

**Austin Peay State University
Faculty Senate
Meeting of Thursday, April 28, 2011
University Center, UC 307
3:00pm**

Call to order – Senate President David Major

Recognition of Guests: Brian Johnson, Sheila Bryant, Joe Weber

Roll call of Senators – Secretary Mercy Cannon. Absent Senators: Blake, Ellison, Frentzos, Lewis, Markov, Nelson, Schlanger, White-Major, Jones.

Today's agenda approved.

Minutes for meeting of March 24, 2011 approved with amendments to attendance.

Remarks

1. Senate President – David Major

- New senators begin their terms in May.
- President Hall & Provost Denley are absent
- Salary memo coming in; search for University Council underway.
- Preview of Assistant Vice President Johnson's remarks
 - Accreditation for SACS
 - Gathering and reviewing data from academic programs
 - Meetings in the Pre-Semester Calendar to identify outcomes in academic majors—two to three meetings possible
 - Selection of a course for gathering data
 - Goals—simplicity of process and useful data
- Senate's retreat has been approved, are looking for a date in the pre-semester calendar. Breakout sessions may include:
 - latest *Handbook* RTP revisions
 - Meet Your Senators/Meet Your Constituents conversations
 - briefing on the political process in Tennessee
 - a briefing on TBR and THEC (maybe combined with the political process session)
 - an advising roundtable or briefing
 - an update on compensation
 - a survey of standing committees and their responsibilities
 - Q&A for adjunct faculty

Additional suggestions for topics and volunteers to chair sessions welcome

- TUFs went very well last month, thanks to the preparation committee. Minutes from the TUFs meetings are on the University of Memphis website.
- Thanks to Senator LuAnnette Butler and Senator Margaret Dietrich for their service to Faculty Senate

2. University President – Dr. Tim Hall – absent on University business

3. Provost – Dr. Tristan Denley – absent on University business

4. Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs– Dr. Brian Johnson

- We are regionally accredited by SACS, and we were reaffirmed in 2004. Next reaffirmation is 2014; in 2013, we'll do a self-study. New considerations: reporting on online offerings and on student learning outcomes (a new federal mandate).
- We are in Track A with 32 other institutions. We were among 29 that were deemed as failing the outcomes assessment.
- In March 2011, we submitted documentation to show how we were assessing outcomes in on-ground and online courses. The evidence was discipline-specific, and we are looking for ways to do university-wide assessment. We were able to show through our general ed courses that we have been doing outcome assessments.
- We also created an action plan, reinvigorated the learning outcomes through the BRAVO list. Now, the process of collecting & evaluating data is underway. We have to institute university-wide process for assessing outcomes in the various departments. We have now assigned college-level assessment coordinators; we are putting pre-school and post-school workshops. Faculty will be required to attend these workshops, which will be approximately 2 hours long. Coordinators will give information and facilitate the workshops. Faculty will determine the measurements for the assessment and the ways in which outcomes match the university outcome list (BRAVO). Software will be in place to help with the data collection and analysis.
- There will be a strict schedule until reaffirmation. The hope is that this system will offer valuable information to the department.
- Schedules will be issued in the next week.
- Questions: Outcomes need to be generated by the major. What does "closing the loop" mean? Making decisions to change or to not change aspects of the major or the assessment. Is BRAVO our assessment plan for SACS accreditation? Where is this going? The federal government is regulating universities more heavily. However, the idea is that we're already generating outcomes, but that we need to find a way to communicate those results to the accreditation agencies in the language they use. What about students are doing multiple majors or minors? It is not students who are being assessed; it's the programs.

5. Director of Affirmative Action – Sheila Bryant

- The university's affirmative action plan on hiring is submitted to TBR and then to the federal government. We report in three categories: women, blacks, and minorities.
- We are told how many people in each category are at the national standard so that we can compare our percentages and determine deficits.
- These forms are on the senate website.
- Question: What is considered under "protected groups"? Answer: Black, Hispanic, Asian, Pacific Islander, and "two or more." Disabilities is a separate category, asked after hire.

6. Reports from Faculty Senate Representatives

- Dean's Council – Senator Bill Rayburn
 - Presentations on revised PELP (Matt Kinney) and Second Life & distance ed (Kat Bailey). Provost reported on strategic plan, and Brian Johnson reported on assessment plan. Provost asked for proposals...
- Academic Council – Senator Fred Matthews
 - Faculty handbook revisions passed.
 - Title III – PASS 0900 changes passed.
 - Changes to APSU Policies 7:001 – 7:008 were passed.

- Changes to APSU Policy 5:015, Instructional Workload, were passed.
 - Various revisions to curriculum in COAL, CBHS, CSS.
- TBR Faculty Sub-council – Senator Loretta Griffy
 - Met last Thursday and Friday.
 - Approved 2 + 2 agreements legislated by Complete College Act. All Pathways were faculty-driven. Community colleges have added an Associates of Fine Arts in Music, and may develop one for Art.
 - THEC changed policy about proposals to change programs, now requiring a full report. TBR approved two academic program policies: TBR – Guideline A-101 and TBR – Policy 2:01:01:00. THEC intends for changes to be in place July 1.
 - Insurance: Out of pocket maximums – concern that we now have a co-pay that doesn't apply to maximums. Thus, illnesses which require multiple visits to specialists without hospitalization can become very expensive, with no cap in sight.

Old Business

- Rules Committee Report – Vice President Deibert
 - New senators announced.
 - Question revisited: Is there a problem with the term length of a senator elected to a vacated senate seat? Should we change this in the senate constitution?
Motion to charge next year's Rules Committee with the process of changing the constitution. Discussion: We should consider how difficult it is to get people to fill seats for a year (a term), which means they have to leave Senate for a year. We might consider saying that anyone who fills a vacant seat will serve for three years. Suggestion: better off tackling succession clause rather than the policy itself. But then someone could serve for 5 years running. Question: Why the year off between serving terms? Keep new people circulating in the Senate. Suggestions: allow two terms in a row before the year off.
Friendly amendment for next year's Rules Committee to consider suggestions raised.
Motion approved with friendly amendment.
- Report by Advising Committee – Senator Lowrance
 - Advising Committee has been meeting for two years.
 - Report results: GET FROM LL!
- Nominations & Elections Report – Senator Meisch
 - Report on Senate website.
 - Motion to accept report.
 - Discussion: What is the distribution for the Suspension Committee based on? There is no science rep, except for math. Answer: Because it is difficult to get people to volunteer for & attend this committee, the distribution can fluctuate. However, the recommendation will be different than the current distribution.
 - Friendly amendment proposed: Because the Admissions Appeals committee can vote by email, the problem noted in the report isn't actually a problem.
Recommendation to leave that committee as is. Discussion: Carol Clark wanted more faculty on that committee. Friendly amendment passed.
 - Motion to accept report as amended passed.
- Compensation Committee Report – Senator Griffy
 - The compensation plan is at TBR.
 - CIP codes are being addressed.
- Shared Governance Resolution from TUFS – Senator Griffy

- Resolution on Senate website.
- Resolution clarifies academic freedom in shared governance activities. TBR Sub-council is working to craft language to clarify – resolution to be rewritten and returned to TBR Sub-council.
- Motion to approve resolution. Discussion: This would strengthen the conversation at TBR Sub-council. Question: Was the Sub-council language the same as TUFS? No, that was a policy with different language. What was the legal case that precipitated this resolution? Not germane to discussion – just a potential threat that policy can help avoid.
- Motion to approve resolution passed
- Motion to approve the preamble. Discussion: Are UW & UM the only universities with this problem? Why are they named? Are we putting ourselves in a problematic position – is passing the resolution itself a breach?
- Motion to accept preamble passed – three nays, two abstentions.
- Report on RASI – Senator Winters & Senator Perdew
 - Hope that people will think about proposals for next year, as we will have money available. Proposals will be due in the fall.
- Vote on Staff Award – Senator Rocheleau
 - 6 nominations, 3 finalists. Secret results!
 - Senate President Major has spoken with Andy Keen about creating a “Wall of Honor” in the UC, 3rd floor.

New Business

- Report on SASI – Senator Scanlan
 - The committee received 45 proposals for SASI grants of which 34 proposals were funded or partially funded. Letters will be sent to the Principle Investigator via email on Monday May 2nd. Information regarding the accounts to use for their grants will be done via their award letter and by Faculty Senate SASI FAQs.
 - The committee has developed some suggestions, which will be sent to the Senate President, for future SASI committees to consider in the proposal process.
- Executive Committee, Proposed Resolution re. Handguns on Campus – Senate President Major
 - Proposed resolution on Senate website.
 - Motion to approve resolution. Discussion: Define “carry”? on person? in car? Answer—either/or. What if an academic major requires guns? Not sure that any major would require this. Do we need to clarify “on-duty” officers? No, officers are always authorized. What about military MPs? Yes, as they are law officials. Is this for Main Campus only? FTC already has rules governing carrying weapons. What is the reason for not allowing guns? Answer: Based on TBR, SGA, and President Hall’s thoughts – Police would like to know immediately if a gun-carrying individual is the “bad guy.” Are there two levels of security – can and cannot carry guns? Seems unsafe not to allow permit-carrying individuals to carry guns. Law enforcement officers are most vocal against.
 - Motion to approve resolution passed – 13 for, 6 against, 6 abstain.
- Nomination of Nominations Committee – Senate President Major
 - Motion to approve ad hoc nominations committee: Tim Winters, LuAnnette Butler, Rex Ameigh, and Mercy Cannon. Motion passed.

Adjourned at 5:05 pm