

Austin Peay State University  
Faculty Senate  
Meeting of Thursday, 23 April 2020  
On-line Zoom meeting | 3:00 pm

## Minutes

Call to Order – Senate President Rod Mills

Recognition of Guests: President Alisa White, Provost Rex Gandy, Vicky McCarthy, Karen Meisch, Marsha Lyle-Gonga, William Rayburn, Nell Rayburn, Rob Baron, Sue Evans, Notashia Crenshaw-Williams, Amy Black, Marisa Sikes, Kadi Bliss, Jackie Vogel, Lisa Sullivan, Bing Xiao, Megan Kienzle, Terry Higdon, Erik Haroldson, Adam Attwood, Kerri Lorigan, Ramanjit Sahi, Beatrix Brockman, Christina Chester-Fangman, Eleanor Jator, Evan Rehm, Gail Robinson-Oturu, Gina Garber, Maria C. Stewart, Melissa Earnest, Paula White, Timothy Catalano, Spencer Prewitt, Leong Lee, Evie Richner

Remarks – President Rod Mills

Roll call of Senators – Done electronically

Absent: Tara Alvey, Susan Cockrell, Michael Dickins, Omie Shepherd, Robert Waugh, Tim Winters

Approval of today's agenda – Approved

Approval of minutes from 27 February 2020 meeting

Remarks:

President Alisa White:

- Thanked all the faculty for their efforts and let everyone know that there may be difficult times ahead. Each department needs to be proactive in how they make cuts. Summer enrollments are down, but it is a small percentage of our overall budget (about \$3.5 million of an annual operating budget of \$160 million). 72% of the budget is in salaries and benefits with other fixed costs such as water.
- Announced that the decision for Fall will be made at the end of June, but suggested that it will be different than before. Asked people to consider how they could offer on-ground classes while social distancing. Wants to continue to offer face-to-face classes.
- Need to find new ways to have events.
- Athletics is an issue. She is the OVC representative to the NCAA and they are discussing options like a delayed start to the season. Some sports are manageable with social distancing, but the biggest issue now is football. This year we are scheduled for a "money game" where we will get paid \$400,000.
- Noted that we must show that we are open while still social distancing.

Provost Rex Gandy:

- Thanked faculty for their efforts
- Enrollments – Spring enrollments were good until the pandemic hit.
- Summer enrollments are very low
- Fall enrollments are still early, but down 10-12%
- RTP Considerations – Extend the Clock and Stop the Clock options available

- Stop the Clock is a policy wherein a faculty member is not voted on for RTP. Requires permission of the chair, dean, and provost. Application date has been extended for this year. Extend the Clock is a special allowance for this circumstance only and requires only notification to the provost. With Extend the Clock, a vote for RTP will be conducted, but the faculty member has an extra year to complete requirements for tenure.
- RTP Review – 5-year review postponed to 2021 due to COVID-19 pandemic. This also allows for time to consider suggestions made by the Committee for Enhanced Scholarship
- Predicts the number of online classes to increase and is also concerned about the number of students who will not register for online classes.

#### General Education Report – Karen Meisch

- General Education Core reflects the mission of the university and was previously set by the Tennessee Board of Regents to ease in transferring courses between institutions. Now independent, APSU has designed its core around 6 pillars. After discussion, adjusted to include critical reasoning pillar that was not dependent on writing. Thus, a critical reasoning course could assess students through a multiple choice format. Any thoughts or questions can be sent via email to Dr. Meisch

#### University Handbook – Vicky McCarthy

- Handbook committee has evaluated its mission and sought to update the handbook. Many of the hyperlinks were broken.
- A motion was made to include a statement of purpose for the Handbook. The motion was amended to clarify language and the motion passed with 46 votes to the affirmative and no votes against.

#### University Curriculum Committee Report – Michelle Robertson:

Report submitted.

- Of note, dual listed classes must not be more than one level apart (ie. 3000 and 4000 level, or 4000 and 5000 level)
- Fresh Start policy was updated
- Reinforced the rule that certificate courses must be taught for 1/3 by APSU faculty  
Voted on to accept

#### Treasurer Report – Phyllis Camilleri:

Report submitted

- Of note, expenditures for a rolling whiteboard and printer for the faculty lounge
- Upcoming expenditures for award

#### President's Report – Ron Mills

Explained Senate Executive Committee discussion and debate on Pass/Fail and Extend the Clock emergency policies.

#### New Business:

Academic Regulations to Degree Completion –

Description of requirements and awards given for additional majors, concentrations and degrees.

Changes on how to award prior learning credit

Old Business:

No old business

Motion to adjourn was supported online vote

Meeting adjourned