Minutes for the meeting of the Tennessee State University Faculty Senate, 12/11/2014

In Attendance:

Michael Catanzaro, Liberal Arts, English
Deo Chimba, Engineering, Civil Engineering
Sam Comer, CAHNS, Agricultural Sciences
Sean Daniels, Liberal Arts, Music
Xuemei Ge, Library
John Kelly, Engineering, Math and Physics (Secretary pro-tem)
Lewis Laska, Buisness, Accounting
Jacqueline Lewis, COHS, Nursing
Vaidotas Lukosius, Business, Business Administration
John Miglietta, Liberal Arts, History etc.
Rebecca Moore, CPSUA, Social Work
Nsoki Phambu, CAHNS, Chemistry
Sachin Shetty, Engineering, Electrical Engineering

Amir Shirkodaie, Engineering, Mechanical Engineering

Note: the meeting never attained a quorum, so no binding votes were taken

Item 1: Since Secretary is not able to attend this meeting, a Secretary pro-tem must be selected. John Kelly assumes duties with no objections.

Item 2: No additions are made to the agenda

Item 3: A discussion is started on the role of Faculty Senate committees, especially our rights and powers in relation to the administration. For example, the Professional Development committee does not appear to have any control over travel funds. Also, the administration has assumed power over the curriculum committee as well. It is agreed that the Faculty Senate Chairperson will have a discussion with Dr. Hardy about the role of Faculty Senate committees. It is noted that most committees finally have a full membership.

Item 4: A new IT policy is that only IT personnel have installation and administrator privileges, even on computers purchased through research grants. This is unacceptable, as it limits the ability of researchers to install and use software necessary to the grant. A suggestion is made that there be (at least) a faculty member in each department or building that has administrative privileges for all computers in that area. Some people voiced concerns that faculty are not really properly trained for this. The best solution would be that computers purchased on grants be exempt from this policy.

Item 5: A discussion of the proposed office hours policy is held. It is noted that the 1989 Faculty Handbook does specify the 10 hour number. It is decided that an electronic vote will be held on this and the other business of the meeting.

Meeting is adjourned early due to lack of quorum.