

UNAPPROVED MINUTES FOR THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING OF FEB. 24, 1976

President Fott called the meeting to order. Twenty-one senators were present; absent were senators Groseclose and Ikerd. The minutes from the February 5th meeting were approved with minor revisions.

Fott read a letter from Jim Nixon, formally resigning the chairmanship of the Promotion and Tenure Committee. Senator Der moved and Senator Stedman seconded the following motion: Gaines Hunt be appointed Chairman of the Promotion and Tenure Committee and that Vernon Warren be added as the seventh person on the committee. The motion passed.

Referring to the two specific charges that President Riggs gave the Senate, Fott began a discussion of the role of the senate in advising President Riggs concerning (1) faculty persons up for tenure this year and (2) staff long-range planning. With respect to the former charge, Senator Woodward introduced a proposal, put in the form of a motion by Senator Boren and seconded by Senator Barnette. A lengthy discussion followed concerning the sensitive, serious issue with various senators expressing themselves. An amendment to the wording of the motion was made by Senator Till and seconded by Senator Sears and passed. A second amendment to table the motion for reconsideration was made by Senator Boren and seconded by Senator Nixon and failed to pass. Finally the motion was put in the following form: We understand and appreciate the President's dilemma concerning recommendations for tenure. Concerning the individuals who have been recommended for tenure this year, we recognize the difficulties that this presents the new President, particularly in view of the fact that several key high-level administrative positions are or soon will be vacant. However, relative to this matter, there are two points that we wish to make:

- (1) It is unfair to penalize a faculty person for existing administrative situations.
- (2) The most significant tenure recommendations come from departmental chairpersons and not from people in higher administrative positions.

Therefore, we strongly recommend that no moratorium be established concerning this year's recommendations for tenure. Such a policy would " . . . predictably affect adversely the general esprit within the institution."¹

The motion passed.

In addition, Senator Der made and Senator Larson seconded the following supplemental motion: We recommend that decisions should be made relative to granting of tenure to the individuals who have been recommended for tenure this year on the basis of existing tenure regulations, not on the basis of possible projected regulations. The motion passed.

Finally, Senator Woodward moved and Senator Gildre seconded the following motion: The revision of the current Board of Regents document regarding tenure and other matters germane to the reevaluation of tenure at A.P.S.U. be delegated to the Promotion and Tenure Committee of the Faculty Senate. The motion passed.

Meeting adjourned.

¹Austin Peay State University Policies to Govern Tenure and Promotion, p. 1 (Introduction).