

East Tennessee State University

Digital Commons @ East Tennessee State University

Faculty Senate Agendas and Minutes

Agendas and Minutes

3-17-1997

1997 March 17 - Faculty Senate Agenda and Minutes

Faculty Senate, East Tennessee State University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://dc.etsu.edu/faculty-senate-agendas-minutes>



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Faculty Senate, East Tennessee State University, "1997 March 17 - Faculty Senate Agenda and Minutes" (1997). *Faculty Senate Agendas and Minutes*. 430.

<https://dc.etsu.edu/faculty-senate-agendas-minutes/430>

This Agendas and Minutes is brought to you for free and open access by the Agendas and Minutes at Digital Commons @ East Tennessee State University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Senate Agendas and Minutes by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ East Tennessee State University. For more information, please contact digilib@etsu.edu.

Faculty Senate Agenda
Monday, March 17, 1997
2:45 PM / Culp Center Forum Room

GENERAL NOTE: The Faculty Senate Homepage has a slightly new ULR address. The new address is: "http://www.etsu-tn.edu/senate/". The white paper on academic tenure has been added to the menu.

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:** March 3, 1997
- **GUEST SPEAKERS**
 - Dr. Bert Bach, discussion and review of white paper on tenure policy
 - Mr. Richard Yount, discussion of problems with student loans
- **ELECTION PROCESS BEGINS - Nominations for Executive Committee - Robbins**
- **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
 - Academic Matters - Barrett
 - Committee on Committees - Steadman
 - Concerns and Grievances - Berk
 - Development and Evaluation - Clark
 - Elections - Robbins
 - Research - Shanks / Stone
- **OLD BUSINESS**
- **NEW BUSINESS**
- **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - **REMINDER:** Call for nominations for 1997-98 Faculty Senate Executive Committee from March 17 until March 31. Elections will be held at the last Faculty Senate meeting on April 14. Please contact Senator Donna Robbins (x4483) if you would like to volunteer or nominate someone for one of the open positions.
 - **UPCOMING SPEAKERS:** March 31 - Dr. Peggy Cantrell, faculty matriculation in graduate programs
 - **ADJOURNMENT**



Return to [ETSU Faculty Senate Homepage](http://www.etsu-tn.edu/senate/)

Webpage maintained by Stephen Patrick, Secretary, Faculty Senate, 1996-97

FACULTY SENATE
East Tennessee State University
MINUTES - MARCH 17, 1997

Last updated: 24 March 1997

**UPCOMING MEETING: March 31,
1997, 2:45PM, Culp Forum Room**

**FOLLOWING MEETING: April 14,
1997, 2:45PM, Culp Forum Room**

Present: Abusamra, Barrett, Berk, Bowers, Brown, Chi, Crawford, Drew, Johnson, King, LeCroy, McKinney, Melendez, Miller, Mooney, Palmer, Patrick, Quigley, Robbins, Rose, Shanks, Stanley, Stanton, Steadman, Stone, Taylor, Tollefson.

Excused: Clark, Iglar, Kamolnick, MacKay, MacRae, Ralston, Weedman, Williams.

Absent: Boland, Browder, Gallemore, Harvill, Krishnaswamy, Robinson.

CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present President John Quigley called the meeting to order at 2:48 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The March 3, 1997 minutes were approved by acclamation.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Dr. Bert Bach began the meeting with a review the White Paper on tenure. When the issue of tenure review came up several years ago, several concerns were expressed by the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate. At that time some candidates for tenure encountered problems in trying to anticipate the weighting of criteria during their review. According to anecdotal evidence, the problem was the apparent lack of consistency in applying the criteria among candidates in the same department at each level of review, as well as inconsistency in applying the criteria from year to year. A second area of concern surrounded the preferences by individuals for committee service and when/where did committee service evolve into policy for a particular department or school. A third area of concern focused on how does the annual evaluation play through the process and to what extent was there consistency among the departments as to how the evaluation is applied and adequately reflects the faculty members progress and service. Bach stated that all applicable policies relating to these issues were studied, including TBR, ETSU faculty handbook, as well as documents used by various Deans.

The list of revisions (White Paper, page 4) includes a new section, #2.2.7.2, which relates to the possibility of weighting criteria with various departments as they relate to specific discipline, and that the criteria be documented in approved unit mission statements and policies. This section would serve as an extension of the preceding sections, #2.2.7 (a definition of criteria) and #2.2.7.1 (a listing of criteria and disclaimer that the list is not exhaustive). Bach further stated that the evaluation throughout the various levels of review may result in differing opinions, whereas review committees and administrators, are making of decisions in good faith while using different sets of criteria they perceive as being policy.

The second insertion (section 2.2.9.2) relates to tenure being awarded according to the quality of the individual in light of the criteria and the need of the college and university. The implication of this policy is that these two criteria has been confused. The staffing of a specific department needs to be viewed as a long-term process along with the resources of the department. Departments should develop procedures with their faculty and communicate these needs concerning long-term staffing with newer faculty in policy. Such plan and policy should be reviewed periodically, remembering that staffing needs criteria should be flexible. The next two revisions are only clarification of existing sections (#2.2.18.11 and #2.2.18.13. The last revision is a rewording of a sentence in section 2.2.18.16.

Several comments were made. Among them Steve Brown stated that the Criminal Justice Department has created a model policy that they would be willing to share with other departments. Bach further stated that while departments need to propose clearer standards in regard their expectations, criteria should relate to the overall good of the institution and should be interrelated to both department and institution. He stated that Syracuse University has developed a notable model concerning tenure.

On behalf of the Concerns and Grievance Committee, Steven Berk moved that the Senate accept the policy statement on academic tenure, entitled, *Responsibility, Authority, and Mission: A White Paper* as written with the specific changes in the policy to be stated in the Faculty Handbook. The motion was accepted unanimously. Quigley thanked the senators for being prepared to discuss the white paper.

Richard Yount spoke on tracking unofficial student withdrawals. A copy of the proposal was included in the agenda packet. Yount stated that the federal government is tightening financial regulation of Title IV funds. Institutions must reimburse funds of those students on Title IV scholarships who stopped attending, never attended, and did not officially drop a course or officially withdraw from the class.

In an interesting point, Yount stated that roughly two-thirds of students receive Title IV funding, thus complicating the tracking of unofficially withdrawn students. Several comments and observations were made by senators regarding to cracking down on chronic abusers. In response, Yount said that this proposal would help define paramaters on monitoring the problem of dropouts and that he hoped that faculty would encourage students to officially drop a course(s) in order to substantiate a date of withdrawal. Students on scholarship are reviewed on performance annually. This information is passed on to other financial aid officers if the student transfers and tries to receive funds elsewhere.

On behalf of the Academic Matters Committee, Martin Barrett moved that the Senate accept the *Draft Proposal Tracking Unofficial Withdrawal and Last Date of Attendance, dated February 26, 1997*. The motion was accepted unanimously.

ELECTION PROCESS

Donna Robbins opened the floor for nominations for elections to the offices of Vice-President/President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Faculty Senate for the 1997-98 academic year, and serving under the leadership of E. Jane Melendez, incoming President. A slate of candidates was proposed by the Executive Committee which were: Steven Berk, Vice-President/President-Elect; Stephen Patrick, Secretary; and Mark Steadman, Treasurer. Robbins asked if there were any additional nominations at this time. There being none, Robbins asked the nominees to stand and be recognized. Senators were reminded that other nominations will be accepted anytime between now and the March 31st meeting. Candidates will be permitted to make statements to the Senate as to their reason for seeking these positions. Additional nominations can be made to Robbins at PO Box 70674 or x4483.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Elections. Robbins thanked Stephen Patrick for his help in setting up webpages with information on each senator. She asked that senators submit a brief statement about themselves to Patrick for inclusion on the webpages, as well as approval for him to include their ETSU i.d. photo to help identify the each senator.

Academic Matters. Barrett stated that the Senate has just approved the *Draft Proposal Tracking Unofficial Withdrawal and Last Date of Attendance, dated February 26, 1997*. They have no additional issues to review at this time.

Committee on Committees. Steadman announced that the letters regarding faculty standing committee assignments should be forthcoming.

Concerns and Grievances. Berk stated that with the approval of the White Paper all that remains is the review of section 1.9 in the Faculty Handbook regarding departmental chair search committees. A review committee has been named with Norma MacRae as Chair. In other matters, the sub-committee will look into a grievance concerning the smoking policy at their next meeting.

Development and Evaluation. LeCroy reported for Clark that the committee was still looking at the relationship between the survey on fap/far/fae and the student evaluation forms. There seems to be a discrepancy between the criteria listed in the Faculty Handbook and the criteria/terms used on the FAE. Clark is preparing the cover letter to the summary report from the committee.

Research. Stone reported that the committee is looking at the plans for the Wellness Center and will work with the Concerns and Grievance Committee on the smoking policy issue. He announced that on April 2-3 there will be presentations of student research projects. The two-day event will include a luncheon followed by a program featuring Dr. Richard St. Clair.

OLD BUSINESS

Tollefson reported that the Promotion and Tenure Appeals Committee is set. Rebecca Isbell will represent the College of Education, Phil Scheurmann will represent the College of Public and Allied Health, the representative for the College of Nursing will be decided soon. Dossiers for those faculty members requesting intervention by the Appeals Committee will be kept at the ELPA offices and committee members can review them there. The committee is hoping to begin meeting on April 2.

NEW BUSINESS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bill Fisher reported that the TBR recently met in Morristown and announced proposed 4.28% cuts in funding. An article in *The Tennessean* outlined the potential revenue loss impact by various institutions. ETSU is looking at roughly a \$2 million dollar reduction, as compared to \$4 million at University of Memphis and approximately \$2.7 million at MTSU. UT-Knoxville is scheduled for almost \$6.5 million reduction. In other matters, the private housing plan has been approved for ETSU. This will involve the construction of a 300 bed complex and will operate initially under a 5-year management plan. Additionally, it appears that the increase in the number of options requested by the ORP will go through. The last item concerned a proposed post-retirement service program by TBR that will parallel the plan adopted by the University of Tennessee. Tennessee Tech has requested additional information concerning the plan. Quigley added that because the TBR budget has not been finalized and the projected budgets cuts, one will have to take a wait and see attitude on this and other matters.

Quigley reminded senators of the upcoming array of programs being sponsored by the Teaching and Learning Center. Among those making presentations are faculty senators Leo Harvill and Phil Miller. If anyone is interested in attending these meetings contact the TLC.

ADJOURNMENT

: The senate adjourned at 4:15 pm.



Return to [ETSU Faculty Senate Homepage](#)