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2000 February 21 - Faculty Senate Minutes

Faculty Senate, East Tennessee State University

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MINUTES - February 21, 2000
Faculty Senate / East Tennessee State University
Last updated: February 29, 2000

UPCOMING MEETING: March 6, 2000 2:45 PM Culp Forum Room	FOLLOWING MEETING: March 27, 2000 2:45 PM Rogers-Stout, Room 101
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Present: Alavi, Aston, Burkett, Butler, Chenoweth, Chi, Deadman, Faust, Grover, Harvey, Hayes, Hemphill, Johnson, Kelley, Kerley, King, Logan, Miller H, Miller P, Obregon, Oppewal, Patrick, Perry, Poole, Reesman, Sluss, Stanley, Steadman, Stone, Tollefson, Williams.

Excused: Mattioli, McKinney, Parker, West.

Absent: Burgess, Collins, Gallemore, Mehta, Mohon, Varney.

Guests: Dr. Bert Bach, Dr. Bill Fisher, Dr. Norma MacRae, Dr. Rich Ranker, Dr. Michael Woodruff.

CALL TO ORDER:

With a quorum present, President Patrick called the meeting to order at 2:50 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the February 7, 2000 meeting were approved by voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

• **Committee Reports.**

- 1) **Academic Matters (Logan) - No report of activities during the past two weeks. The resolution regarding the transfer of grade point averages from other schools is scheduled for debate during the Academic Council meeting of February 24.**
- 2) **Committee on Committees (Chenoweth) reported that a vacancy on the International Programs Committee has been filled.**
- 3) **Concerns and Grievances (Stanley) - No report at this time.**
- 4) **Development and Evaluation (King) - No report at this time.**
- 5) **Elections and Bylaws (Miller) reported that it has been discussing the issue of allowing councils not represented on the Faculty Senate to have non-voting membership. A proposed amendment to the By-laws is being drafted for Faculty Senate consideration.**

6) Research, Creative and Scholarly Activities (Oppewal) - No report at this time.

- **Discussion of Research Topics and Issues.** Dr. Michael Woodruff, VP for Research, reported on a variety of issues and initiatives currently being undertaken by his office. He discussed the work of a TBR task force that is considering issues related to the copyrighting of scholarly and academic materials; especially as they surface in course work intended for Internet use. He complimented the work of Dr. Donna Russell, TBR Assistant General Counsel, who is working on this area. She will meet with the Senate on March 6, 2000. Her comments will also address issues related to patents sought by members of the academic community.

He also discussed the issue of academic misconduct, a subject not usually very visible at ETSU, but which nonetheless surfaces from time to time. There have been four instances of such conduct in the past two years. He also discussed budgetary matters within his office. He noted that the concept of a research foundation is moving along through the development stages and could be in place in the not too distant future.

Other matters discussed by Dr. Woodruff included start-up money for new faculty (and the sources of same) and how ETSU bookkeeping practices make us look unproductive when compared to other Regent's institutions even though we are actually in very good shape in this area. (For more information, contact Dr. Michael Woodruff at 232-5640).

- **Discussion of TBR Report Card.** Dr. Bert Bach presented senators with a copy of the most recent "report card" on ETSU issued by the Board of Regents, together with his response to its contents. The "report card" consists of 15 "accountability indicators" which compare TBR institutions to each other and to national norms. These indicators fall into four categories: student learning, academic programs, faculty productivity and financial accountability. Dr. Bach's response to many of the indicators is that they are imprecise, simplistic or erroneous measures. Thus, they present an inaccurate picture of the institution while appearing to be objective and concise. This response will be forwarded to the new chancellor for information purposes and is available from your Senate representative. There was discussion from the Faculty Senate regarding changes to CBASE testing.

OLD BUSINESS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Dr. Bill Fisher** provided senators with copies of several articles appearing in state newspapers that relate to current political initiatives that promise to affect higher education in Tennessee.

- **Patrick** announced the following:

SAFE Zone training (session 1) - Feb. 25 - Warf-Pickel, Room 503 (8:30 - 10:00 a.m.)

SAFE Zone training (session 2) - March 21 - D.P. Culp, Room 6 (8:00 - 9:30 a.m.)

Dr. Donna Russell of TBR will be a guest at the next Senate meeting (March 6)

Senate meeting scheduled for March 27 will be held in Rogers-Stout, Room 101 (2:45 p.m.)

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m. at which time standing committees met.

*Respectfully submitted,
David G. Logan, substitute secretary*

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 (patrick@etsu.edu or x9-6994) President, Faculty Senate, 1999-2000.