

August 27, 2009

Call to order – Senate President Lori Buchanan called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Guests present: Mickey Wadia, Ron Gupton, Kay Haralson, Gray Kane, Mike Dunn.

Roll call of Senators – Senate Secretary Mercy Cannon called the roll. The following senators were absent: Nancy Gibson, Mike Gotcher, Greg Wolyneec.

Approval of today's agenda – Motion made, seconded, and approved. No amendments to the agenda.

Approval of minutes for the meeting of May 5, 2009 – Motion made and seconded. Senator Carson-Greife presented a statement on student travel, which the senate voted to accept. Motion to approve with changes, carried.

Stand to remember Ted Kennedy

Remarks

1. **Senate President Buchanan** – reminder of attendance policy: according to the bylaws, after 3 consecutive absences, the position is declared vacant. Contact Secretary Cannon if you need to miss a meeting.
2. **University President – Tim Hall:**
 - Budget issues. This year he plans to formalize Ad Hoc budget advisory group, within very near future. The three-year plan was presented to the Board of Regents. No significant changes now, but he will be alert to new circumstances. APSU received significant amount of federal stimulus money (18 million dollars), but can only be used for NON recurring costs. We will be using \$4 million to close the budget gap, but the majority of the funds will go to energy-saving enhancements. Consultant showed \$10 million worth of green improvements. There will be plenty of action on those plans, but will try to avoid disrupting academic activity.
 - Administrative changes. Vice President of Student Affairs, a significant position, will report to President Hall. He will work to formalize that arrangement. There was a search committee last year, but the provost search interrupted it (Board of Regents request) – now ready to go back. Wants to appoint by first of the year (2010). President Hall continues to seek engagement with community via faculty senate, president's cabinet (made up of administrators, faculty senate, student government, staff), advisory board with all vice-presidents. Converting Dean of Grad Students to "Associate Provost for Grants and Sponsored Programs and Dean of the College of Graduate Studies." Associate Provost to be at Board of Regents when discussion of research takes place.
 - Buildings. Chemical Technology construction needs to be in place by next year. Later this fall, construction will begin on a new 400-bed dorm in Castle Heights, anticipating 2 years of

construction. Looking for Honors House: Faust House is a possibility, no permission so far. President Hall wants to increase outreach to high-performing students.

- Aesthetics taskforce. A year ago, President Hall began to think about the campus beyond just buildings: how do we use the space to serve our mission of helping students succeed academically? He received recommendations and is looking for someone with expertise in this area (how public space contributes to academic mission). State is intensely regulated, so plan is slightly hampered.
- Parking. Being increased by 250 spaces, but not “here” yet, slow process. Will probably take another 6 weeks. We now have possession, by eminent domain, properties along College St., between 8th & 9th streets. First Baptist is allowing us to use their parking lot in the interim. Video cameras will be installed to protect students.
- Compensation Plan – still working on it. Delay on discussion last year. Now is time to move forward. Wants to ask certain faculty & staff to help move this along.

3. Provost Denley:

- RTP Process – Provost Denley has sent out overview of timetable. He stresses that this is a conversation among depts. & colleges – not a top-down approach or a cookie-cutter model. Committee should communicate with other faculty in dept. and create a draft to take to dean. Dean should have a conversation about the draft and give feedback. Eventually, a department vote of all faculty in department. Will be voted on (but not vetoed) by college-level committee. Provost Denley wants the proposal on his desk by Christmas. Changes will NOT TAKE EFFECT until Fall 2010. During Spring 2010, an appeals process will be put in place so that faculty who came in under one set of criteria, the changing of which will negatively affect their RTP, can stay under that criteria. If it does not negatively affect the faculty, there is no need to appeal.
- Travel Memo – Provost Denley explained that a fully worded policy will not get very far because of the endless possibilities for travel issues. His memo gives a broad understanding of the general features of travel.

Concerns from senate: Noted that this memo is not legally binding. Still need liability waivers? Yes. When you take students outside or off-campus, it’s a risk. No possible way to give concrete guidelines without creating more difficulties.

- Dean searches – They are in process. Dr. Denley wants to fill Michael Becraft’s position for the interim.

4. Title III team:

- Kay Haralson – discussed the successes of the PASS program. 80 students in PASS so far this semester. This fall, an online advising handbook will be created, required reading for new faculty. A resource for all faculty.
 - Gray Kane – Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning mission. Faculty development opportunities. Plans to record & upload events on website. Asks faculty to contribute ideas.
 - Mike Dunn – Advising liaison program created for at-risk students.
5. **President Buchanan:** The faculty senate is planning a tailgate at a home football game to encourage faculty social interaction with new faculty.

Reports from Faculty Senate Representatives:

1. **Dean's Council – Senator Bill Rayburn.** No Report
2. **Academic Council – Senator Phil Kemmerly.** No Report
3. **TBR Faculty Subcouncil – Senator Griffy**
 - TBR Faculty Sub-council met in July. Chancellor opened with grave statement about Tennessee becoming a “high tuition” state – a reality, unless there are substantial changes in legislators’ thoughts.
 - Under American History rule in past; now, more latitude for substitution with Western Civ.
 - There will be another meeting shortly. Senator Griffy will post July minutes when she gets them.
 - Senator Griffy has been elected President-Elect of TBR Faculty Sub-council.

Old Business

1. **Update on student evaluations (Senator Griffy).** The subcommittee will be looking at various aspects of evaluations. The lack of online responses is being discussed.
2. **Update on SASI Grants (Senator Cannon).** FAQs are online for those who received SASI grants. For further questions about purchasing, faculty should consult the dean’s administrative assistant.

New Business

1. **TUFS Higher Education Reorganization Position Paper (President Buchanan)**
The entire TUFS retreat was devoted to this issue. Position was a collaborative effort among faculty senate presidents. Representatives from 9 of 10 universities were present. The document is not up for revision, but needs to be voted on. Motion was made to adopt position.

Concern from senate: The definitions of the phrases “better geographical distribution of programs” and “elimination of unnecessary duplication” seem unclear.

Voice vote taken: 42 senators voted yes. One opposed vote. No abstentions.

2. **Ad hoc Advising Committee (President Buchanan)** – Ad hoc committee has been created in response to the senate’s endorsement of SASI recommendations regarding advising. Dr. Michelle Butts to chair. Full membership of committee will be online.
3. **Ad hoc Fort Campbell Committee (Senator Griffy)** – Changes at Ft. Campbell include adding a fifth term and changing faculty contracts to match those on main campus. There is a new building at FC, and registration services are being discussed.
4. **Senate Committees (Vice President Major)** –List approved, motion carried.
5. **Middle College Review to Academic Red (President Buchanan)** – Presence of Middle College to be reviewed by Academic Red, chaired by Amy Hamlin.
6. **Community Concert Series (Senator Rayburn)**– Invites senate members and faculty to be season ticketholders. There is a reciprocal agreement with Pennyroyal in Hopkinsville.

Motion made and carried to adjourn at 4:07