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Faculty Senate Agendas and Minutes

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1996 February 19 - Faculty Senate Agenda and Minutes

Faculty Senate, East Tennessee State University

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FACULTY SENATE

NEXT MEETING: February 19, 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 February 5, 1996 meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Plus & Minus Grading System Continued discussion and closure.

Proposed Resolution about academic freedom for faculty Steve Brown presented a written resolution about academic freedom for faculty at the February 5, 1996 meeting. Discussion of the resolution will take place at the February 19, 1996 meeting. A copy of the resolution and two related documents have been attached to the February 5, 1996 Faculty Senate Minutes which accompany this agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Committee Chairs who wish to report on committee activities are invited to do so.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jack Mooney has formatted the Faculty Senate minutes so they can be put on the web. They should be appearing soon. Dr. Mooney has also sent a summary of the minutes to University Relations to be published in the ETSU Accent where they will appear on a regular basis.

ADJOURNMENT

Please note: The meeting following the February 19, 1996 meeting will take place on March 4, 1996.

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

February 19, 1996

NEXT MEETING: March 4, 1996, 2:50PM, Culp Forum

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES The February 5, 1996 minutes were approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Plus & Minus Grading System During discussion a motion to amend the Report of the Academic Matters Committee on the +/- Grading System at ETSU to include a statement that the +/- grading system is a policy of the university to be implemented by all faculty failed. It was noted that such a statement would not be appropriate as a part of the report, and that the statement would be more fitting within a different context. A motion to approve the report as the Academic Matters Committee had written it passed with one dissenting vote.

Proposed Resolution about academic freedom for faculty The resolution about academic freedom for faculty previously presented by Steve Brown was discussed. A motion to limit discussion to twenty minutes passes with two senators dissenting. During discussion several editorial changes were suggested, and an ad hoc committee agreed to leave the room to incorporate the changes in the resolution. The committee returned with the edited resolution, which was read aloud to senators. The edited version of the resolution was approved with five dissenting votes. It was agreed that the approved resolution would be sent to all Faculty Senates in TBR & UT.

NEW BUSINESS

Jimmy Hahs, Chair of the Faculty Development and Evaluation Committee reported that he had attended a workshop on accountability at Kansas State University. His impression was that our ETSU FAP/FAR/FAE is a better model than the ones which were presented at the workshop. The potential problem with our system is that it may not always be implemented appropriately. The Faculty Development and Evaluation Committee will soon send out a questionnaire for faculty and chairs in order to gather information on the ways in which the FAP/FAR/FAE is implemented in each academic unit. Dr. Hahs and colleagues will participate in upcoming workshops that will be conducted for chairs and faculty by the Teaching and Learning Center.

Stephen Berk, Chair of the Concerns and Grievances Committee reported that the committee has been asked to review the makeup of search committees for department chairs. The Faculty Handbook policy does not coincide with the Human Resources guidelines, and it does not reflect the current practice for forming search committees. The committee will be studying possible ways in which the sets of guidelines can be brought into agreement.

Mark Hagy, Chair of the Academic Matters Committee reported that some Nursing students have sent him a petition stating that the +/- grading system is unfair. However, the statistics generated by Dr. Jack Sanders indicate that Nursing students are not being penalized by the system. The committee will inform the students of the results from the study, which indicates that Nursing has demonstrated an overall increase in GPA since the implementation of the +/- system. Donn Gresso mentioned that he will send a letter to the faculty member who related the students' concern to the Academic Matters Committee, informing them that the problem is an internal one that should be handled in the College.

The Committee will share the Report of the Academic Matters Committee on the +/- grading system with the SGA.

The Academic Matters Committee has been charged with reviewing the University General Core Curriculum. Dr. Hagy has discovered that there is a committee already in the process of the review. He feels there is no reason to duplicate their efforts. The Academic Matters Committee will follow the progress of the review committee and request that a member of the committee share their findings with the Senate.

Mark Steadman, Chair of the Committee on Committees reported that the Committee has the list of Standing Committees to be sent out for nominations and/or volunteers for membership. He does not have the list for Advisory Committees, and Dr. Bert Bach said he would look into the matter. The committee will follow the established procedure for sending out requests for nominations and/or volunteers for committee membership.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Donn Gresso reported that some time ago ETSU had a cable channel which has since gone by the wayside. Jack Mooney has suggested that the university again consider the Public Service Channel as a channel of our own with which we can stay in touch second-by-second across the community. Dr. Nicks has taken that idea and said that he would be doing some investigating about the possibility. He felt it had a lot of merit and could have been very helpful to our students and faculty during our recent weather concern.

Donn Gresso announced that Jack Mooney is summarizing the Faculty Senate minutes into a format to be used on computer through the NET and Worldwide Web. Everyone will then have access to the Faculty Senate minutes. A summarized version of the Faculty Senate minutes will appear in the ETSU Accent on a regular basis. Dr. Gresso asked Senators to inform their colleagues of the availability of the information.

In regard to the snow day issue, Donn Gresso reported that Academic Council and President's Council decided time missed thus far is to be made up by individual professors with additional activities that they feel are warranted for their students in their classes. There will be no special makeup time. If there is one more MWF missed day, the makeup day will be on Saturday, March 30. If we miss a Monday, all day and evening classes will be made up on March 30. If we miss a Wednesday or Friday, only day classes will be made up on March 30. If we miss more than one more day, new arrangements will have to be made.

The Executive Committee has expressed appreciation to the Physical Plant and all of the workers who worked days, nights, and weekends. Dr. Gresso sent a letter of appreciation to the Physical Plant, and he has received a letter from Jim Bowman in appreciation of the sentiment.

When asked about the process of making decisions about canceling classes, Dr. Bach explained that at about five in the morning the Physical Plant calls Dr. Bach to inform him of the conditions and possibilities. Dr. Bach confers with Dr. Stanton to discuss the situation and reach a joint opinion. Dr. Bach then calls Dr. Nicks to inform him of the joint opinion. Dr. Nicks makes a decision and if classes are to be canceled, he informs Fred Sauceman of University Relations.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM.

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

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

David Chi

**Gail Gallemore
*Leo Harvill
**Guha Krishnaswamy
**JoAnn Rosenfeld
William Stone

Public & Allied Health

Julie Harrill Bowers
Mark Hagy
Albert Iglar
*Donna Robbins