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Faculty Senate Agendas and Minutes

Agendas and Minutes

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2018 February 26 - Faculty Senate Agenda and Minutes

Faculty Senate, East Tennessee State University

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Faculty Senate Agenda

Feb. 26, 2018

2:45 p.m. Forum

1. Introductions
2. Celebrations
3. Announcements
4. Approval of minutes
5. Information item(s)
 - a. Student Success Symposium – Dr. Carla Warner
 - b. iBucs Innovation/Entrepreneurship competition – Hendrix
 - c. Board of Trustees report – Alsop
 - d. Dr. Byington Goes to Nashville - report
6. Action Item(s)
 - a. Committee on Committees-Foley
 - i. Veterans Affairs standing committee
 - b. Motions:
7. New Business
8. Old Business
9. Questions on summaries
10. Comments from guests
11. Adjourn
- 12. Working groups convene as needed**

Next meeting: March 12, 2018- Stephanie Goode (HR Consultant) report

“Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave, I am the dream and the hope of the slave.

| rise. | rise. | rise.”

~Maya Angelou, “Still I Rise”, *And Still I Rise*



FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

Meeting Date:	02/26/2018	Time:	14:45 – 16:30	Location:	Culp Center, Room 311
Next Meeting:	03/12/2018	Scribe:			Eric Sellers
Present:	Al-Imad, Leila; Alsop, Fred; Anand, Rajani; Brooks Taylor, Teresa; Brown, Patrick; Burgess, Doug; Byington, Randy; Campbell, Heidi; Chambers, Cindy; Cluck, David; Doran, Erin; Drinkard-Hawkshawe, Dorothy; Duncan, Joyce; Dunn, Andrew; Ellis, Jon; Epps, Susan; Flora, Bill; Foley, Virginia; Gray, Jeff; Hall, Katherine; Hendrix, Stephen; Kostrzewa, Richard; Kwasigroch, Thomas; Littleton, Mary Ann; Liu, Ying; Livingston, James; Mackara, Fred; Marek, Greta; McGarry, Theresa; Mullins, Chrissy; Olson, Nate; Owens, Bea; Panus, Peter; Paul, Timir; Peterson, Jonathan; Scheurman, Eugene; Sellers, Eric; Sergiadis, Ashley; Stone, Bill				
Absent:	Elangovan, Saravanan; Hemphill, Bill; Masino, Anthony; Oh, Sunny; Pope, Victoria; Ramsey, Priscilla; Sarkodie, Olga;				
Excused:	Chakraborty, Kaniska; Gentry, Retha; Mitchell, Lorianne; Pealer, Jennifer; Sawyer, Robert; Short, Candice; Walden, Rachel				

Agenda Items

Meeting called to order
1. Introductions
2. Celebrations
3. Announcements
4. Approval of Minutes
5. Informational Items
6. Action Items
7. New Business
8. Old Business
9. Questions on reports/summaries from committees/working groups
10. Other Items
11. Comments from Guests
12. Adjourn

DISCUSSIONS

1. Introductions No guests were present
2. Celebrations 2.1 Joyce Duncan shared that her daughter was accepted to the PhD program at Clemson. 2.2 Bill Flora noted that the online Ed.D. program in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis was ranked 9 th in the nation by Best Schools.



DISCUSSIONS

2.3 **Fred Alsop** informed the group that he has been contracted by a producer from PBS to film for a bird program in Southern Appalachia and East Tennessee.

3. Announcements

3.1 Executive Committee will meet with Dr. Noland tomorrow, February 27.

3.2 The Open Forum will be held on Wednesday, February 28, at 2:30 in the East Tennessee Room.

3.3 The Executive Committee will be meeting with public safety consultants on March 14. Please send issues that you would like to see addressed to Dr. Epps.

4. Approval of Minutes

Epps question whether there was any objection to approval of the minutes.

Minutes Approved

5. Informational Items

5.1 Student Success Symposium – Dr. Carla Warner

The Student Success Symposium will be held on Friday, April 6. Faculty are encouraged to attend the symposium and share the information with their departments. Dr. Betsie Griffin from the John N. Gardner Institute for Excellence in Undergraduate Education and Dr. Bethany Flora from ETSU will be presenting. In addition, Amy Moreland and Russ Deaton from the Tennessee Board of Regents will present a concurrent session on “Transfer Success for the Inaugural Cohort of Tennessee Promise”. Also, several community colleges will be bringing students to participate in the event. ETSU would like to increase the number of transfer students and improve their transition from community college to ETSU. The cost is \$20.

5.2 iBucs Innovation/Entrepreneurship Competition – Hendrix

The CBAT hosted the event last year. The event is similar to the show Shark Tank. The competition is open to all students, undergraduate and graduate. The event will be held at the Millennium Center on April 20. The submission deadline is March 15. Last year's winner developed an app called Pick Up and Play that is being used by students on campus. A business plan development tool is being developed to help students. **Gray** questioned whether the idea needs to be limited to ETSU. **Hendrix** replied that the proposals should be community related but it is not necessary to be related to ETSU.

5.3 Board of Trustees Report – Alsop

5.3.1 **Alsop** reported that the BOT toured Valleybrook on Thursday night before the meeting on Friday, February 23. Dean Samples and Dean Wykoff hosted the tour. The goal is to use Valleybrook as an incubator for public health ideas and a research and business innovation center. The Keynote speaker was Alan Levine from Ballad Health. His main message was to challenge the group to decide on several areas where ETSU could excel and seek funding opportunities. At the April meeting of the BOTs the College of Education will be working with the board and presenting ideas. During a meeting with Mark Costa, the CEO of Eastman, he too encouraged ETSU to be on the forefront of innovation.

5.3.2 Dr. Champouillon's appeal was presented to the BOT Executive Committee and they upheld Dr. Noland's decision to deny his employment at the university.

5.3.3 Human Relations presented an updated nepotism policy to the Finance and Administration Committee.

5.3.4 The Non Student Minors policy was discussed. Student Affairs is responsible for administering the program.



DISCUSSIONS

5.3.5 The Academic and Student Affairs Committee discussed a deferral plan that will allow students accepted into graduate programs to defer enrolling for up to one year.

5.3.6 The Provost presented a proposed amendment to the definition of faculty. The proposal is to add a 'Professor of Practice'. The position can be full or part time and the person would have expertise that is desirable to a department and the salary would be commensurate with experience. Given that people holding these positions would have the rank of Professor **Alsop** questioned whether they would be able to serve on tenure and promotion committees even though they are not in tenure track positions. **Epps** noted that the issue was also discussed in Academic Council and that Dean Depew stated that it is a common rank in colleges of business.

5.3.7 Revision of the dual enrollment provision was also discussed. Undergraduate Admissions has proposed to lower the dual enrollment GPA from 3.2 to 3.0, but increase the number of credits per term from seven to eleven. The change would remove the recurring need to grant students exceptions for falling below a 3.2 GPA and the need to be readmitted into programs.

5.3.8 A proposal to require mandatory advisement for all students who have earned less than 60 hours was discussed. The policy would also affect new students and students who have been readmitted to the university.

5.3.9 The BOT was asked to approve revisions to the 2017-2018 fiscal year audit plan.

5.3.10 The Academic and Student Affairs Committee discussed awarding Tenure and the rank of Professor to Dr. Noland in the Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis program. **Alsop** questioned Dr. Bach in regard to where the proposal originated. Dr. Bach explained that the proposal originated from ELPA several years ago and the department unanimously voted to award tenure and professor to Dr. Noland. Dr. Noland was not aware of the proposal and it was approved at the full meeting of the BOT.

5.3.11 Dr. Mike Hoff presented on how Tennessee Promise has affected ETSU. From 2015 to 2017, 311 Promise students enrolled at ETSU and the retention rate is 81%.

5.3.12 Live stream of the BOT meetings can be found here: <https://www.etsu.edu/trustees/livestream.php>. A link will also be placed on the Faculty Senate website.

5.3.13 **Stone** commented that ETSU does not have a mechanism to develop patents. **Alsop** replied Ballad does not have a written policy to provide money to ETSU; however, they will have money and recurring funds to be spent in the community.

5.4 Dr. Byington Nashville Trip

5.4.1 House bill 2115, sponsored by David Hawk, proposes to reduce the size of the UT board from 27 members to nine members. Moreover, the membership will not include faculty or student representation. The bill would also create a Local Advisory Board, which would include a faculty member. The bill was deferred for two weeks, until February 27.

5.4.2 House bill 1754 proposes that there can be no more than six hours of humanities and at least three hours of economics in the general education core. SACS is very clear that faculty are in charge of curriculum, not the legislature. SACS is also very clear that the role and responsibilities of a board of trustees is to prevent undue influence at the institution.

5.4.3 There is a bill proposing that dual enrollment is the purview of the community colleges. THEC will referee the bill and it should not rise to the level of legislative action.

6. Action Items

6.1 Committee on Committees



DISCUSSIONS

6.1.1 The Veterans Affairs Committee needs a replacement for Norma Honaker. The term is for one year and the position must be filled by a veteran. The person must be a faculty member but is not required to be a member of the Faculty Senate. A second term will expire in August. Thus, two seats are needed to be filled. This second seat will be a three-year term. **Mackara** suggested someone from the ROTC program may be willing to serve.

7. New Business

7.1 **Epps** noted that there is a need to separate policy from procedure. This will allow procedure to be changed without having to get approval from the BOT to change policy. Dr. Foley is chairing the Handbook Committee for Faculty Senate. The Tenure policy is 22 pages long and confuses policy and procedure in a number of places. **Foley** added that as approved by the BOT, the policy and appeals are in the same policy. The idea is to separate the two documents. The committee would like ask Academic Council to form an ad-hoc committee to review and clarify the policy. This is not a recommendation to change what faculty are required to do to obtain tenure. The requirements for tenure will remain at the departmental level.

7.1.1 **Stone** indicated that there is a volunteer/clinical track in the COM. These are not tenure track positions and there is a different promotion process. **Epps** replied that a conversation with Dr. Bishop and Dr. Bach was in regard to having a new definition of faculty policy; however, when Dr. Depew proposed the Professor of Practice position, which resulted in Dr. Bishop stating that the COM has additional appointments not covered by the new definition. **Gray** added that the clinical colleges should also be included in the discussion because they have multiple titles. **Littleton** further indicated that there should be instructions for how colleges form tenure committees.

7.1.2 **Flora** noted that there is not a clear delineation between minimum university standards and department requirements. Thus, college committees do not have direction on how to distinguish department from university standards, and the current policy does not make the distinction clear. **Alsop** added that the university tenure and promotion guidelines are the minimum requirements and departmental criteria can exceed university criteria, but not be less.

8. Old Business

8.1 Elections – McGarry

It is necessary to publicize the call for candidates by March 12. The elections committee requires candidate information (i.e., names and position statements) by March 26. Please email the names of the candidates to McGarry. **Epps** added that the elections should be completed by the last Faculty Senate meeting of the Spring semester.

9. Questions on reports/summaries from committees/working groups

A summary from the meeting with Dr. Bach will be sent.

10. Other Items

None

11. Comments from Guests

None

12. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Brown
Second: Peterson
Meeting Adjourned



Please notify Senator Eric Sellers (sellers@etsu.edu or 9-4476, Faculty Senate Secretary, 2017-2018) of any changes or corrections to the minutes. Web Page is maintained by Senator Doug Burgess (burgess@etsu.edu or 9-6691).

Feb. 26, 2018

Motion submitted by Senator Theresa McGarry: I move that the Senate issue a letter of concern on the model of the letter below. **Rationale:** The dissolution of the Classroom Utilization Committee is troubling because it is now unclear how faculty will influence control of classroom space, and on a more general level, the process whereby it was dissolved indicates a disturbing lack of transparency and disregard of shared governance principles. A response on our part is called for to show that these principles are important to us.

Statement of Concern Regarding Shared Governance and the Classroom Utilization Committee

In the spirit of increasing transparency and safeguarding the principles and mechanisms of shared governance at ETSU, the Faculty Senate intends by this statement to identify a problem area evoking serious concern and call this matter to the attention of President Noland. The issue at the heart of the matter is the recent handling of instructional space assignment, particularly with regard to the Classroom Utilization Committee (CUC).

Our understanding is that the CUC has been disbanded by the Provost. The two justifications given for this action were that the Technology Access Fee Advisory Committee's work was overlapping significantly with that of the CUC and that the Chair of the CUC indicated that the committee had not met in over a year.

The charge of the Technology Access Fee Advisory Committee, taken from <https://www.etsu.edu/its/classroom/special-projects/taf/tafcommittee.php>, is as follows.

- Advise the Provost on uses and proposed expenditures from the Technology Fee Committee.
- Solicit advice from campus constituencies.
- Report, as appropriate, its assessment of the effectiveness of the expenditures in enhancing the availability of technologies to students.

The charge of the CUC, as provided to the committee in an email from the Chair on 9/20/13, is as follows.

- Develop and recommend for review its operating policies and procedures.
- Recommend the establishment and revision of policies and procedures related to classroom utilization and course scheduling
- Review and recommend to the Provost regarding proposals to:
- Change the purpose of a classroom, either to make the space something other than a classroom or to significantly alter the nature, function, or instructional classification of the classroom
- Significantly change the seating capacity of a classroom
- Designate a classroom as "dedicated" for scheduling
- Designate a classroom as "first priority" for scheduling
- Schedule classes in time/day patterns that are non-standard
- Review issues related to the quality of instructional space, particularly those that affect the utilization of classrooms and recommend actions for improvement.
- Encourage innovation in course scheduling and the utilization of available space.

Caveat: The committee will NOT review or arbitrate disagreements about scheduling of individual classes and will not serve as an avenue for appealing administrative decisions.

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When these two charges are compared, no significant overlap is apparent. If such overlap existed in practice, we submit that an appropriate response would have been to bring the chairs of the two committees together, with other relevant people, and discuss what to change, considering alternatives such as revising the charges, asking the committees to change their practices, combining the committees, or numerous other possibilities.

Similarly, we do not find grounds for disbanding a committee in the fact of the committee's not having been convened for a year. The line of thinking seems to have been that if a committee has not been meeting, it is unimportant. However, numerous other reasons for a committee not having met when it was supposed to are possible. Similarly, we are aware that the CUC Chair expressed doubts to the Provost about the importance of the committee. This is, however, one person's opinion. Rather than eliminating a committee, a more appropriate response would have been to investigate further by, for example, talking to the committee members. The meeting between the Chair and the Provost has occasioned a significant amount of confusion and misinformation. For example, the Chair informed the committee members that "the university ha[d] a new space committee and all responsibilities for space (including classrooms) [would] belong to that committee," which has subsequently been disputed in administrative committee meetings.

Openness and clarity about governance are being seriously undermined in the handling of this situation. However, it is not only the general principle that gives rise to concern here, but also the specifics regarding this particular committee. The use of instructional space is of clear and immediate importance to the faculty of this university. The CUC was the mechanism whereby faculty influenced control of the space. As an example of its operation, in 2013 Women's Studies, despite having many minors and also some majors, had no designated or priority classroom, and the CUC was the venue in which this problem was addressed. Without the committee, it is unclear where faculty's concerns about instructional space will be addressed.

Therefore, we are asking for a response from President Noland on both a general and a specific level. How are faculty going to influence the use of classroom space in the university? Equally importantly, what explains the lack of transparency regarding the dissolution of the CUC, and how will transparency be assured in the future with regard to shared governance bodies?