

Austin Peay State University
Faculty Senate

Minutes

Meeting of Thursday, November 16, 2006
Sundquist Auditorium, SSC E-106 A

Preliminary Information

The meeting was called to order at approximately 2:30 p.m. by Senate Vice-President Tim Winters. (N. b., Sen. President John Foote was not in attendance. He was coordinating the annual meeting of the Tennessee Academy of Science.)

The roll call of senators was conducted by Senate Secretary Perdew.

Senators Eaves, Gotcher, Gupton, Hatch, Lane, Myers, Rayburn (ex officio), Reagan, Snyder, Steele, Vandergriff, and Ziegler were absent.

The agenda was unanimously approved.

The minutes for the meeting of October 26, 2006, were unanimously approved.

Remarks

University President Dr. Sherry Hoppe

President Hoppe had no remarks, but offered to answer questions.

Sen. Winters asked about fundraising activities. President Hoppe stated that she had met with a donor this week who will set up a \$20,000 endowment in memory of an APSU coach. Also the donor who gave \$1.5 million for the recreation center was recently persuaded to allow their name on the building. The identity of the donor will be revealed later. The new recreation center will open at 2:00 p.m. on January 30, 2007. Lastly, President Hoppe mentioned she will soon go to Florida to see more potential donors. Sen. Winters also asked about the effect of changes in the legislature. President Hoppe stated there would not be much impact. She expects that newly elected state representative Pitts will be a strong supporter.

President Hoppe also stated that she met with the lobbyist firm for APSU. It will try to get earmarks for us in certain areas. One is for an “inter-modal” facility (i.e., parking garage with another mode of transportation from it, such as a bus) and pedestrian bridge. A private university in Tennessee got funding for one last year. Also Trahern building is at number 17 on a list for funding with \$800,000 for planning money to be allotted sometime in the future. Lastly, President Hoppe mentioned that APSU is trying to get Governor’s Schools in the areas of computational physics and homeland security.

Provost Dr. Bruce Speck

Provost Speck was in North Carolina. President Hoppe mentioned that he and others are visiting middle college high schools there. These are typically located on a university or community college campus. Students take high school and college classes simultaneously at these institutions.

Senate Vice-President Dr. Tim Winters

(Memoriam: David O’Drobinak)

Sen. Winters asked that a moment of silence be observed for David O’Drobinak. Dr. O’Drobinak was a faculty member in the biology department from 1994 – 2002. Afterwards, Sen. Robison stated that donations for the Education Fund for Dr. O’Drobinak’s sons, Colin and Adam, may be sent to Dr. Don Dailey, chair of biology.

Reports

TBR Subcouncil

Senator Griffy

Sen. Griffy stated that capping tuition was discussed at their last meeting. She said that the subcouncil had voted to leave the cap in place. Sen. Griffy also remarked that the academic officers from the universities were spilt on the issue.

President Hoppe stated this issue was also discussed by the presidents. She also mentioned that the software cost to handle keeping the tuition cap has been found to be \$250,000 instead of \$500,000 as originally thought. She stated that the presidents voted overwhelmingly in favor of keeping the cap on tuition rates.

Sen. Robison asked about the future of DSP.

Sen. Griffy mentioned the TBR study to best accommodate under-prepared students.

Houston Davis is heading this study which received a FIPSE grant. Their timeline is: design teams, spring 2007; pilots, fall 2007-2010; assessment at the end of the 3 year pilot process. Then the state will try to develop a model for accommodating under-prepared students which hopefully will be a national model. Also the “white paper” (which is evidently going to be renamed) committee is looking at DSP. The FIPSE grant team and “white paper” committee may merge in the future.

Sen. Robison asked if DSP courses could move back to a regular classroom setting. Sen. Griffy responded that anything is possible at this point.

Sen. Robison asked if middle colleges had DSP. Sen. Griffy said the one at Chattanooga State did.

President Hoppe said she met with Dr. Short and others a couple of weeks ago regarding DSP. She stated that a purpose of TBR’s previous “Defining Our Future” and current “white paper” committee is to have no DSP at universities by 2010. President Hoppe, intending to “get ahead of the curve,” met with Houston Davis and will implement a model with aspects resembling what is done now for under-prepared students at both MTSU and University of Memphis. Developmental students will enroll in an enhanced section of college level mathematics (1010 or 1530) and/or English (1010), which will include 2 hours of supplemental instruction per week. She also stated that students will

be assessed to see the areas in which they need remediation. In response to a question, President Hoppe said faculty formerly in DSP will provide the supplemental instruction. Sen. Griffy asked how high school deficiencies in algebra will be removed. President Hoppe was unsure and stated that Dr. McQueen could be asked about this in the future.

Academic Council
Senator Ziegler

Sen. Ziegler was not in attendance.

Deans Council
Senator Haralson

Sen. Haralson stated that the last couple of meetings were canceled.

Old Business

Proposed Policy Revisions

Policy 4:007 Access to, and Security of, Facilities (Lantz Biles, Chief of Campus Police)

Mr. Biles was not in attendance. President Hoppe stated there had been a compromise and an interim policy had been put into effect. The president's cabinet decided not to support badge wearing at all times. However, it was decided that IDs should be carried at all times. Also a notice will be sent out in case of an emergency which would require the wearing of badges. She would like us to wear them on weekends and at nights.

Sen. Robison commented that a student in California had been tasered by campus police after he refused to cooperate when challenged by them.

Sen. Winters also commented that 4th amendment issues (unreasonable search and seizure) were involved in such cases. He stated that he thinks it is dangerous to detain students who have no ID if there is no probable cause.

Policy 3:034 University Excused Absences for Students (Dr. Mickey Wadia)

This item was grouped with faculty handbook issues (see below).

New Business

Faculty Handbook issues (Dr. Mickey Wadia)

It was moved and seconded to consider the excused absence policy and the other faculty handbook issues, under new business, together. The motion was approved unanimously. Sen. Wadia asked Sen. Major to present the items.

Item 1: Regarding policy 3:034 about excused absences, “accommodations” was changed to “arrangements” and these have been specified:

“Faculty members shall make reasonable arrangements for students to make up assignments, quizzes and tests missed during a university-excused absence. These make-up activities shall be comparable to the original assignment, quiz or test and shall not be graded for reduced credit or treated as a dropped grade.”

Another change was to include the athletic director, with the deans, as one who has authority to say an activity will be given this status. This was done for athletic activities. Sen. Griffy asked for clarification about the arrangement of dropping a grade. The full policy is on the web.

Sen. Wadia stated they did meet with Sen. Myers, as President Hoppe suggested at the last senate meeting, and he and Coach Loos agreed with the changes.

Item 3: Policy 5:008, now states that a faculty member cannot take a course in his or her own department for credit.

Items 2, 4, 5, and 6 involved dossier issues.

Item 2 clarified the issue regarding how many years of student evaluations should be placed in the dossier. This had been considered at the last meeting.

Item 4 involved adding the word “tenured” before “full professor” in policy 5:060.

Item 5 involved a requirement of having an English translation, when necessary, of items in the dossier in policy 5:060.

Item 6 requires the college committee to look strictly at the department’s criteria in retention, tenure, and promotion decisions, also in policy 5:060.

The last item was the minor revision of the **Socrates award guidelines**. The award has been increased to \$1000 and the name(s) of college(s) have changed.

Sen. Robison **moved to approve all these items** and the motion was seconded.

The discussion involved item 3, policy 5:008 concerning faculty members not taking courses in their own department. Sen. Haralson stated this would prohibit someone in education with a master’s degree and seeking an Ed. S. degree from taking any of their classes at APSU. Sen. Griffy also voiced reservations about the policy.

Sen. Wadia stated the policy came out of dean’s council. It was to prevent the difficulties that can arise when a faculty member taking a class is known by their professor. Also the policy would stop conflict of interest issues when the professor is on the faculty member’s personnel committee.

Sen. Winters also stated that without the policy a junior faculty member could be placed in a bad position.

President Hoppe stated she believes this primarily applies to education faculty because it has the only degree above the master’s given at APSU. President Hoppe also said that in the past a case of a faculty member in another faculty member’s course had resulted in a conflict of interest.

Sen. Dyer stated that in theatre, to fulfill a SACS accreditation requirement, a full professor took a course taught by an untenured faculty member. She stated this put the untenured member in a bad situation and this policy would prevent such occurrences. Sen. Robison asked if there were exceptions. Sen. Major stated that the provost can still approve exceptions in the revised policy.

Then Sen. Haralson **moved that a friendly amendment be made to extract item 3 (policy 5:008, regarding faculty not taking a course in their department) from the motion so it could be voted on separately.** The motion was seconded and approved.

The question was called and the **motion, to approve items 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, and the Socrates award guidelines, was unanimously approved.**

Then **item 3, policy 5:008**, regarding faculty not taking a course in their department was voted on. It was **approved with one opposed.**

Sen. Vice-President Winters concluded by encouraging faculty to contribute to the charitable giving campaign. He stated that senators are representatives of the university and it behooves us to give back to the community in which we live. He also stated that the budget committee of the faculty senate has met and any questions about the budget may be sent to him or another committee member.

The next senate meeting is January 25th, 2007.

The meeting adjourned at about 3:40 pm.

Patrick Perdew
Faculty Senate Secretary