

**Austin Peay State University
Faculty Senate
Meeting of Thursday, November 20, 2008
University Center, UC 307
3:00 pm
Minutes (approved with corrections)**

Call to order – Senate President Dr. Tim Winters called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

Recognition of Guests: President Winters recognized Senate guests Melissa Gomez, Vivian Fivecoat, and Pat Perdew.

Roll call of Senators – Senate Secretary Elaine Berg called the roll and the following senators were absent: Culley Carson-Greife, Roger Clark, Sue Evans, Sara Gotcher, Christopher Hardin, Gilbert Pitts, Melan Smith-Francis, and Jim Vandergriff.

Approval of today's agenda - President Winters requested that Melissa Gomez, Director of New Student Programs, be added to the agenda. Senator Kemmerly made a motion to approve today's agenda with the addition of Melissa Gomez and Senator Silverberg seconded the motion. The motion passed and the agenda was approved.

Approval of minutes for meeting of October 30, 2008 – John Foote made a motion to approve the October minutes and Senator Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed and the October minutes were approved.

Remarks

1. **Senate President** – Senate President Winters said he & President Hall had a very serious discussion about the recent gun incident on campus and that they disagree on the situation. President Winters feels that faculty should be informed in timely manner, especially faculty who have this particular student in other classes. Senator Said asked if there was a procedure in place is to deal with the situation. The answer was no, there is not. Senator Preston-Sabin asked about training for such situations. It was mentioned that Lantz Biles (Director of Public Safety) said that the training is coming. The School of Nursing took the initiative to have training on safety/emergency phones each semester with public safety.
2. **Melissa Gomez, Director of New Student Programs**, asked for faculty to help identify alumni in their subject areas for the **Career Cast Your Net** event on February 25, 2009. This event is when successful alumni to come back to APSU to talk with students about how to get to where they want to go with their career. Senator Said asked about an alumni database. Sheila Ross has an alumni database. President Winters thanked Melissa for all of her work.
3. **University President** – President Hall gave an update on the budget. He expects 10-15 % in cuts to our state funding, a 3-4 dollar million loss. We will make plans for trimming budget. President Hall is going through the budget line by line. TBR likely will look at removing the tuition cap at the December Board meeting. Each student would then pay by the hour and that would increase tuition revenue significantly if enrollment stays stable. Senator Scanlan asked about lottery scholarship students and the tuition cap. President Hall said there are lots of questions that will have to be resolved. Our own scholarships will be affected with this uncapping of tuition. Either a scholarship won't be worth as much or we'll pay more for our scholarships. It will be a shock to students' financial aid arrangements. Past Senate President John Foote asked how this situation will affect parents who started paying into a fund for their kids' tuition when their kids were in grade school. Senator Silverberg asked about increases affecting our enrollment with students who can't afford to attend. Some students' graduation dates will be lengthened because of budget woes.

President Hall addressed the gun in the classroom incident. He said we are still kind of in the middle of this incident. He wants faculty input about how we respond to situations of this kind.

Dean searches— he has reviewed the survey from faculty and wants to talk to Dr. Denley when he arrives. President Hall's current thinking is perhaps a mix of filling some positions now and holding off on some. He will wait for Dr. Denley who begins work the first part of January 2009. Senator Haralson asked if any of the reorganization efforts are on hold or will they proceed. President Hall said they are under "contemplation" and that he would like to go forward with the dean searches that are part of the reorganization plans.

President Winters asked President Hall to comment on status of the Title III grant. It's a 2 million dollar grant over a 5-year period. It has three components: 1) advising, 2) a teaching and learning center, and 3) course redesign. The positions created by this grant are a half-time director, an activities coordinator, and a faculty development person. The grant will be closely supervised by the federal Title III Office. We have to spend money quickly because grant was awarded late.

Fundraising—probably won't launch a capital campaign this fall because of the economy.

4. **Interim Provost** – Dr. David Denton was not in attendance.

Reports from Faculty Senate Representatives

1. Academic Council – Dr. Phil Kemmerly—no report because they did not meet.
2. Deans' Council – Dr. Ron Gupton—met to interview fourth provost candidate, hence no report.
3. TBR Faculty Subcouncil – Sen. Kay Haralson – have not met. Adjunct pay increase was voted against by the TBR presidents. Please see the Document Review section of the Faculty Senate website for documents pertaining to music downloading at Tennessee schools. Rumors are flying about budget cuts. Other schools are talking about freezing positions and travel, increasing the teaching load with no compensation for a short period, layoffs, salary cuts, eliminating low-enrolled programs, tuition increases.

Old Business

1. Report from Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Senate Staff Award – Senator Kemmerly moved to approve the proposal and John Foote seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Senator Goldstone asked if they meant to add an "s" to "item". The document will be corrected. Senator Moore asked about length of employment. Senator Scanlan replied that the committee wanted to reward those who've been here and have not been recognized yet. The motion passed with corrections.
2. Report from Ad Hoc Committee on Student Travel Policy -- Senator Butler said that the committee had met with President Hall on November 6, 2008, regarding the Student Travel Policy. The previous policy was abolished because it's not in line with other TBR institutions. Senator Carson-Grefe (committee member) talked to Dr. Sherryl Byrd, Associate Vice-President for Student Affairs. The committee is having some difficulty in finding out what the policies are at other institutions.
3. Report from Faculty White Committee on RTP Issues -- Senator Moore said their committee has met and generated some ideas and they are still looking at them. The committee still needs time to work on issues. Please send comments and ideas to any member of the committee.
4. Report from Academic White Committee on Grade Appeals Policy — Senator Cannon discussed the draft policy. The timeline has been shortened to 30 days in the following semester to get formal process started (written). They eliminated some steps. The process should all be completed in one semester. Make-up of committee has changed slightly. Name of policy has changed to Course Grade Appeal Policy. John Foote made a motion to accept the revised policy with the corrections and Senator Kemmerly seconded the motion. This policy is applicable to course grades only, not individual assignment grades. Senator Hayes mentioned that the amount of time faculty must keep student work may change with the revised policy. Senator Gupton pointed out that the dean has a lot of power under item #4 in the

revised policy. John Foote made a motion to amend the revised policy to delete last sentence of the first paragraph under item #4. Senator Kemmerly seconded the motion and the motion passed. John Foote made a motion to accept the original motion as amended and Senator Kemmerly seconded the motion. The motion passed.

5. Senate Response to SASI Taskforce Recommendations:
 - a. Common Hour — Senator Silverberg made a motion to vote NO on the common hour and Senator Said seconded the motion. The motion to not have a common hour passed.
 - b. Advising Committee —Senator Kemmerly asked exactly what is an advising committee. It would be an all-faculty committee to facilitate faculty input into advising sessions. Would faculty be trained on advising? Senator Haralson said, “Yes, that is one aspect of it. “ It will also address the mentoring aspect of advising. Senator Said mentioned that advising is not administered in the same way in each department and college. Also, the committee will let administrators know what problems faculty have regarding advising. Senator Rabidoux said advising is two-step process. The student needs some basic help/information from the institution before they come to him. He can make a bigger impact in his areas of his expertise when they have this help. We should maximize what faculty do and get institutional support and help in the nuts and bolts of advising. Senator Moore said athletic program has some good practices. We should look at what they do. Senator Scanlan made a motion to recommend an advising committee and Senator Truhon seconded the motion. The motion passed.
6. Report from Faculty Red Committee on Faculty Sick Leave —The committee has not met. Have only communicated via email. No report. This item will be on the January 2009 agenda.
7. College-level Standing Committees for Resource Allocation — At least one college already has such a committee. This type of committee would be a good idea. Please take this idea back to departments to discuss. Senator Preston-Sabin mentioned that the deans are meeting in February 2009 and will be discussing reports on buildings and space.

New Business

1. Email Policy Statement Revision – Dr. Spencer Buckner discussed statement (posted on the Senate website) that needs to be added to the official APSU email policy in the university bulletin. This problem came to a head with the implementation of Desire to Learn (D2L). D2L has two email systems, an internal and an external system. The problem is that you cannot reply to a D2L (internal) email address. It won't go back into the D2L system. D2L has to fix problem. We can't fix it locally. APSU went with the internal email only. This issue causes problems for online adjunct instructors and students who are deployed. The Official email in online courses is D2L email. Spencer Buckner made a motion to make D2L email the official method of email communication between instructors and students for all online courses. Senator Emory seconded the motion and the motion passed.
2. Title III Grant Faculty Stipends – Senator Haralson discussed the faculty stipends (her Power Point presentation is posted on the Senate website). Proposals for redesign are due to Provost by December 15, 2008. They are not for creating new courses. They are targeting high enrollment, low success courses. These are usually core courses. Positions created by the grant are institutionalized, except for the director's position.
3. Survey on Interim Deans – Senator Buchanan discussed the responses from the survey. They are posted on website.
4. Items from the floor:

Senator Ameigh mentioned that faculty are concerned about the doors in Sundquist Science Center (SSC). Faculty are concerned about access doors being closed (some are handicapped) and denying

students access to the building. It was mentioned that this is also a problem in the Music Mass Communication Building. President Winters said the Executive Committee will look into this issue. Senator Baker said he's the Chair of the Persons With Disabilities Committee and to please bring any disability issues to his committee.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.