

Minutes for the meeting of the Tennessee State University Faculty Senate, 3/19/2015

In Attendance:

Jane Asamani, Education, Teaching and Learning
Beverly Brown, COHS, Nursing
Michael Catanzaro, Liberal Arts, English
Chun-da Chen, Business, Econ and Finance
Deo Chimba, Engineering
Sam Comer, CAHNS, Agricultural Sciences
John Dossett, Education, Psychology
Sean Daniels, Liberal Arts, Music
Xuemei Ge, Library and Media
Tim Jones for Essameldin Hamido, COHS
John Kelly, Engineering, Math and Physics (Secretary pro-tem)
Vaidotas Lukosius, Business, Business Administration
John Miglietta, Liberal Arts, History etc.
Rebecca Moore, CPSUA, Social Work
Kushal Patel, COHS
Nsoki Phambu, CAHNS, Chemistry
Amir Shirkhodaie, Engineering, Mechanical Engineering
Robert Smith, Criminal Justice
Tina Smith, COHS, SPTH
Eric Vogel, Education, EDAD
Artenzia Young-Seigler, CAHNS, Biology

Meeting called to order at 2:40 PM.

Item added to agenda, Item 7e, Deterioration of campus facilities, especially Hazeal Welton Plaza (Sen. Shirkhodaie)

Size of email inbox is discussed; Dr. Young-Seigler informs us that a larger inbox can be had by simply emailing Tim Warren.

The minutes for November, December, January, and February are all approved unanimously (with minor edits.)

Committee Reports

Welfare Committee: The welfare committee chair and chair elect met the Dr. Hardy to discuss the faculty leave policy; they will meet with him again later this semester to hammer out the details.

Research Committee: Dr. Shirkhodaie has been trying to meet with the VP for Research, but their schedules have not been compatible yet.

IT Committee: Dr. Kelly reported that interest is not high for this committee, and wondered with the new Information Technology Advisory Committee whether this committee is redundant. Dr. Young-Seigler recommended that the committee work on getting websites updated, with committee members acting as contacts for individual units and colleges.

Dr. Young-Seigler discusses the Faculty Senate account at the TSU Foundation. Donations can be made directly to the account, and Dr. Young-Seigler encourages us to do so. The Foundation account money can be used for travel related to faculty senate, but must be approved by Dr. Young-Seigler.

Updates

The proposal for the reduction of office hours is approved in principal, but we need to make a detailed proposal for guidelines. 10 office hours are still the rule; however, the new policy would mandate only one hour physically in the office for each lecture class. It's not a reduction in office hours, but a redistribution. Hours not spent specifically in the faculty member's office are now called conference hours, and could be via email, message boards, and other means of communication. We affirm that we will not write any sort of tracking of conference hours in the guidelines. Because Dr. Catanzaro wrote the original proposal, he took a few new suggestions and will present a set of guidelines at the next meeting.

RODP exam schedules are in error, but they are in the process of being fixed.

Parking: Dr. Young-Seigler met with Curtis Johnson about parking. They are testing parking gates for a few lots now. Right now, the system is running in the Elliot Hall parking lot. Only faculty members who have purchased reserved spaces will be allowed to park in that lot at all. Dr. Young-Seigler encourages senators and other faculty members to bring concerns directly to Curtis Johnson. Mr. Johnson informed Dr. Young-Seigler that Elliot Hall Parking lot will be reserved only from now on, and that he does not need to inform faculty of that. Any communications regarding parking send to Mr. Johnson should be copied to Jane Jackson and President Glover.

The faculty salary schedule study update is completed; a few faculty members had salary adjustments, and will cost the Univeristy \$12,000 this year. July 1st is the deadline for the update to the Staff salary schedule.

Discussion Items

We are looking at a draft post tenure review policy, and senators are encouraged to review the documents for discussion at next meeting and also to share with our faculty.

Dr. Young-Seigler informs us that the Nominations and Appointments committee needs a chair to put together a ballot for Senate elections, which happen in the Spring semester.

Dr. Comer submits election process for new senators (which happens in Fall) and the selection of new committee chairs and elected positions (which happens in Spring) makes it impossible for new Senators to participate in that process. He suggests that the election of Senators happen in

the spring. This is especially an issue with the current process that says Senators are elected for 2 years and then can renew for another 2 years.

Dr. Young-Seigler requests that any student retention plans to discuss be forwarded to her.

Dr. Migletta asks that we discuss with our faculty the concept of a faculty sick leave bank.

The meeting is adjourned by unanimous vote. The next senate meeting will be held on April 16th, at 2:40 PM.