

Austin Peay State University

Faculty Senate Meeting of Thursday, February 25, 2021

Zoom meeting | 3:00 pm

Minutes

Call to order – Senate President Dr. Christine Mathenge

Recognition of guests (input the word guest before your name)

Thanks to all.

Roll call of Senators – Roll will be derived from the zoom meeting report

Approval of Today's Agenda

Moved

Second

Discussion--None

Approval of minutes from meeting on January 28, 2021

Moved

Second

Approved

1. Senate President—Dr. Christine Mathenge (5 minutes)

We are in half way between things.

Big moment of appreciation for President Whiteside. Last meeting as Interim President.

Thank you for your leadership.

President Licari is on campus. Please welcome him if you see him on campus.

Standing Committee reminders sent out. Tomorrow deadline for that.

Senate nomination and election process rolled out on Monday. Staff awards nomination process rolled out as well. Please encourage colleagues to join the faculty senate.

We will be creative about how to get the forms back. Photos taken from cell phones OK.

Remarks:

1. Interim President - Dannelle Whiteside (5 minutes)

Thank you. It has been an honor serving.

Budget hearing this week. Monday. Senate yesterday. Budget passed. Letter of support for military and national security studies. We will get the 70 million dollars for the Health Professions Building and other money from the funding formula. Looking pretty good. Mitch Robinson will share the details about salary increases.

We receive approval for dispensing for vaccine. Tents are up. We have the vaccines now. We will have our own sign-ups for getting the vaccine. We will follow the category. Thanks to each of you.

Senate President: President WHITESIDE WILL continue in her leadership role.

2. Provost - Dr. Maria Cronley (10 minutes)

Hello everyone. It has been an honor to work with the Interim President Whiteside.

We have a Board meeting on March coming up to handle tenure. Effective 15 faculty members. 359 full time faculty of which 248 are tenured. 70% tenured.

Damage last week due to weather. Thank you all who helped to clean labs etc.

Enrollment update: under stress. Spring: past 14 days: 9180 (6.5% down from last year)

Student Credit Hours: 8.18% down.

Graduate enrollment up 10.55%

College Of Education enrollment not down.

In fall we had down up to 16% for freshmen.

Retention: 81.96% (3% lower than usual) fall to spring

Admissions: 5752 application this week. 3416 admitted students. Access to high schools and community colleges. Little better. FASFA rate down 14% compared to last year.

Waiting to apply for a lot of folks.

Pop up recruiting at YMCA AND Wendy's in Davidson County.

Vaccine drive through: APSU signage, QR code for families to scan.

Successful AP day:

148 families

Virtual AP DAY: Tuesday 40 some families registered

CAFÉ process on.

Questions:

Senate President: Send a chat to the moderator to recognize yourself.

No questions.

New Business:

1. Update on the Ombudsperson – Dr. Christine Mathenge (2 minutes)

Current Ombuds not able to continue. We the senate do not have steps spelling out how to have a new Ombuds. We have had conversations with multiple constituents on campus.

We feel the position is a much larger position than faculty senate. Moved away from senate.

We want to table the position. We will not pick the new Ombuds. We will leave it to provost Cronley. A full-on office is anticipated not under anyone. It requires a funding stream and a larger conversation. Discussions with staff senate. Put an ad-hoc committee to come up with the steps to hire a new Ombuds.

Any questions?

None

2. COVID-19 vaccination plan – Dr. Perry Scanlan (5 minutes)

Send some info in chat. APSU is now a point of distribution for the vaccine. We will follow the order the state has indicated. Site needs assistance from volunteers for TWR.

SignupGenius is taking individuals. It is a service to the community. Area 3 fulfilled. It is not

the same as the Vaccine random draw. Sign up for the vaccine is separate. Lot 11 is the site. West of the Ard building. Entrance from Main St. Remind folks to sign up.

Questions:

Senator: who is on the waitlist of the Vaccine?

Perry: faculty and staff folks in APSU. Randomly drawn 10 individuals. From leftovers.

Senator: Davidson county has an excess of 1000 people.

Any questions?

Perry: if you are in 1b, you can sign up for the normal process, no need to sign up for the lucky draw.

3. Report from the University Curriculum Committee - Kathy Heuston (10 minutes)

A 9-page report will be on the senate website.

All colleges had course revisions etc.

Avoid using duplicate course titles. A form will be sent to each dept from academic affairs. Even if it is cross listed.

Gen Ed changes: Honors 2220 (Diversity): option for Eng 2330

Eng 2330 approved. Core class. Some sequences will no longer be there.

Econ 2000: put into Gen Ed core for non-business majors. (first read)

Dept of degree completion for gen studies:

College of Grad Studies: Leave of absence policy modified, approved.

COBHS eliminating Media Tech concentration due to low enrollment

Dept of Engineering Tech eliminating Construction Tech eliminated due to low enrollment

4. Report from the Senate Rules Committee – Jane Semler (12 minutes)

Rules Committee report posted on the faculty senate website. Thanks all.

Senate seat apportionment. March 1. Call for nominations.

Share screen. Document posted on Senate website.

Admins serving are deans and Associate VP and not eligible for senate.

Questions:

Senator: does CAFÉ count as administrative or home dept?

Jane: It is considered faculty. So, the person can run for senate.

Senator: 9 credit release for the Director position every semester. Like Honors Program Director and he is a faculty position.

Senator: is CAFÉ director Senate eligible?

Semler: Only Joe Weber is Director, will check into that.

Questions:

Vice Provost: CAFÉ director classification like Director of Honors Program. Has a Director title but it is a faculty member position. Not a full course release. Library director is classified as Administrator.

Jane continues: Bylaws report posted on the senate website.

No changes to constitutions this year.

Whatever changes proposed will take effect next year.

Remove the use of gender specific pronouns. Title 9 office had conversations about this with Rules Committee.

Article 5: Section F: Separate library faculty from College of Education

Motion to extend time by 10 minutes.

Library has 11 faculty and College of Education has 26 faculty. College of Business has 25 faculty. Have their own representative in senate.

3 in admin positions. 14 in faculty in library. It would go in effect next year.

Article 4 and 5: regarding the role of VP in senate

Rules Committee is proposing that VP will be serving as President elect. Continuity important. For the following Academic year. We will not be taking nominations for President from next year as VP will fill that role.

Cleaning up the language for the Trustees election. Article 6.

Motion to approve?

Question:

Senator: language for the immediate past president might need some attention.

If a senator who rolls off still be eligible?

Jane: increase the continuity. No intended to remove the past president. I will look into it.

Senator: it has happened in the past. Person was a "guest". It does violate any bylaws.

Board of Trustees is also not a voting member.

Senator: I served the senate President the last year of my term and I was there as ex officio.

Jane: Same for CoBHS Dean.

Parliamentarian: Bylaws say that immediate past president has to be a faculty member

Senator: if Vice President (VP) becomes the President, are we going to vote? Strange from democracy point of view.

Jane: Allowing VP to be voted in a year before.

Senate President: move to extend time.

Senator: what if he is elected VP on the third year of their tenure?

Jane: not ideal. Nominations committee should check to see there is 2 years left on the term.

Senator: is this discouraging the pool of availability?

Jane: some language allowed to extend it. Just for that one person in that role.

Move to extend for 5 minutes.

We are voting on this for the “called” meeting.

Senator: Vote on these separately or one thing?

Jane Semler: separately

Senator: I’m fully supportive of this. Supportive of Thayer’s proposal. Voting for someone for 2 years. Transition would be smoother.

Senator: I agree that experience is helpful. Electing a President elect?

Jane: we did discuss adding a position. Committee decided against that. VP role ambiguous.

Senator: President elect could serve.

Senator: When would this take place? Are we starting from this year?

Jane: not take effect till next AY.

5. Update on Governors budget – Mitch Robinson (15 minutes)

Thank you all. Governor made the presentation of his budget. Feb 8th update.

Two capital maintenance projects. Sundquist science complex roof replacement and exhaust replacement. Legislature will vote on this in April or May.

Salary Allocation Taskforce, using CUPA data.

Taskforce composition: recommendations from SLT. Good representation from APSU community including Senate Mathenge and another Senator from exec committee. Talk to the new APSU President.

Questions?

Senator from Exec Committee: 2% retroactive from Jan 1 and another 2% July 1. The retroactive funds made available before Governors budget?

Will the retro portion be based on adjustment on base salary or bonus?

VP Finance: If the legislature approves 2% from Jan 1 to June. We will receive an appropriation separately. Other LGIs getting a bonus a one time. And then have a 4% made available for July 1. APSU has choose this one? Office of the Finance can answer that one.

Finance Office: As soon as the legislature approves that we can do that.

Mitch Robinson: every penny spent on salary increases. 4% recurring portion. From state.

Motion to extend time:

Mitch Robinson: One of the Finance office members will leave us end of March. I hired her.

Thanks to her for her service.

Adjourn 4:39pm

Thank you.