from last fall.

- The summer school committee has met and we have come to a resolution on 13 of the recommendations. This leaves only one recommendation, concerning the THEC formula. We are looking for ways to find more dollars for Ft. Campbell and Main Campus summer school. We are trying to put out a plan for the next 3 years to give to students to see what we need to offer by student demand.

- Faculty maintenance fee reimbursement program: We have been looking at the data over time and are waiting for a letter from Al Irby

to know the exact dollars spent. He will be taking care of the requests from graduate students for reimbursement of fees.

Senator Magrans: Since the dinner allowance for Ft. Campbell classes has been cut, could the money saved there go into higher pay for the overload classes?

Dr. Pontius: The dollars saved are being added to the summer school budget.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Response to Dr. Smith - President Gupton:** Jim Thompson has developed a draft of a response based on Tom Hamel's and Nell Rayburn's letter and the letter drafted by the Executive Committee which were presented at the last senate meeting. Carlette Hardin has also submitted a suggested modification of one paragraph to address diversity issues.

(A second proposed response was distributed by Senator Diehr.)

After lengthy discussion of the necessity of a response, the length, tone, ordering, and wording of the response the following was approved to be sent to all parties receiving the first correspondence by a vote of Ayes- 16 , Nays- 5.

Dear Chancellor Smith:

The Austin Peay State University Faculty Senate met with the faculty at large to share viewpoints regarding your letter of September 17, 1999. We regret any offense taken in regard to the letter of August 31, 1999. Neither the faculty senate nor the faculty sought to engage in a confrontation with the Tennessee Board of Regents.

We understand that our role is advisory. We hope the TBR will consider our request for additional faculty representation in a presidential search. We continue to believe that such representation would be beneficial to the process and to the welfare of the university that we hold in trust. More participation by faculty will allow diversity based on such factors as ethnicity, gender, and tenure status.

Most importantly, we understand that the regents and faculty are committed to the same goal: offering the finest possible education to our students. We look forward to participating constructively in building the future for Austin Peay State University.

Sincerely,

The Austin Peay State University Faculty Senate

- **Minimal Qualifications for APSU President - President Gupton:** The qualifications passed at the September senate

meeting have not been sent to TBR. In light of the response we received from our earlier request, the Executive Committee felt it unwise to forward these at this time.

Meeting adjourned 5:30

Response from Bert Randall concerning Dr. Rinella's comments appearing in the minutes of October 21, 1999. Since Senator Randall is unable to attend the meeting today, he has requested that the following be read into the minutes:

1. The August 12 letter to Rinella, Pontius and Smith requested information the previous Senate and the new Senate had been seeking for over six months with little success.
2. If anyone has questions concerning the August 12 letter or the called meeting, Senate Resolution requesting a three months delay and Smith's response about the Senate Resolution, I have copies of all three that will confirm that my comments on these issues are correct.
3. In my third quote on page 2 of the September senate minutes, Academic VP Rhoda should be changed to VP Pontius. The last sentence in this quotation does not relate to the topic being addressed, the August 12 letter, therefore I request that it be deleted from the minutes or clarification that the statement is in reference to Dr. Smith's accusatory letter be added.