

Austin Peay State University
Faculty Senate
Meeting of Thursday, October 25, 2018
Morgan University Center, Rm # 307 | 3:00 pm
Minutes

Call to order - Senate President – Dr. Mickey Wadia

Recognition of Guests: President Alisa White, Anne Black, Chad Brooks, Christina Chester-Fangman, James Clemmer, Michael Kasitz, Karen Meisch, Heather Moran, Kristine Nakutis, and Dannelle Whiteside

Roll call of Senators - Senate Secretary Gina Garber

Absent: Christopher Bailey, Lisa Barron, Robin Latchem, Gloria Miller, Justin Oelgoetz, David Rands, Robin Reed, Laura Schultz, Omie Shepherd, Allyn Smith, Andrea Spofford, and Dixie Webb

Approval of today's agenda - Approved

Approval of minutes from September 27, 2018 meeting – Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve minutes for September 27, 2018

Remarks

Senate President – Dr. Mickey Wadia (10 minutes)

- Senate president Dr. Mickey Wadia began his address “Bloom Where You’re Planted” with a definition of a mondegreen, which is a misheard lyric or title. For example, some have misheard the title of Crystal Gale’s classic “Don’t It Make My Brown Eyes Blue” as “donuts make my brown eyes blue.” After laying the context for mondegreens in literature, he discussed one particular instance in Tennessee Williams’ *The Glass Menagerie* where Gentleman caller Jim misunderstood young Laura’s medical condition of pleurosis and famously called her Blue Roses as a term of endearment. President Wadia made the connection that Blue Roses, Jim’s old nickname for Laura, comes to represent Laura’s unique and individual self, a self that Jim and only Jim recognizes. Blue roses have this sort of mythical significance of being mysterious, or impossible to come by, which makes sense when one looks at Jim’s description of Laura as a one-in-a-million girl. President Wadia used the classic American play to make the point that all of us are special individuals with unique talents and, like Laura (who was a lonely expert at polishing and breathing life into little glass animals), we may be unusual flowers, but we each have value and significance. Austin Peay will be a better place if we strive to accept where we are and bloom where we’re planted.

University President - Dr. Alisa White (10 minutes)

- Recent Trips: President White let the senators know that she had just returned from two business trips. The first trip was to Japan. President White and Dr. David Rands (History & Philosophy) were invited by Tennessee Governor Bill Haslam to travel to Japan to cultivate more opportunities for Tennessee. They met with the Japan-American Society of Tennessee. President White and Dr. Rands are part of the group that is building relationships with Japanese universities. President White gave kudos to Dr. Rands for talking to one of the Japanese companies, Komatsu (komatsuamerica.com), about creating internship opportunities for students.

She traveled with Senator Dolores Gresham and shared with us that Senator Gresham understands the value of the four-year degree and the importance of our university. The second trip was to a conference for university presidents in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

- Homecoming – President White is excited about seeing our former students and faculty at Homecoming. She invited faculty to participate in the festivities.
- Emergency Situation – President White introduced Chief Michael Kasitz and Mr. Bill Persinger to address the Faculty Senate about a potential issue with a student who has made some threats to faculty members and students. Chief Kasitz had already notified the faculty and students who were named as possible targets. He let the faculty know that their safety is important. Additionally, he said that the student is in the hospital but is scheduled to be released soon. The student is not allowed on campus.

Questions:

Q: Will we be notified when the student is released from the hospital?

A: We can send a recent picture of the student to the departments.

Comment: At this point there is no threat, and the student is not allowed on campus. He is not supposed to come back to school. This is all we can do at this point, by law.

Q: What if this person, who has made threats, decides to find other people to harm?

A: He is in a mental institution. He listed certain women, who are attractive and smart, on the list. He listed them by first name. He has a fixation on those people. However, he lives in Nashville.

Q: Do the people know him?

A: Everyone knew him, but one. She wasn't sure who he was.

Q: Do we need to get an Order of Protection?

A: An Order of Protection will go through the court system. You would want to start with our University Attorney.

Comment: The Campus Police will help anyone. We actively use the *Alertus Activator* Button and the *LiveSafe* app. We get notified when you use those security apps on your devices.

Q: Is he allowed back on campus?

A: Under the Student Code of Conduct, he has been suspended. However, he is not by law. He is still allowed on campus because we are a state institution.

Q: I know the individual. If I see him on campus, what am I supposed to do?

A: Call the Campus Police.

Comment: When he is released from the hospital, his picture will be released to the department where the faculty who were threatened work and have offices.

Motion made, seconded, and passed to extend President White's remarks by three minutes

Q: What college is this department in?

A: The College of Arts and Letters and the building is Harned Hall.

Q: I don't know about the law, but shouldn't we all know about this?

A: No, because there is no active threat. When he is released, we will put our protocols in place.

Comment: You do not have to have a threat against you. If you are leaving your offices and you feel threatened or nervous, call for an escort, period!

Comment: We want you to be safe. Use the *LiveSafe* button. This is part of our job. We can walk you to your cars. He is hospitalized and we know who he is and what he is capable of.

Q: The law hasn't been broken yet. How did you find out about the threats?

A: He has spoken to professional counselors and had names on his list.

Q: Again, is he allowed on campus?

A: Dean Greg Singleton said he is not allowed to take classes.

Q: What about other buildings like the Library that are open later into the evening? Are you going to share his picture and information with the personnel who work in these locations?

A: We will put our protocols in place and contact the appropriate personnel.

New Business

Practice for Anonymous Voting - NOTE: Please bring your smart phone/tablet/laptop. – Dr. Tucker Brown (5 minutes)

Motion made, seconded, and passed to postpone the practice for anonymous voting.

Results of the Board of Trustees Faculty Representative Election – Dr. Jane Semler (3 minutes)

- Dr. Semler reported on the election results for the Board of Trustees Faculty Representative. She shared the election report. She announced that Dr. Mickey Wadia won the election and will be our next representative. There were 178 votes counted which means half of APSU's faculty voted.

Policy 2:010 Undergraduate and Graduate Academic Retention Standards – Dr. Chad Brooks (5 minutes) – Informational Item

- Dr. Brooks reported that the easiest fix for this policy is to combine the undergraduate policy and graduate policy. Dr. Brooks said he just copied the information from the *Graduate Bulletin* and added it to this policy. He reported that there was nothing new.

Policy 2:049 Chairs, Directors, and Coordinators – Dr. Chad Brooks (5 minutes) – Action Item

Motion made, seconded, and approved to discuss Policy 2:049.

- Dr. Brooks let faculty know that indeed the faculty will be able to make nominations to the dean, and the provost will make selections. Dr. Brooks explained that the provost's position has the ability to remove the dean's position.

Questions:

Q: How soon will this go in to effect?

A: The Policy will have to go before APSU Board the Trustees.

Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve policy 2:049.

Policy 2:038 Undergraduate and Graduate Admissions – Dr. Chad Brooks (5 minutes) – Informational Item

- Dr. Brooks reported that the information for this policy was copied and pasted from the *Graduate Bulletin*. One minor change was to reduce the dual enrollment GPA to 3.0. Anyone less than 21 years-old will report all of their transcripts from previous institutions. Anyone 21 and older will just report their most recent transcript.

Questions:

Q: Is this now an option to report transcripts from previous schools?

A: If students want to start fresh, and they are over 21 years-old, they do not have to report their older transcripts.

Policy 2:041 University Excused Absences for Students – Dr. Beverly Boggs or representative (5 minutes) – Informational Item

- Dr. Kristine Nakutis reported on Policy 2:041. The policy had a standard military clause added to it regarding military students who are absent. This clause was expanded to include all military soldiers who are active duty, reservists, or serve in the National Guard. The policy is clear about soldiers properly communicating with course instructors if they are going to be absent because of the military. Dr. Nakutis informed the senate that soldiers have documents that show all their training, travel, and deployments. Dr. Nakutis also recommended that advisors make sure our military students understand what the requirements are to complete classes before they register. Students need to understand that

they have to meet the general attendance policies for each class. We do not want to penalize the soldier if they have field duty.

Office of Legal Affairs – Dannelle Whiteside (10 minutes)

- Dr. Whiteside introduced herself to the senate. She let everyone know that prior to working at APSU, she was the general council to the Tennessee Board of Education. She is serving as the secretary to the APSU Board of Trustees. Dr. Whiteside said she has an open door policy. She provided information about the Office of Legal Affairs such as legal contracts, litigation work, EEOC complaints, and more. She also is very knowledgeable about the Service Animals policy.

Questions:

Q: How does that state automobile insurance policy work? Does it cover us driving to work?

A: No. If you are driving to work on a regular day, your personal insurance covers you.

Q: What if we are driving a privately owned vehicle to a conference?

A: If you are on university business, then the university insurance will kick in.

Motion was made, seconded, and approved to amend the agenda moving the TUFS report from before the Gen. Ed. Committee report

TUFS Conference Report – Dr. Phyllis Camilleri and Dr. Sally Lundin-Schiller (10 minutes)

- Drs. Camilleri and Lundin-Schiller attended the Fall TUFS meeting in Johnson City. Tennessee University Faculty Senates (TUFS) is a statewide organization representing the faculty senates of all ten public four-year universities in Tennessee. The TUFS meeting included a discussion with State Representative David Hawk.

Listed are TUFS concerns:

- The lack of the public's understanding of tenure.
- Over-testing in K-12 and its effect on students' performance and mental health in college.
- The diminished investment in higher education by the State and families' ability to afford higher education.
- Expansion of highly-paid administrative positions that may take funding away from the core mission of the university.

Motion was made, seconded, and approved to add three minutes to Dr. Phyllis Camilleri's remarks.

Questions:

Comment: During conversations with President White, it is very clear that she strongly believes in tenure.

Comment: Everyone should read the article by Troy Smith. "The Blog of Author and Historian, Dr. Troy Smith, from Tennessee Technological University, *Why Is Tenure Important?*"

LINK: <http://tnwordsmith.blogspot.com/2017/10/why-is-tenure-important.html>

Gen. Ed. Committee – Dr. Karen Meisch and Dr. Anne Black (10 minutes)

- Dr. Karen Meisch is chairing the Gen. Ed. Committee and Dr. Anne Black is serving in an *ex officio* capacity as the liaison to the Institutional Effectiveness Committee. Drs. Meisch and Black reminded everyone that APSU is no longer a Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) institution and does not have to abide by their outcomes. TBR was really restrictive on what could be put into the Gen. Ed. core. APSU has not assessed the Gen. Ed. core since 2014. Faculty were reminded that they have more freedoms, but need to follow rules for APSU's Gen. Ed. core. Additionally, they need to keep in mind that APSU will still need to accept every TBR course transfer. APSU does not have a mission statement for our Gen. Ed. core.

Students need to know why they are required to take these course. The Committee wants to align the mission statement with the Gen. Ed. core. The Committee also wants the Gen. Ed. core conversation on a larger scale. The Committee is working on drafting mission and vision statements. They invited the faculty to a meeting, scheduled for January 10, 2019, at 10 am, in the Art + Design building, room 120. They will share a draft of the mission and vision statements with the campus and solicit feedback. In establishing the ground rules, the Committee wants four to six student learning outcomes that must be assessed. An email was sent to faculty that provided information about the Gen. Ed. Committee. The Committee would like participation from everyone who is interested. Once the mission and vision statements are completed and the four to six student learning outcomes have been established, the Committee can move forward. SACS is our accrediting body and they set APSU's standards.

Questions:

Q: Do you have any idea if the dimension reports from the Gardner Institute are going to be used? Are those reports still available?

A: Yes, the reports are there. We can make them available.

Comment: That would be great!

Q: How long is this going to take?

A: The Committee's goal is to have the four to six outcomes by the end of the academic year.

Q: How often do you meet?

A: Every three weeks.

Q: Where is the meeting?

A: The meeting is on January 10th in the new lecture hall (room 120) in the Art + Design building. The room holds 92 people.

Comment: No more applications are being accepted for new courses while we work through this process.

APSURA – James Clemmer, President (8 minutes)

- Retired professor and current APSURA President James Clemmer began his address by letting the senate know that he hired Dr. Wadia at APSU. "Now, we know who to blame."
- APSURA is open to current faculty, staff, and administrators. Faculty were welcomed to join the Association at a fee of \$25 a year. The Association provides an excellent newsletter that is published three times a year. President Clemmer shared a copy of the newsletter with the senators. APSURA participated in the national conference of the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE) held in Atlanta, Georgia. President Clemmer reported that there were close to 200 representatives of retiree associations from 26 states. APSURA is excited to deliver a service to current employees called, Straight Talk about Retirement (STAR). This program connects APSURA members with faculty and staff who are engaged in or contemplating retiring. STAR is scheduled for November 13, 2018, in the Morgan University Center, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. If you are interested in attending, faculty and staff need to contact Angie Judish.
- Connections with Cindy Marsh – Cindy Marsh will share her experiences of trying to adapt to retirement after a busy career. She will present, "Post-Retirement Revival: Using International Residency Opportunities to Broaden the Scope of your Post-Retirement Creative Practice." The presentation is scheduled for November 27, 2018, in MMCS room 242, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Old Business

Adjourn 4:31pm

APSU Faculty White Committee Report

Members Present: Kathryn Woods, Omie Shepherd, Tim Winters, Sally Schiller (chair)

Committee Charge

- 1) Identifying a representative from the Senate to attend the Fall 2018 Tennessee University Faculty Senates meeting October 19 and 20 at ETSU. We can send two representatives. Phyllis Camilleri has expressed an interest in going and we can pick someone from this committee or ask another senator. Senators attending will be asked to file a detailed report upon their return and give a brief summary of the report (8-10 min) at the October faculty senate meeting,
- 2) advising faculty senate on what level of involvement over the long term APSU Faculty Senate should have in the [Tennessee University Faculty Senates](#) (TUFS) organization and if there are issues or topics that we should bring before TUFS,
- 3) and finally, advising faculty senate on whether we should become members of the National level organization of University Faculty Senates.

Meeting 9-20-18 Minutes

1. Tim Winters provided a brief history of TUFS

Founded 10 years ago prompted by Fred Alsop of ETSU, who had the idea of bringing together Faculty Senate Presidents from across the state to share information. He and Tim Winters developed the idea further, first meeting was held in April 2008, and Tim Winters served as the first TUFS President. Initially the main focus was on understanding how Faculty senates and shared governance were functioning on various campuses. One interesting fact that emerged from the first meeting of TUFS was that APSU was the only campus where faculty had control over the Faculty Handbook. In recent years TUFS has taken a more prominent role in lobbying the TN Legislature on matters of importance in higher education.

Traditionally the presidency has alternated between UT system and State U systems. This year's president is Bonnie Ownley at UT Knoxville.

Additional information about TUFS can be found at the website: <http://tnfacultysenates.org/>
[URL corrected on APSU website following information gathering by committee after meeting.]

2. Phyllis Camilleri can attend the fall 2018 TUFS meeting. No one on the committee is free to go; however, Sally Schiller did reach out to others with experience attending TUFS and Loretta Griffy indicated she could go if needed. We should ask at the meeting if other current senators might be interested in going.
3. It was the consensus of the committee that APSU should still have an active presence in TUFS and some issues that we may want to share are: salary increases using merit pay system, rearrangement of RTP calendar, high number of adjunct faculty. Other issues or concerns should be gleaned from the whole senate.

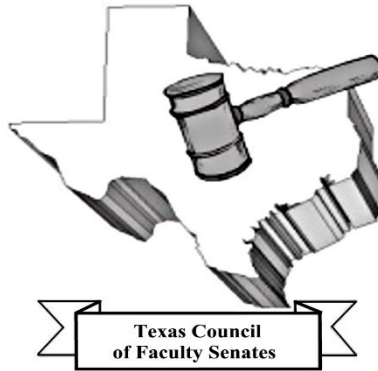
4. Meeting adjourned at 1:10 PM with the action items of finding a potential second person to go with Phyllis to the fall 2018 meeting, learning more about the national organization, and considering if there are other issues APSU should share at the fall meeting.

Information received since committee meeting:

There is currently no known National level faculty senate organization. However, the Texas Council on Faculty Senates has put out a call for a meeting on October 27th for a gathering of officers of faculty senates from across the country to consider such a concept. The invitation is attached at the end of this document.

The committee recommends that APSU participate in this meeting so that we may learn if the organization will actually be formed and if we want to become members.

-Compiled and submitted by Sally Schiller



Texas Council of Faculty Senates

Dear Faculty Senate/Council/Assembly Officer:

We are the officers of the Texas Council of Faculty Senates (TCFS - <http://www.txfacultysenates.org/>) representing faculty governance organizations of nearly 40 public universities in Texas. This email is an invitation broadcast to nearly 500 email addresses (gleaned from websites from public university .edu sites from all 50 states) to attend the initial interest/organizational meeting of a new national organization: **The National Council of Faculty Senates.**

Dovetailed with our regular Fall meeting, TCFS is happy to host discussions which explore the feasibility, need,

and interest of creating a National Council of Faculty Senates. The proposed organizational meeting is

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scheduled for Saturday, October 27, 2018, here in Austin, Texas.

There are a few states with organizations such as the Texas Council of Faculty Senates. These include Florida, Louisiana, Missouri, and Tennessee. There may exist a void at the national level where an organization of the stature of faculty governance organizations could bring common matters of interest (e.g., RPD 20-24 in Wisconsin) to the table and convey meaningful solutions with a larger voice. This is an example of one of many topics we can come together to discuss.

To encourage participation, the first five Faculty Senate/Council/Assembly Officers from distinct universities outside of Texas to confirm their attendance at the meeting at TCFS@txfacultyssenates.org will have their Saturday night hotel rooms comped. However, no shows will have to reimburse the TCFS for the unused room.

We hope you are amenable to sharing your thoughts and seriously consider attending the October Texas

Council of Faculty Senates meeting to explore the future reach of faculty governance organizations in the United

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States. If you are unable to attend, but would like to stay informed, please provide us with your preferred contact information.

Sincerely,

Jim Woosley, President, TAMU-College Station

Wynne Chin, President-Elect, University of Houston

Trevor Hale, Vice President, University of Houston
Downtown

Joey Velasco, Vice President, Sul Ross University, Alpine

Ludovic Sourdot, Vice President, Texas Woman's
University

Bobbette Morgan, Vice President, University of Texas Rio
Grande Valley

Alba Ortiz, Treasurer, University of Texas, Austin

The Officers of the Texas Council of Faculty Senates