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11-8-1999

1999 November 8 - Faculty Senate Minutes

Faculty Senate, East Tennessee State University

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MINUTES - November 8, 1999

Faculty Senate / East Tennessee State University
Last updated: November 12, 1999

UPCOMING MEETING: November 22, 1999 2:45 PM Culp Forum Room FOLLOWING MEETING:
December 6, 1999 2:45 PM
Culp Forum Room

Present: Alavi, Aston, Burgess, Burkett, Chenoweth, Collins, Deadman, Faust, Gallemore, Grover, Harvey, Hayes, Hemphill, Kerley, King, Logan, Mattioli, McKinney, Mehta, Miller H., Miller P., Obregon, Oppewal, Parker, Patrick, Perry, Poole, Reesman, Sluss, Stanley, Steadman, Stone, West, Williams.

Excused: Tollefson.

Absent: Butler, Chi, Johnson, Kelley, Mohon, Varney.

Guests: Dr. Bert Bach, Bruce Behringer, Dr. Bill Fisher, Jo Lobertini, Dr. Norma MacRae, Dr. Rich Ranker.

CALL TO ORDER:

With a quorum present, President Patrick called the meeting to order at 2:51 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the October 25, 1999 meeting were unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Committee Reports. Hemphill reported that Concerns and Grievances is looking at issues regarding e-mail privacy, campus printshop and physical plant. Parker reported that Development and Evaluation is reviewing SAI issues, including elimination of the current form and customization by college. The Committee is coordinating efforts with the Continuous Improvement Team on Faculty Evaluation (CITFE). Parker asked Senators to think about the issues and communicate ideas to the Committee. Deadman reported that Research, Creative and Scholarly Activities is looking at the revised Institutional Purpose regarding prominence of research in ETSU's mission. For Legislative Affairs, Patrick reported that sixty-five people attended the breakfast with area legislators on October 27. Four of the eleven invited representatives attended. Patrick thanked those providing assistance in organizing the meeting and reported that Dr. Stanton encouraged future meetings. Other committees with ongoing issues did not have matters to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

• Report on Community Partnerships for Faculty. Bruce Behringer provided the Faculty Senate with information about the Community Partnership Program to encourage more faculty participation. He discussed the assumptions underlying the program. Initially,

ETSU is a regional university which draws its strength from the region. In that respect, ETSU must get the community to feel like it is a part of the university. To accomplish that feat, we must understand the region's values in terms of higher education and communicate to the region what we are and what we want our students to be. The university must be willing to give back to the region from which it draws its strength. Next, Mr. Behringer explained that the program is based upon a GIVE-GET relationship. We must give something to the region with the expectation that we will get something back, and vice-versa. He stressed that the words "control" and "ownership" are not found in the language of the program. Instead, the word "partnership" governs the relationship. The last assumption is that we must see the Kellogg Grant as a strategy to reach the vision of becoming the regional university of choice. Mr. Behringer then discussed the principles behind the program's philosophy (community based, interdisciplinary, experiential learning, partnership). He summarized by discussing three Kellogg grants supporting adoption of community partnership strategy and emphasized various projects developed from community-identified themes. He also encouraged faculty involvement because the program promotes ETSU by making it highly visible in the community. (For more information, contact Bruce Behringer at x9-7809).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

• Patrickannounced the following date and location for the remaining meetings regarding changes in insurance coverages:

November 11 - Culp Center Meeting Room 6 (10:00 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.)

- Patrick announced that Dr. Wilsie Bishop will present the findings and recommendations of the Cultural Diversity Task Force to the Faculty Senate at the November 22, 1999 meeting.
- Patrick announced that Dr. Paul Stanton will hold an open discussion session with the Faculty Senate at the November 22, 1999 meeting.
- Dr. Bill Fisher discussed an age discrimination case recently argued before the United States Supreme Court but yet to be decided. Dr. Fisher explained that a group of professors in Florida claimed they were unfairly denied raises due to age, which is a violation of the federal Age Discrimination in Employment Act. He noted the decision could have significant implications in the area of higher education if the Court rules that public workers cannot sue the states that employ them for violations of the Act. Tennessee was among the twenty-three states asking the Court to rule that states cannot be taken to court for alleged age discrimination.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 3:46 p.m.

Please notify Michael McKinney (mckinney@etsu.edu or x9-5391) Secretary, 1999-2000, of any changes or corrections to the minutes. Webpage maintained by Stephen Patrick (patricks@etsu.edu or x9-6994) President, Faculty Senate, 1999-2000.