

## **Faculty Senate Meeting of Thursday, September 24, 2009**

**Call to order** – Senate President Lori Buchanan called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Guests present: Dr. Harriet McQueen, Ryan Forsythe, and Roy Baker, Kristen Hershey.

**Roll call of Senators** – Secretary Mercy Cannon. Senators Ameigh, Bruster, Clark, Diehr, Evans, Hayes, Meisch, Rabidoux, Shipley, Smith-Francis, and Wolynec were absent.

**Approval of today's agenda** – Dr. Al Bekus unable to attend. Motion to approve adding Ryan Forsythe to agenda. Motion approved.

**Approval of minutes for meeting of August 27, 2009** – Actual vote by Senate re. student travel had occurred in April, no need for change to minute. Motion to change section approved. Motion to approve minutes after change.

### **Remarks**

1. Senate President – Lori Buchanan (10 min.)
  - H1N1 task force: Please get word out to faculty about asking students to email professors if they become ill. Faculty should report students to Flu Task Force to keep records of outbreaks. Professors should reassure students that if they are sick, then they should stay at home, and professors should not request a doctor's note.
  - TUFS position paper: All ten Tennessee University Faculty Senates have taken a vote on the TUFS Position Paper on Higher Education Reorganization in Tennessee. Depending on how you view the voting process employed by a couple of our sister institutions, six endorsed and four voted not to endorse the paper. The Senate Exec at UT Health Sciences Center chose to not take the position paper to their full senate. University of Memphis voted to endorse the position paper's objectives, while voting to support careful evaluation of the proposed reorganization. Excluding the two institutions located in Memphis, here's how the vote went. APSU, MTSU, TSU, ETSU, and UT-Chattanooga are voted to endorse the TUFS position paper; TN Tech, UT-K, and UT-Martin voted to NOT endorse the paper.
  - Budget task force: President Hall has indicated that he intends to bring the campus-wide budget taskforce together soon. Senate representatives to that taskforce include Vice President Major, Senators Roger Clark, Greg Moore, Phyllis Camilleri, and myself. Vice President Major will make subsequent reports to full Senate.
  - New faculty lines: Last week, the Senate Exec inquired about new faculty lines; Provost Denley and President Hall indicated that approximately \$400K of new lines were added this fall and \$420K of new monies will go toward additional new lines to be filled this year. Deans and Chairs will be asked for proposed lines.
  - Statistics on our student population: during Fort Campbell Fall II, APSU will enroll its 10,000 student. As of September 14, our headcount is 9,727 (up 8.1% over last year) and our FTE is 7,389 (up 6.8% over last year). APSU has experienced 42% growth in student numbers since 2000. 22% of our courses are offered online. 10% of our students are completely online;

there are 1,107 students who are online only, and most of these students reside in this area. We have 71 students enrolled in APSU courses offered at the Renaissance Center in Dickson, and the Springfield building is under construction. Our graduate student enrollment has jumped 52.8% in the last five years, which is the greatest increase among TBR universities and surpasses the UT system. We've added six new graduate programs, and we now offer nine graduate credentials.

- Bookstore issues: President Hall & Provost Denley are aware of the situation and are working toward a solution.
- Dean searches: At the Provost's request, Senate President Buchanan suggested the following senators serve on the various dean searches: Senator Carson-Greffe to serve on the Associate Provost for Research/Dean of Graduate Studies search; Senator Nancy Gibson to serve on the Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs search; and Senator Jackie Vogel to serve on the College of Science & Mathematics Dean search.
- Staff Award: Faculty Senate Executive requests Senators to forward nominees for the Faculty Senate Staff Award to be given next spring.
- ACT/PASS scores: Last year, Faculty Senate debated the issue of lowering ACT scores within the dual/joint enrollment requirements. Senate did vote to approve the proposed lowering of ACT scores. This past summer, another proposal emerged in which the ACT-PLAN, which is a predictor of ACT success, would take the place of ACT scores. Senate Executive Committee believes that more information about dual/joint enrollment student success is needed before the ACT-PLAN issue comes before Senate. While there may be benefits to exposing high school students to the academic rigor of college courses and to our campus with hopes that they will eventually come to school here, we are concerned with the academic preparation and the retention of such students once they enter college.

To this end, we've asked Senate Academic Red to undertake a review of Middle College whose students are dual/joint enrolled. In addition, we've asked for more information from Enrollment Management.

2. University President – Dr. Tim Hall (not present, attending TBR meeting)

3. Provost – Dr. Tristan Denley (not present, attending TBR meeting)

4. Dr. Harriet McQueen, Dean of Enrollment Management and Academic Support (10 min.)

- Middle College information: It is one of the eight high schools in the Clarksville Montgomery County School Systems. It opened in 2008, is limited to 120 students. Only 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Located on APSU campus; classes taught between 1 and 6 p.m.; faculty & staff are CMCSS employees. Students take university classes in the morning.
- Dual enrollment: Need to meet admissions standards for APSU. Applicants who do not meet admission requirements may be selected for admission "by committee."
- Curriculum: Complete remaining high school requirements; 11<sup>th</sup> grade – one university course each semester; 12<sup>th</sup> grade – two university courses each semester.
- Funding: CMCSS pays all tuition, fees, and books (\$210,863.18); instructional & staff salaries. 80.8% receive the HOPE scholarship (compared to 75% of regular freshman).

- Students: academically capable; not motivated by extra-curriculum activities; may have high transit levels; did not enjoy high school environment.
- Dual/Joint Enrollment: dual = earning college credit that will also satisfy H.S. requirements; joint enrollment = not completed H.S. but credit will not satisfy H.S. requirements.
- Fall 2008 – 116, 83% earned C or better
- Spring 2009 – 114, 87% earned C or better
- PLAN – “pre-ACT” test, predictor of success on the ACT. Administered in 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Readiness Benchmarks = 50% chance of B or better; 75% chance of C or better.

#### 5. Ryan Forsythe

- Proposal to change APSU admissions policy. Would like to add acceptance of PLAN scores (as well as ACT scores) of 19 or higher.
- PLAN, administered in 10<sup>th</sup> grade, predicts success on the ACT test when administered in 11<sup>th</sup> / 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Assumption of progress in academics. All sophomores are taking PLAN.
- Students with a 19 PLAN score typically make between a 21 and 24 ACT score.
- Question from the floor: why not just let students mature academically and take ACT?
- Answer: Using the PLAN will allow students to consider APSU earlier, in 10<sup>th</sup> grade, rather than later.
- Of the TBR institutions, half of universities have submitted requests for this proposal & half of that number has been approved by TBR.
- Should we have students that will just be prepared to go to another university?
- Question: Of the students within dual enrollment, how many persist to graduation at APSU?
- Answer: about 55% of a given year enrolled. Data not given on graduation/retention.
- Question: would they have come anyway, if they hadn't enrolled jointly?
- Answer: Difficult to gauge.
- Why take a predictor, instead of the actual test? ACT organization assumes that student will make another year's progress – and expects that the student will make a higher score on ACT than on PLAN.
- Composite ACT score was eliminated (used to be 22 composite, now 19 subscores).
- TBR is allowing, not requesting, this proposed change.

#### 6. Reports from Committees

- Dean's Council – Senator Bill Rayburn (5 min.)
  - Student-related issues: Implementing new security for student A-numbers, and potential email for life.
  - Faculty-related issues: This fall, faculty email storage may double. Also, P-cards are now on order. Work in progress – recognition for long-term faculty service (35-40 years). Proposal for possible summer research fellowships and faculty professional development = target, Spring 2010.
  - Conditional admittance – suggested that enhanced English & Math faculty be involved in this discussion.
  - Work flow review – change of major process and change of grade process; trying to move to electronic

- Core substitution: Current process = initiated with faculty advisor, then move to college dean. New process = initiate with faculty advisor, then move to department chair, then college dean.
- Academic Council – Senator Phil Kemmerly – no report.
- TBR Faculty Sub-council – Senator Loretta Griffy – no report.

#### **Old Business**

- Update on Middle College review, Academic Red – Senator Hamlin
  - Will be meeting Tues, Sept. 29.
- Update on compensation plan – Senator Griffy
  - Faculty will have a chance to offer feedback on compensation plan issues.
  - Human Resources will be providing data soon.
  - There will be faculty forums for two major concerns: 1) merit incentives, and 2) problems of compression and inversion.
  - President Hall is willing to listen to the faculty's voices.
  - Provost will attend forums only to provide information, not to step in and run the meetings.
  - Committee: Loretta Griffy, Roger Clark, Laurenth Peters, and Bill Cox.

#### **New Business**

- Reports from Faculty Senate committees
  - Advising committee is working on a survey.
- Bylaws revision – Vice President Major
  - Key information tasked with changing relates to representation. Request to consider reorganizing groups. Also, need to place DSP in appropriate group.
  - Next senate meeting we will be allowed to vote on amending the bylaws.
  - No impact for this year; and senators will not be forced to change representation before their term ends.
  - Other minor changes: School of Business changed to College of Business; School of Education changed to College of Education.
- Announcements:
  - Need for faculty to participate in focus groups on quality (Library).

**Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned at 4:24 p.m.