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1996 February 05 - Faculty Senate Agenda and Minutes

Faculty Senate, East Tennessee State University

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FACULTY SENATE

NEXT MEETING: February 5, 1996, 2:45 PM, Culp Forum

NOTE TO DEPARTMENT CHAIRS: Please share the Senate agenda, minutes, and any other enclosures with your faculty prior to the scheduled meeting. Senate meetings are open to all faculty.

AGENDA FOR SENATE MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVAL OF MINUTES January 22, 1995 meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Professional Liability Insurance Senators' comments for Concerns and Grievances Chair, Steven Berk.

Plus & Minus Grading System Senators' comments for Academic Matters Chair, Mark Hagy.

NEW BUSINESS

Steve Brown will present a proposed resolution to Senators.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Donn Gresso will announce two upcoming videoconferences

Electronic Visualization Feb. 22, 1996, 1-4 pm, 205 Wilson-Wallis Hall

Coping with Changing Campus Culture Feb. 29, 1996, 3-4:30 pm, 315 Warf Pickel

NAVE phone numbers are undergoing a change. Mark Hagy's numbers are now 547-4913 and 547-4900. Please make note of these numbers on your personal copy of the Faculty Senate roster.

ADJOURNMENT

The general Senate Meeting will adjourn, and senators will move into standing committee meetings. Please use meeting rooms 4A & 4B, the Forum, and other space available in the Culp Center for the standing committee meetings.

Please note: The meeting following the February 5, 1996 meeting will take place on February 19, 1996.

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

February 5, 1996

NEXT MEETING: February 19, 1996, 2:45PM, Culp Forum

CALL TO ORDER With a quorum present Donn Gresso called the meeting to order at 2:55 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES The January 22, 1996 minutes were approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Professional Liability Insurance Terry Tollefson commented that the committee had done an excellent job of preparing the report, and that the College of Education faculty appeared to be satisfied with the information in the report.

Plus & Minus Grading System Mark Hagy was unable to be at the meeting. John Quigley mentioned that students in Nursing have expressed concern about the +/- system. Senators will continue discussion of the report at the February 19, 1996 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Steve Brown presented a proposed resolution about faculty's academic freedom. The resolution will be discussed at the February 19, 1996 meeting. A copy of Dr. Brown's resolution and two related documents are herein attached.

Bonnie Stanley reported on the latest meeting of the TBR Faculty Subcouncil at which there had been a special session regarding tenure. She reported that Chancellor Smith supports tenure. He feels that faculty need to be more proactive in letting people know what faculty do. There appears to be a tendency for people in the community to assume that faculty work consists solely of the 12-15 credit hours taught. The public should be made aware that faculty duties extend far beyond the instructional load.

Dr. Stanley also reported that Chancellor Smith feels faculty should be active in the process of hiring excellent, tenurable faculty members and supporting them to tenure. Faculty who do not prove themselves worthy of tenure should not receive it, and their colleagues should also be active in this decision making process.

The funding of capital projects, such as the ETSU library, was also discussed at the Subcouncil meeting.

Mark Steadman asked Dr. Bert Bach whether the deadline for dropping without W had been adjusted because of the days missed due to the weather. Dr. Bach reported that, for MWF courses, we are already one class period under the minimum requirement of semester time for courses, but for courses with other meeting schedules we are still within the minimum requirements. If we miss more class for any of the schedules, it will become necessary to make up the time. The Academic Council will discuss the potential alternatives for possible changes in scheduling to adjust for the days missed due to inclement weather.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Donn Gresso announced two upcoming videoconferences

Electronic Visualization Feb. 22, 1996, 1-4 pm, 205 Wilson-Wallis Hall

Coping with Changing Campus Culture Feb. 29, 1996, 3-4:30 pm, 315 Warf Pickel

Donn Gresso announced he and John Quigley would be visiting each college in the university over the course of the semester, scheduled as follows:

2/12 School of Continuing Studies
2/28 College of Medicine 4:30 PM
2/29 College of Business 2:30 PM
3/20 College of Applied Science 3:00 PM
3/29 College of Public and Allied Health 1:15 PM

College of Nursing (to be scheduled)
College of Arts and Sciences (to be scheduled)
Sherrod Library (to be scheduled)
Division of Developmental Studies (to be scheduled)

ADJOURNMENT

The general Senate Meeting adjourned at 3:29 PM, and senators moved into standing committee meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

E. Jane Melendez

FACULTY SENATE ATTENDANCE 1995-1996

*Excused **Absent

App. Sci. & Tech.

Martin Barret
**Marian Clark
Jimmy Hahs
Keith Johnson

Business

Murray Anthony
Mike McKinney
John Quigley
Mark Steadman

Library

Stephen Patrick

Medicine

Steven Berk
**William Browder
**David Chi
**Gail Gallemore
*Leo Harvill
**Guha Krishnaswamy
**JoAnn Rosenfeld
**William Stone

Nursing

Lynn Abusamra
**Sally Crawford
**Lee Glenn
Sharon Rose

Arts & Sciences

Steve Brown
*Peggy Cantrell
Paul Kamolnick
*Anne LeCroy
**Jack Mooney
George Poole
*Steven Ralston
Naill Shanks
Bonny Stanley
Ed Williams

Dev. Studies

Jane Melendez

Education

Donn Gresso
*Norma MacRae
John Taylor
Terrence Tollefson
Janis Weedman
Starlet Williams

Public & Allied Health

*Julie Harrill Bowers
*Mark Hagy
**Albert Iglar
*Donna Robbins

DRAFT

PROPOSED FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States offers protection for free speech to all citizens, additional measures are necessary to assure protection of this right within the educational environment.

WHEREAS, tenure is granted to faculty as a protection against political interference and to promote the open exchange of ideas as a vital component of the educational process, we, the faculty of East Tennessee State University, reaffirm the necessity of tenure.

WHEREAS, legislation has been proposed within the Tennessee House of Representatives that threatens removal of tenure for discussing particular ideas, we reassure our students that the faculty of East Tennessee State University will not allow intimidating tactics to dissuade the free and open exchange of ideas in our classrooms, research, writing, or selection of texts.

AND, WHEREAS, the principle of open expression is fundamental to higher education, we vow to our students to carry out our professional duties and to honor the principle of academic freedom regardless of the substance of ideas that may form the basis of any particular attacks on said principle.

This is the abbreviated information from the Tennessee Legislative Record:

HB 2972 - Whitson (et al) 18 co-sponsors
SB 3229 - Burks (Monterey, S district 15)

EDUCATION - Provides for suspension or dismissal of any teacher or administrator teaching theory of evolution as fact rather than theory. Amends TCA Section 49-5-501 and Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 10.

1/31/96 - H Filed for intro.

1/02/96 - S P2C (passed second reading), ref to S Ed

HB co-sponsors:

Stulce, Arnold (D) dist 31, Soddy-Daisy
Roach, Dennis (R) dist 35, Rutledge
Bell, Joe W (D) dist 46, Lebanon
Burchett, Tim (R) dist 18, Knoxville
Wood, Bobby (R) dist 26, Chattanooga
Sharp, Jack (R) dist 30, Chattanooga
Gunnels, Doug E (R) dist 21, Lenoir City
Davis, Ronald E (R) dist 11, Newport
Byrd, Dan (D) dist 99, Bartlett
Pinion, Philip (D) dist 77, Union City
Ramsey, Ron (R) dist 1, Blountville
Jones, Ulysses Jr (D) dist 98, Memphis
Towns, Joe Jr (D) dist, Memphis 84
McKee, Bob (R) dist 23, Athens
Ford Stancil (R) dist 10, Talbott
Napier, J B (D) dist 64, Columbia
McAfee, Bill H (R) dist 27, Chattanooga
Jones Rufus E (D) dist 86, Memphis

Members of the Senate Education Committee:

9-A Legislative Plaza; 615-741-3038

Womack, Andy (Chair) (D) Dist 16, Murfreesboro
Leatherwood, Tom (Vice-Chair) (R) Dist 32, Bartlett
Burks, Tommy (Secretary) (D) Dist 15, Monterey
Atchley, Ben (R) Dist 6, Knoxville
Carter, Bobby (R) Dist 27, Jackson
Crowe, Rusty (R) Dist 3, Johnson City
Dixon, Roscoe (D) Dist 33, Memphis
Elsea, Gene (R) Dist 13, Spring City
Springer, Kenneth N (D) Dist 25, Centerville

SENATE BILL 3229
By Burks

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-5-501 and Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 10, relative to the teaching of the theory of evolution.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 10, is amended by adding the following new section thereto:

Section 49-6-1012. No teacher or administrator in a local education agency shall teach the theory of evolution except as a scientific theory. Any teacher or administrator teaching such theory as fact commits insubordination, as defined in Section 49-5-501(a)(6), and shall be dismissed or suspended as provided in Section 49-5-511.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-5-501(a)(6), is amended by redesignating subdivisions (C) and (D) to be subdivisions (D) and (E) and by adding a new subdivision (C), as follows:

(C) Violation of the provisions of Section 49-6-1012, relative to the teaching of evolution;

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.