MINUTES

TSU Faculty Senate **Oct. 21, 2010** **2:40 p.m.** **Room 302** **Floyd Payne**

Senators Present: Senator Young-Seigler (Biological Sciences), Senator Lewis (Health Science/Dental Hygiene), Senator Robert Harrison (Agriculture Sciences), Senator Mohammad Arbabshirani (AEAO), Senator Onyebueke (Engineering), Senator Lamarque (Communications), Senator Browne (Arts & Sciences/HGPS), Senator VanHooser (Library), Senator Brown (Nursing), Senator Jones (HPSS), Senator Montgomery (Criminal Justice), Senator David (Music), Senator Al-Masum (Chemistry), Senator S. Sathananthan (Physics/Math), Senator Keel (Engineering), Senator Foxx (Health Administration/Health Sciences), Senator Ganter (Arts & Sciences/Biology), Senator McBride (Arts & Sciences/Art), Senator Shelton (Arts & Sciences /Psychology), Senator Pennington (Business)

Guests present: Raymond Richardson (Arts & Sciences/Math), Jacqueline Mitchell (Arts & Sciences/Communications), Mary Ann Asson-Batres (Arts & Sciences/Biology)

1. **Call to order:**

   The meeting was called to order at 3:50 p.m. by Faculty Senate Chair-Elect Kimberley LaMarque.

2. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the August and September meetings were approved.

3. **New Business**

   Dr. McEnerney updated us on the budget, academic prioritization, and the presidential search.

   Presidential search: no search process is in place. No interim president has been named. Academic Affairs will continue the business of the university. Vice Presidents will continue to conduct business effectively. Academic Affairs will continue to address tenure and curriculum issues.

   Budget cuts: There is a 6 million dollar cut in the budget. Out of that 6 million, Academic Affairs must cut 3.7 million. Cynthia Brooks gave the option of taking it from operating and travel or manage it some other way. Academic Affairs has chosen the latter option. Academic Affairs took as much as they could from their central budget. For example, the catalog will no longer be printed. Dr. Cade has been asked to decrease the number of commencements. Academic Affairs took money out of the adjunct budget. Academic Affairs has done as much as they could centrally to lessen the effect on units. Each unit has been asked to come up with a certain level of budget cuts. These have been received and will be presented to the president and cabinet. Academic Affairs has a goal of supporting the faculty by having 50% of the budget to go to instruction, which is not the case now. Right now it is 47 to 48 percent. It should be more than 50 percent. Academic Affairs is cutting in non instructional areas. It also tried to negotiate a lesser share of the budget cut because performance funding has gone up. We have gotten 9 extra points. Each one of those points is worth 25 thousand dollars. They have also negotiated a few other things as well and it is not known if they will be accepted. Enrollment is flat or exactly the same as last year. The number of our out-of-state students is decreasing. These students are our stronger students with higher grade point averages and higher ACT scores. These students have higher retention and graduation rates. The loss of out of state students has affected our budget.

Complete College Act: We will have to implement various aspects which will affect our budget. We have to have a uniform transfer curriculum. Every student who goes to a community college can transfer credits earned this or any other university. Not only do we need a uniform curriculum, we need to implement a uniform numbering system: a four digit prefix and the four numbers following the prefix have to be uniform throughout the state. This is an administrative task we need to do in order to meet the requirements of the Complete College Act. Curricular modifications will have to occur.

Curriculum has been established by groups of faculty across the state to be uniform. Revenue from online programs has gone up every year. The Compete College Act states that there can be no duplication. If we want to offer a B.A. in Psychology online, but another university wants to have it online, they think it is a duplication of effort. There is a great potential for growth in online degrees. There seems to be some conflicting issues. Dr. McEnerney hopes to work with Chancellor Morgan to see it this can be changed.

Our budget formula is going to be tricky. It will be based on the graduation and retention rate. We are not doing well on these and it will affect our funding. We have to choose sub populations and how well we do in recruiting and graduating these sub populations. Some of these sub populations include, African American men, STEM, and low income populations. We need to choose 5 of these that will be measured against Tennessee State. We have to determine which one of these groups will be most successful. Should we choose one we are already doing well with because we know we can maintain or do we want to choose one we are not doing well in and hope to improve? Dr. McEnerny has been working with the deans to come up with some ideas. She needs faculty input as well.

Program prioritization: The task force has finished its work. The results were presented at the faculty institute. Each program was put into 4 categories. The president asked Academic Affairs to take this report and to act on it. We delegated that down to the faculty. Action plans were created by each unit. Those are now being reviewed by a cross campus committee. Several university-wide committees were asked to select representatives. The committee consists of a representative from the faculty senate, graduate faculty, curriculum, academic planning, and general education committee. The committee also includes a graduate student, undergraduate student, alumnus and a staff member. Dr. William Butler is the alumnus is on the committee. He retired as dean of Denistry at Meharry Medical College. The action plans have been turned in and the committee is taking a look at them. They are to compile them and make recommendations to Academic Affairs.

A question was asked about faculty response to the Prioritization Report. Have these responses been considered? Dr. McEnerney's understanding is that the report went to the president and he accepted that report Another question was raised: Why bring it before the faculty if the response of the full faculty has nothing to do whether the report goes modified or unmodified? Many faculty members have been spending a lot of time because the conclusions were flawed. Are we going to have a chance to see a modification of that report? This would be a question for the president since this was his task force. More than likely the report is not going to be revisited. What is done with the report is under the purview of Academic Affairs.

Motions

A motion was made that we put a vote before the faculty regarding the term of Dr. Asamani. This also needs to be done for future chairs as well as all Senate officers.

A motion was made that we elect members at large to serve on the executive committee. We also need to elect a parliamentarian-elect. We did not have an election sheet so it was decided to conduct the election verbally. Senator Pennington and Senator Onybueke have been nominated to serve as at large members of the executive committee. Senator Montgomery was nominated to be chair of the research committee. The Parlimentarian-elect nominee is Graham Matthews. There was a motion made to approve the slate.

Point of order: Senators who are nominated to these positions need to have served on the Senate for three years. The candidates listed have served for more than three years without a break.

Nominees were approved and seconded. The possibility of new Senators being on the slate was raised.

No motions were voted upon due to the lack of a quorum.

Senator Lamarque suggested that the Senate should take up the issue of prioritization. The faculty should not be shut out of the decision-making. We need to purse this through the proper channels. According to the Constitution, we have the right to make recommendations to the president or whoever is making decisions on our behalf. if they don't take our recommendations they have to submit back to us in writing why they are not acting on our recommendations. We need to contact Dr. Reddy and the president.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.