

Full Senate meeting 3pm, September 24, 2020

Senate President Dr. Christine Mathenge: Good Afternoon everyone!

Call to order. Dr. Mathenge

Recognize guests: please change your name to start with guest if you are a guest.

Roll call of senators:

We will use the zoom report instead of usual roll call by secretary Soma Banerjee. If you are connecting via phone, please email us the cell phone number.

Approval of Today's Agenda

Motion to approve today's agenda.

Moved.

Second.

If you want to speak, send chat to Kathy Lee.

Motion to approve the August 27, 2020 minutes.

Moved.

Second.

Any discussion on Aug minutes?

Those in favor: reaction yes:

Reaction yes under participants tab.

37 yes.

Minutes approved.

Remarks:

Interim President Dannelle Whiteside

I appreciate all your efforts.

Updates:

- a) Multipurpose event center got approved by the state. Adjacent to College St. 33,000 sq. ft. Men's and women's basketball program. End of construction in 2023-24. Strengthen our inroads in downtown. Dunn Center space stretched thin.

- b) Board of Trustees met: approved changes to academic tenure and grad admissions policy. Allow unofficial transcripts in UG programs. Revised bylaws on conflict of interest policies
- c) Budgets: searching for budget savings. Voluntary retirement and voluntary furlough program. With Human Resources now.
- d) 15% budget reduction, strategic priorities.
- e) Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC): 5TH year review. Provost will share more info on that.
- f) The abbreviated football season ended. The last game was played against Cincinnati, Ohio. It was a successful football season considering all the accommodations we've made thanks to COVID-19. One of our students unfortunately tested positive after the game but so far it appears confined to that one person.....

All fall sports moved to spring. Final schedule to be got next week.
Basketball and Volleyball starts ends of November.

COVID 19: Command team meets every Monday. 8:30am. There is faculty perspective
planning for spring: spring, calendar, housing, fleshing out plans next week.

Dec 23 and 24th APSU closed. People deserved to spend time with family.
Pop ins with President still on.
Slots available still. 15 mins. Please sign up.

Senate President Mathenge:

I skipped one item.

Moment of silence. Moment of silence in memory of Sean Hogan, Associate Professor of Library Administration who died this summer.

One-minute silence.

Thank you.

Provost Dr. Maria Cronley:

Updates:

Thank you. Let me echo the sentiments: tough semester. I'm grateful for your hard work and diligence. Numbers reflect our diligence.

SACSCOC:

We submitted our 5th year mid cycle review. We were given a clean bill. No additional requested items. Many schools were evaluated, and we are proud of us.

QEP report evaluated: success.

SACCOC: dual enrollment evaluated: success.

Hiring:

Pause in general. Faculty lines needed to be filled for next year.

21 fall faculty searches. 19 are tenure track.

Not as positive: enrollment.

We are under stress. Late summer surge. Covid driven, admissions office driven.

Enrollment Down 6.1%. Student credit hours: 5.6% down

Retention rates related to it.

Grad enrollment up 12.1%

Undergrad down 7.6% (not including dual enrollment)

Down 8% (including dual enrollment)

Down everywhere except college of education

Freshmen down 15.7% from last year (will live with us for the next 4 years)

Lots of work to do.

Retention up from 63 % to 68% this year

Board of Trustees meeting

Aviation science update: first flight school which does a bachelor's degree.

Trustees website videos there.

University Curriculum meeting first: Kathy Lee there from senate.

Memorial health building: currently closed due to water damage.

Closed till May 2021. Alternative plans during this downtime.

We have redone of the faculty resources part in the academic affairs website.

Questions:

Send a note to Kathy Lee to be recognized.

Question: 1:

Senator: Recruitment: what can depts do for recruitment?

Provost Cronley: reach out to admissions, Amy Corlew

Question2:

Senator:

What are our enrollments numbers compared to other peer institutions?

Provost: slightly different for us as we have fall 1 and fall 2.

Transfer students down. Down across peer places as well.

Dual enrollments down slightly across the board. Paper work unwieldy.

International recruitment enrollment down.

What is unique to us?

Decrease in military for fall 1.

Brigade deployed for fall 1.

Worry about online vs on ground.

Reimbursements from VA not clear for military students.

K-12: active military or dependents: they were having challenges to enroll if 1 family member is deployed.

In general, other institutions are down as well.

Demo trends in High school (HS) graduation:

2026: looming trend: cliff coming:

Decline in HS graduation.

8-22% decrease.

We will be in the cliff. Our county is not seeing a decrease in graduation.

Find ways to bolster that freshmen enrollment.

Demo trends become a reality: we can grow the diversity of our enrollment populations.

Online programs will help us.

Question 3:

Senator: Question about budget: savings: who is the contact person?

Answer from Interim President Whiteside: Send it to me.

Provost Cronley: send it to me as well.

Question 4:

Question: for Provost Cronley:

Techniques for retention: what is going on?

Provost:

Push on student success.

G4 pathway was stalled and is now launching. In D2L shell.

Hire professional advisors at the freshmen level. Faculty advising.

All advising across the board.

Adopt a Gov program. Alumni mentoring program.

Learning resource center reorganized.

Thank you!

No more questions.

Senate Secretary Soma Banerjee: TUFs/NCFS UPDATE

Zoom Meeting last weekend

Best practices for faculty voice from AAUP, Covid times discussing various Universities across TN and the nation. Diversity and improving race relations on campus.

Proposed membership for faculty senate committees-Christine Mathenge

Senate Committees revised:

Except the staff awards committee will be done for the next senate meeting.

Motion to approve:

Moved
Seconded
Discussion:
None

Vote: yes or No

35 yes, 0 no.

Approved as listed.

Old Business:

The minutes were not taken during the May 7 meeting and we will work towards producing an abbreviated version using the meeting agenda and election results. We will avail them on the faculty senate website shortly.

Meeting adjourned at 4:25pm