

**Austin Peay State University
Faculty Senate
Meeting of Thursday, April 25, 2013
University Center, UC 307
3:00pm**

Call to order – Senate President Elaine Berg

Recognition of Guests: Lori Buchanan, Noel Rennerfeldt, Mitzi Thompson

Roll call of Senators – Secretary Paul Nicodemus. Absent Senators: Di Paolo, Frentzos, Garber, Hayes, Hicks, Johnson, Lewis, Mann, McCarthy, Nyonna, Robertson, Shipley, Snyder, Stewart

Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve today's agenda with the following changes:

President Hall was able to attend today's meeting will give remarks. The Academic White Committee oversaw the process for the Faculty Senate Staff Award, not the Faculty Red Committee.

Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve the March 28, 2013 minutes.

Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve the April 4, 2013 (called meeting) minutes.

Remarks

1. Senate President – Elaine Berg
 - This is the last senate meeting for the academic year 2012-2013.
 - Senate Faculty meeting next week, May 2, 2013, will be first meeting for new and continuing senators.
 - Expressed appreciation for the service and hard work of the out-going senators while serving on the Faculty Senate.
 - Next week in the May 2nd meeting a new slate of Faculty Senate officers for next year will be elected, an ad hoc nomination committee will present the slate of nominees.
 - Academic Council elections are going on now in the College of Arts and Letters and College of Behavioral and Health Sciences; Vice-President Brooks will report the results at the May 2nd meeting next week.
 - Special thanks to Senator Lowrance for his contribution of the wonderful chess set for the faculty lounge.
 - A reminder that the Academic Honors and Awards Day ceremony is scheduled for next Monday, April 29, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. in the MMC. All faculty are encouraged to attend; several faculty members will be recognized for excellence in academic advising.
 - This is Medical Laboratory Professionals Week which celebrates the contributions made by laboratory scientists who make a difference to patients' well-being and lives daily. Approximately 300,000 medical professionals that perform more than 10 billion laboratory tests annually.
2. University President –Tim Hall
 - Legislative session has concluded.

- Governor's budget is approved.
- Reported on APSU's budget for next year
- The legislature approved \$400,000.00 for improvements to APSU's farm for next year.
- The upcoming year's budget should be finalized soon.
- State allowance in tuition increase will probably provide 1.5% in faculty/staff increases.
- Out of this additional money APSU will probably seek permission for additional increase for equity compensation from above what state is doing by 1.5% for total of 3%.
- Recently APSU was engaged in a table top exercise with mock active shooter; results indicated we do not have sufficient number of officers; outcome is to request increasing the number of officers.
- Plans are to regularize the special projects (RASI, SASI, etc.) we have been doing by putting these in the general budget.
- This financial move will free up funds, allowing the Provost to use these funds for new projects.
- Refurbishing of Trahern estimate is between 2 to 3 million dollars.
- Year-end monies will be there, but because of the 25% requirement by the institution for capital projects, these monies will be less.
- Enrollment reports applications for new students is 5% ahead of where we were last year; however we cannot be certain that this 5% will be there in fall.
- We are up on housing applications and will be opening 400 new beds for fall semester
- Efforts continue to attract new students by providing in-state tuition for out of state students who have 26 and higher ACT scores; resulted in 3 students last year; presently 20 students have been accepted for upcoming year; additionally returning freshmen will receive three hours free if they enrolled in 15 hours.
- Grand celebration is scheduled for monetary gift in an amount greater than anything else received in APSU's history
- Proposed 7 year campaign with goal of 40 million dollars is now at 33 million dollars after only 4 years.

3. Provost – Tristan Denley

- Presented update on Trahern building refurbishing.
- Admitted students are up 5% in fall from concerted work by admissions; new campaign to get prospective students to campus; evidence shows if perspective students visit campus they are more likely to enroll.
- On-campus housing will provide 670 beds next school year; last summer housing was around 650 beds.
- 1222 students will be walking in the spring commencement ceremonies, largest graduating class ever.
- These numbers are good since we are awarded monies for graduation rates; upcoming funding should be better than last year.
- Dickson campus is only for upper division classes; for Springfield campus, Volunteer State should feed into our program for upper division students; we have a partnership with nursing small number of students expected; unfortunately economy has hit these programs hard; have cohorts of master's students in Education for Springfield campus.
- Nashville State affected us in fall with enrollment of 350 students and enrollment for spring is about 500; APSU enrollment was flat in fall, but we rebounded back to match last spring; not certain yet about how Nashville State will impact our enrollment numbers.
- APSU has a very positive relationship with Nashville State.

4. Reports from Faculty Senate Representatives

Dean's Council – Senator Mercy Cannon

- SACS narratives are not complete and this needs to be completed for current review
- QEP report was presented.
- Handbook policy changes were discussed by Council; policy changes approved by Faculty Senate were accepted except Student Course Grade Appeal Policy (3:033).

Academic Council – Senator Becky Starnes

- Beverly Boggs and Ashlee Spearman provided updates on APSU 1000.
- Suggested Faculty Handbook changes were approved.
- College of Arts and Letters- revised African American Studies and Women's Studies Minor; Department of Communication revised Corporate Communication Concentration; Department of History and Philosophy revised History Teaching Major (7 – 12).
- Department of Language and Literature made revisions in foreign languages.
- Area of Theater terminated 5 concentrations/specializations; revised Dance and Theatre minors; several new Theatre and Dance concentrations.
- College of Behavioral and Health Sciences – Department of Health and Human Performance revised Human Movement concentration and Physical Education minor; Department of Psychology revised School Counseling concentration (M.S.); Department of Sociology revised Environmental Studies minor.
- College of Science and Mathematics – Department of Agriculture revised 5 concentrations; Department of Geosciences revised Water Resources Management concentration; Department of Mathematics and Statistics revised Curriculum and Instruction with Mathematics specialization.
- School of Technology and Public Management – Department of Public Management and Criminal Justice created a new Nonprofit Administration minor.

TBR Faculty Sub-council – Dr. David Kanervo

- Technology centers in Tennessee are changing names to Colleges of Applied Sciences; this is for marketing purposes.
- Previous discussions on task forces on adjuncts by Sub-council; the discussion on the recommendations for raising adjuncts salaries was tabled indefinitely by the Sub-council of Chief Academic Officers.
- GED testing is being replaced in Tennessee by different test because of increases in costs; replacement will be about ½ the cost, with both paper and computer options; will be called "Alternative High School Diploma."
- ACT is being replaced by Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) within the next 1 to 2 years; just in Tennessee as far as Dr. Kanervo knows.
- Affordable Care Act –TBR developed formula for translating faculty teaching loads into number of hours to be recorded; number of credit hours that we teach is multiplied by 2.5 times to equal number of hours per week; this works out to where adjuncts must have an average of 12 hour teaching load per semester to qualify for the Affordable Care Act to have insurance benefits through the university; has to average 12 hours per semester (i.e., 15 and 9) for fall and spring; must be equal to a minimum of 1,560 hours over a calendar year.

- Each campus is considered a separate employer so will not add hours from two Tennessee institutions to make person an employee: those who do not have average of 12 hours can still purchase health care through the registries created under the Affordable Care Act.
- Partner benefits received little discussion with indications that it will be taken up at later time.
- Community Colleges will not provide partner benefits.
- Western Governors University will hire chancellor and staff for Tennessee office; are at the point of accepting up to 60 credit hours of Community College work toward the degree.
- Discussion will probably be held concerning how TBR Institutions would accept the Western Governors transfer courses.
- Western Governors programs are very cost effective for students which causes concern for TBR; students use e-books; semester for going to Western Governors University cost \$2,900.00; some concern that this will be a problem for Tennessee universities' Teacher Ed programs because they do not participate in Tennessee's program in "Readiness to Teach" curriculum; they do have student teachers; may cut into Austin Peay's program some.
- MOOCS massive online courses started as enrichment courses a few years ago; offering courses now that will compete with our general education core classes in the state; courses are offered for \$50.00 to \$100.00 per course; only have about a 10% completion rate with primarily general core courses; TBR Institutions may be expected to take their credits; TBR may want to be involved in creating equivalency tests to judge student competency so students could test out of our general education courses; strong encouragement for faculty who have courses in the general education core begin thinking about some sort of test to administer for credit justification.
- Tennessee legislators making concerted efforts for our universities to accept credits from non-accredited colleges; option to acquire syllabus from the non-accredited institution for comparison of our course requirements to assess justification of acceptance or non-acceptance for transfer credit; universities will not be able to merely say they will not accept the non-accredited college credits.
- SACS is beginning to examine the notion of accepting competency-based credits; if SACS accepts this then Tennessee's universities will have to accept, also.

Old Business

Report on Faculty Handbook/Policy Changes – Senator Wadia, Information Item

- Reported on the Academic Council and Deans Council reaction to the suggested handbook policy changes.
- All suggested policy changes passed in the Academic Council.
- All suggested policy changes passed in the Deans Council except for the suggested change concerning the Student Course Grade Appeal Policy (3:033).
- Grade appeal change was rejected by Deans Council due to concern of students who need a quicker resolution because of immediate decisions concerning application processes (i.e., scholarships, program acceptance, etc.); decision that not even one student should experience a delay in the grade appeal process; brings up the issues with faculty being available during the summer months but the attitude of the Deans Council was that the faculty members involved would make themselves available.

- Indicated additional change needed for the incomplete grade when student is incapacitated and cannot request an “I” grade; in these situations it is at the discretion of the faculty member to institute the grade of incomplete; wording of policy will be adjusted to represent this idea.

New Business

Report on E-dossier System – Faculty Red Committee, Senator Stephen Truhon

Senator Truhon gave the report for the Faculty Red Committee regarding the issue of going to a new system for e-dossiers (i.e., Digital Measures). They found that there are better systems for us to use that are better designed to create e-dossiers. The committee recommended that we should move to a system other than D2L for e-dossiers. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the committee’s recommendation.

Results of Senate Elections – Vice President Brooks

Vice-President Brooks reported the results of the vote for new faculty senators. See Faculty Senate website for final results.

Faculty Senate Staff Award Vote – Faculty White Committee, Senator Ruiz-Aviles

Vote taken; results will be announced at the May 2nd meeting

Faculty Handbook/Policy Issues for 2013-14 – Senator Mickey Wadia

- Straw polls taken to assist with determining what the Faculty Handbook committee will need to consider next year.
- Post-tenure reviews: do post tenure reviews need to go into E-dossier for faculty who are not fully ranked? The majority of senators thought post-tenure reviews should be added to the e-dossier.
- Should the post tenure review include a listing of goals? The majority of senators thought the post-tenure review form should be revised and be a review of work accomplished during the year.
- Should student have a vote on search committee for faculty? Majority of Senators thought students serving on faculty search committees should not have a vote.
- Should faculty be able to tender their resignation if they see a negative outcome for tenure is inevitable? Senators had mixed opinions regarding this issue.

President Berg announced she is accept donations on behalf of the Faculty Senate scholarship established for Dr. Denley’s father.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m.