

Meeting Minutes
Faculty Senate Meeting
Thursday, October 15, 2020
2:40pm-4:30pm
Zoom Meeting*

**Recorded meeting and is developed from the handwritten notes. Meeting Minutes taken by Senator Chakraborti-Ghosh, Secretary.*

1. **2:40-2:45pm Welcome & Call to Order** -Senator Triplett, Chair called the meeting to order (2:41 pm). She has requested the attendees to mute their microphone and comment in the chat box.
2. **2:45-2:50pm Consideration of the minutes of the previous meeting held on September 17, 2020**

Previous Minutes approval conditioned to recommended editorial correction.

Dr. Gishe corrected the spelling of his first name as Jemal

Dr. Young-Seigler

Agenda 4. # 2 corrected with \$12.3 instead of 1\$2.3

Corrected version is sent on 11/10/20

Motion for accepted and approval, seconded by Senator Fleming. It has been accepted and approved.

3. **2:50-3:05pm: Board of Trustee representative Dr. Ali Sekmen provided a detailed report regarding the finances and reserves funds.**
 1. There were 4 committee meetings and 5 hours for the last meeting and it was broadcasted later in the afternoon. It was open to all faculty senate members
 2. Important approval
 - TSU updated mission statement was approved
 - TSU 2020 strategic plan was approved
 - Master of Science in Professional science program was approved

Discussion of Strategic Plan: Provided a comprehensive report to Dr. Peters.

Five goals and multiple objectives

Goal 1: Improving enrollment. Suggested whole university needs to work as one team to address the challenge

Suggested Tennessee State University (TSU) should offer a degree on Mechatronic partnering with State Community college, Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) does Mechatronics Engineering program so why not TSU? Should have mechatronics engineering program.

Suggested that indirect cost generated by research faculty on 5% came to department. He worked with President Glover, and 3-4 years ago came up with 20% to department and 20% to the faculty. The final decision came around 10%-10%. Which is not enough. Considering the low salary of the faculty especially they are bringing research. President Glover assure to have more discussion on this issue.

Biggest discussion on a major issue:

Shared the observation of the computer science department: Unusual high number of the student enrolled in freshman courses but never attended. He received an email from a student that he never enrolled in the class but received an email from the enrollment office. Sent three emails to find more about this but never received any further communication. Suspected that unusual student enrollment. Provost Harris assure that only 70 students attended the freshman course.

Senator Boadi: How is the enrollment management?

Dr. Sekmen: This is not an Enrollment management issue. It the responsibility of all faculty

Senator Boadi: who is responsible for the enrollment management?

Sekmen: Should be managed by team. It's very competitive throughout the state.

Senator Jackson: I applaud you for what you said but there are problem with the calendar of the enrollment. Missing the window to get better students. I agree with Senator Boadi, someone needs to be responsible for that. No plan for covering the enrollment process to recruit the students within the calendar. We need address the issue now, not a plan.

The meeting with Provost Harris, created an issue. As per Him it is the responsibility of the faculty to drop the student who don't attend. As per faculty attendance report Enrollment office manage that. But that's not the responsibility of the faculty, it should have to be taken care of by the Attendance office. Faculty does not have any control over that.

Senator Boadi: Graduate Program, we have continuous enrollment, we admit them in fall and spring, can we do that for both undergraduate and graduate? We should do that.

Dr. Sekmen: As per understanding it is there.

Senator Bekele: Some students are not enrolled at TSU, they are enrolled somewhere else. One of my section out of 28, 13 never attended the course.

Dr. Sekmen: I have the same problem. Senator Triplett please address this concern from the faculty senate.

Senator Triplett, Chair asked for a detail email stating this concern and she will follow up with Provost Harris and President Glover. Asked Senator Bekele, Senator Sloss (senator the chat room) and Senator Jackson's concerns

4. **3:05 – 3:25pm Intellectual Property Policy by Senator Venkataswarup Tiriveedhi, Chair of Research Committee**

Background Dr. Francis Williams, Vice President of Research and Sponsored Programs, looked at the policy with Dr. Triplett, and the committee looked over this. The committee members reviewed it thoroughly including a Qualtrics survey, in 9-10 days and made significant contribution including a lawyers' point of view. Summarized in 8 specific comments

1. Policy does not address the intellectual property about consulting. All TSU faculty are 9 months employee. Other three months are free for any independent work. But in the policy the University has taken a claim of all intellectual property including three months product. That needs to be addressed and changed the language under section 4 part a and d.
2. General agreement on net income sharing with the university in particular with the consulting. A research has been conducted throughout the State. No major differences in TSU policy. A certain portion the language is unclear about the role university in supporting technology or patenting fees. If university is taking the claim, should pay for the patenting filing and other governmental filing fee because university is getting 45% of all in-kind funding.

3. Online content made by faculty is not part of TSU, Pg 4 section 9 section clearly mention the invention of any online content is not TSU property. For example if anyone teaches via YouTube worldwide, TSU should not have control over that.
4. Section III: a) the definition of faculty's own time, taken from Missouri system, should be left to faculty's own business, TSU should not interfere with that.
5. Administrator's leave should be faculty's own space. Faculty can do anything in own time. To give a space for faculty's own time and creative space, for text book or musical/art piece. TSU should not interfere in royalty earning.
- 6-7. TSU President will appoint a committee to decide the ultimate say on inventor of the creative content. See report
8. The verbatim of the intellectual property is too strong and overpowering. It should more faculty friendly.

Senator Triplett, Chair: Should we share the report to all faculty?

Senator Jackson: Yes

Senator Crawford: the term inventor vs. creator. How this terminologies evolved.

T-V: The word inventor and creator both should be used, and will be included in the report.

5. **3:25 – 3:50pm Review and Discussion of Amendment 6, Senator Triplett, Chair**

Concern: Faculty Trustee position is new and not included in the Faculty Constitution. It was amended and is under administration review. University Counsel Pendleton sent a deadline by October 3, 2020 but after looking at the amendment, made a comment on eligibility criteria provision is consistent with Faculty Senate criteria, so there is no need for change. Under the Focus Act, all duties and responsibility for 2 year term as specified as per section 1 D. Candidate should attend all faculty senate meeting. Oppose to amendment with language "Shall." Wordings are too strong. EC discussed to change the wording as more encouraging or inviting than being "Shall."

Senator Jackson: The purpose of having a faculty member as a trustee to represent faculty opinion as a form of shared governance. It's a duty or connection to present the report representing the faculty.

Senator Young-Seigler: There should some kind of expectation should be listed for the faculty trustee role.

Senator Triplett, Chair: the wording should be encouraged to attend. Asked Dr. Sekmen for feedback

Dr. Sekmen: Understand that the faculty trustee is not just representing faculty senate, he/she represent all faculty from the whole university. But there should be a connection between Faculty Senate and Faculty

Senator Dennis: Issue is the wording. Should address that.

Senator Boadi: what is issue with "Shall?"

Senator Jackson: "Shall" is mandatory, "May" is discretionary.

Senator Triplett, Chair put a motion to make the change Amendment 6 section one of section D verbatim with suggested corrections.

Senator Brown Seconds the motion.
All in Favor. No Further discussion
Vote on Motion: A
Voted 19
No oppose, no abstain

6. 3:50 – 4:00pm Faculty Concerns & Follow-up Response from Provost Harris

1. Zoom Behavior: Received an email from CIT Dr. Seay regarding the Zoom inappropriate Behavior
2. Student late enrollment after midterm: Has taken place in the past for several reasons. Provost Harris reported that due COVID 19, orientation and registration process have stalled and delayed and provided an detailed rationale for that.

Senator Jackson: The enrollment wants student in to address the enrollment issue. But there is no modified process to address the issue. Students are put in class without the knowledge of the faculty and without the research of the student's background check.

First step with modified process: To work with professor before putting them in class

Senator Sloss: Library Staff are facing amazing challenges for online platform. Not all classes follows the same process. Some teachers are asking students to go through the library orientation. Library faculty do not have same zoom access timeframe compared to regular faculty. Numerous problems has been occurring for putting students in the library course and adding faculty into that. Because Library faculty do not have access to all students from all department.

Senator Triplett, Chair: Is librarian has the same Zoom access like all faculty?

Senator Sloss: No, on the contrary they are asked to use zoom link with class time, which is taking time from the other classes.

Senator Triplett, Chair: Did you expressed this concern to CIT?
Response was yes, but no clear solution.

Senator Triplett, Chair: What do you want Faculty Senate to do?

Response: Just acknowledge us as a regular faculty. And address to Dr. Seay to resolve this issue

Senator Triplett, Chair: Please us an email with detail with the issue so we can follow up with that.

7. New Business and Adjournment

Amendment 1-5 was approved

Accepted the motion to Amendment 6 motion was revised.

Implementation of the Revised 2020 Faculty Handbook. Senator Jackson, Chair of Constitution and Bylaws Committee. It is all in Faculty Senate website.

Standing Committee chair.

Senator Boadi will chair Post Tenure and Review committee

Senator Quincy Quick will chair the Students Appeal committee

Still missing the Budget committee

Faculty Senate Executive Committee will meet with chairs of the standing committees. The meeting will review the chair's role & responsibilities.

Each standing committee will have folder and the chairs will share their reports with the Faculty Senate

Senator Triplett, Chair will follow up with Benefit and Welfare Committee, Chair Senator Charles to discuss on salary equity and paid family leave.

Faculty should have some representation of COVID 19 plan on the decision making for Spring 2021.

NIA: Each college will have two representatives to serve on NIA grant committee.

Senator Jackson: One grant per academic year. She hopes to send the proposal by the end of this year, and give the faculty to process in January and February and submit it by March and April.

Dr. Burks: 39 faculty took VESP. He received it from last committee meeting

Next Faculty meeting is scheduled on November 12, 2020 for this academic year.

Senator Brown will do a nomination process for Faculty Trustee position in January, 2021. The process can be discussed in next meeting to make decision with timeframe.

Any other concern:

Senator Jackson: early registration starts in October 28, 2020. But major concern is the two week decision process. If the student is self-identified, or tested with COVID-19, How faculty will have an understanding the process and result and the effect of this on-site teaching? Without dictating the notice to the faculty, faculty should give an option to teach on-line. Students and faculty should know the nature of class on-line vs-on-site

Senator Triplett, Chair: Will follow up with the President.

Senator Dennis: What mode will be for the Graduation?

Senator Triplett, Chair: Has not been announcement yet.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:38 pm

There were 27 faculty senators present along with Past-Chair Dr. Geoffrey Burks and Faculty Trustee Dr. Ali Sekmen.

List of Attendees

Faculty Senate Attendees:		
	Last Name	First Name
1	De Koff	Jason
2	Khanal	Aditya
3	Fleming	Rita
4	Dennis	Samuel
5	Jackson	Jane

6	Chakraborti-Ghosh	Sumita
7	Sibulkin	Amy
8	McCurry	Charles
9	Fasoro	Abiodun
10	Al Nasr	Kamal
11	Brown	Charles
12	Charles	Derek
13	Gishe	Jemal
14	Raynes	Edilberto
15	Smith	Karen
16	Klomegah	Roger
17	Crawford	Mark
18	Bekele	Gashawbeza
19	Sloss	Angel
20	Young-Seigler	Artenzia
21	Boadi	William
22	Kelly	John
23	Quick	Quincy
24	Tiriveedhi	Venkataswarup
25	Marquis	Gerald
26	Chilton	Kenneth
27	Triplett	Kimberly
Non-Faculty Senate Members:		
	Burks	Geoffrey
	Sekmen	Ali