

Approved 04.15.2021

Meeting Minutes
Tennessee State University
Faculty Senate Meeting

Date: March 19, 2021
Time: 2:40 PM-4:30 PM
Zoom Meeting

Minutes taken by Senator Karen Smith, Secretary via Zoom Video.

Item #	Agenda Item	Motions by	Motions seconded by
1	2:40-2:45 PM Welcome & Call to Order Chairperson Triplett, Chair called the meeting to order. She has requested the attendees to mute their microphone and comment in the chat box.		
2	2:45-2:50 PM Consideration of the minutes of the previous meeting held on February 18, 2021 were approved as is.	Chairperson Triplett	Senator Charles
3	Chairperson Triplett: Committee reports The committee chairs to please send your reports in your individual reports to your SharePoint folder one week prior to our meeting date so, for example, next month. Submit your reports, no later than Thursday April 8 if you can but, if not, closer to the time I know some of you all have to meet after April 8 and then you will have a report to submit but try to get that to me before our meeting on April 15 which is our last meeting of the year, so I know that there'll be some good information and things that your committees are preparing for the fall semester. I know, next year, and maybe Senator Smith, will be able to do look at this who are senators that will be rolling off of the Faculty Senate and then we have some new faculty senators that will be coming on so we'll look into that and when we meet as faculty senate executive committee will be looking at the terms and see each faculty centers serves a two year term so then they have to be re-elected or recommended by their college to serve an additional two year term, but we, we need to find out who will still be with us next academic year and hopefully we'll have that information to you all next meeting.		
	STANDING Committee Reports		
	Academic Committee (M. Crawford) Senator Mark Crawford: Good afternoon, colleagues, just very few announcements, with the committee we update our committee standard, I mean. Committee participants, we had one that had fallen off, so we verified that and replace that committee Member we've also. All view the Action Committee list now we're having conversations via email about topics to pursue and then we, I have been in contact with the Kimmi Bonner we're in the process of scheduling an appointment with her to learn about any changes in the invite advising process.		
	Budget Committee A. Young-Seigler) Senator Gashaw Bekele: Alright well the Faculty senate budgets can be made on March 12 and we have discussed a couple of issues, one of which was a I think the University has received Cares Act funding and I believe the we have about this \$38 million or so, which have not been spent, so we have not been we have been informed about that money and, of course, the administration is making decisions, for you know distributing and dispersing those funds and the Budget Committee is understanding that there might be some you know restrictions on how the money will be used, but you know we just want to get some more information and we have found some and we have already I think you know reports about how much money. The other issue that we have discussed is what would be our duties and responsibilities of the Budget Committee and some of the recommendations that have been made in that discussion, where one we would probably do some studies future studies on productivity of every unit at the university and how you know, money is used in those different units. The other study that would like to conduct is, as you know, the University has tuition discount for students within 250 miles of radius, and so we like to		

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	<p>see the impact of that on you know university revenue. Also, of course, you know we want also to see if we can also do some studies on funding formula, maybe are evaluating the funding formula that was something also that was discussed in that committee either recommendations includes. We want, I think the Faculty to be involved in the budgetary process, and so one of the things that has been recommended, I believe, on that and that discussion was how we can use. The Department of accounting maybe economics and finance, how they could perhaps you know review our budgets, how can we can provide you know insights The other. Recommendation of course that was made is, as you know, the Vice President for business and finance is living, and so we going to make a request on having your faculty senate representative on the search committee. Okay. I don't know if I if I just let me just add probably one more thing and then I think I'll stop. Okay, and then the last one was also request the VP for business and finance or representative to attend our faculty senate Budget Committee meetings. All the time so that we know exactly how the budgetary process is done and, obviously, we want the Faculty that Budget Committee representatives to be attending the meeting of the Vice President for business and finance committee. Those other recommendations, thank you.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Thank you so much, Senator Bekele we truly appreciate the efforts that you and everyone working on the Budget Committee. I think it's very great to have that collegiality, and also transparency when it comes to our TSU budget. It's very helpful. Please let us know if we can do anything to encourage those collaborations among the different divisions. But I think the Budget Committee is going in the right direction. I did received the Budget Committee Report this morning from Senator Young Siegler.</p>		
	<p>Alumni Relations and Development Committee (R. Fleming)</p> <p>Senator Rita Fleming: Senators, we did not meet of this month of due to scheduling around us tax visits, but did have some information I put into our sharepoint around information that we receive from the alumni relations assistant Director, Mr. Smith and we go to faculty have a notice of all their alumni meeting. And also, as far as talking to the Foundation Director, Mr Ben. There was questions about account foundation accounts that were our set up in our conscious of departments and if anyone wants to know what they were. He has asked that we contact him to be glad to give us information regarding the accounts that are already set up in our college and departments and we plan to meet in April, with the new Director of alumni relations, who started March, the first thank you.</p>		
	<p>Constitution and By-laws Committee (J. Jackson)</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Briefly, what she stated the Constitution and Bylaws Committee was scheduled to meet on March 12 which was in conflict with the special meeting of the Senate. There's no report for today, Senator J. Jackson mentioned the committee will report on the policy it was charged to review at the April meeting and she has committed to do the work of incorporating the approved six amendments into the body of our constitution. I know that the Constitution and Bylaws Committee are working on a few things and will provide the Faculty Senate an update at the last meeting in April. So, we want to thank Senator Jackson for her leadership. Now we will move on to the Curriculum Committee report, Senator Smith.</p>		
	<p>Curriculum Committee (K. Smith)</p> <p>Senator Karen Smith: Just a quick curriculum committee report that our committee reviewed and asked for revision for and got it and have approved 13 CARFs and Chairperson Triplett has already signed those and they will be going very quickly to Dr. Harris's level so we're moving them along very well, thank you.</p>		

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	<p>Chairperson Triplett: Senator Smith, I signed 12 of the 13 CARFs. There was one CARF I emailed you that did not receive a signature from the Dean, or the College. This will need to be done before I am able to sign that CARF.</p> <p>Senator Karen Smith: I may have sent you a previous version. So, I will update the proper version. Thank you.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: I think it was nursing 3000 I think that's what it was nursing 3000 if you can look into that.</p> <p>Senator Karen Smith: Sure will. Thank you.</p>		
	<p>Faculty Grievance and Appeals Committee (P. Flott)</p> <p>Senator Phyllis Flott: So hi, this is a grievance committee's minutes we met on to 26 at 1pm and our minute to divide into two categories one is the process, and one is the specific grievances, so the Committee talked about the process, I think that if you look at the actual minutes or the actual yeah the actual minutes or put in a larger report. You'll see that there are some screenshots of our current process that you basically go to the website. You click grievance and then a box opens up and you're done and what we're suggesting is that we go over to something that's closer to the current form used by HR and both the HR forums are included in our report, both the grievance forum for HR and the complaint form and the suggestions we have something similar, and because one of the problems we're having to get the grievances and then people will come back and say oh I didn't see where I was supposed to put my name I didn't see I put my contact information there, I thought the box would click on have more options. I think we need something similar to these two other forums where it lists, you know here's the content for information. Here's the issues that you're encountering what have you done what outcome, are you seeking, I think that would make it much easier for us to handle these grievances so that's talk number one was rethinking the actual form on the website. And then we have for specific grievances that we dealt with, I think we've covered one once before, and that was a student housing situation and again that kind of emphasizes the importance of informing change because that really should have been sent to us. You know people in the administration are suspicious is a probably I mean suspicious about the right word, we think that probably what's happened is there's a miscommunication between the people who are actually interacting with the students and the official policy and so we felt that these four simple steps would make it easier, the issue with the first grievance was that we had an anonymous complaint and the person said they were in quarantine and got kicked out school was over, and therefore get out. And then the other complaint we had was they said hey we paid for the unlimited meal plan and we're not getting so we just suggest students know exactly when they go into quarantine when they go out of quarantine that the staff working with them also have that information, so I know when the quarantine day ends. We suggest that at least one staff member be given kind of a temporary disposable forms really doesn't cost much. And that way, the students are in quarantine have something they can contact, because the situation was it was at the end of the Semester. And I know you guys probably have also experienced from the semesters over you can't find people, so I can see in a student who was in quarantine that was told by staff member a semester is over pack up. If you have one person that's in charge, and they can always reach that person that would probably help that also we suggest the students begin at least a partial refund their meal plan and actually a typo in the notes that this covers that 10 days that they're in quarantine it's a good kind of alumni appreciation kind of move that if they paid for the unlimited plan for that short little time, they should get a credit to their account for that that plan. You know the difference between the three meals, a day and the unlimited so for pretty easy simple steps that we made we recommended for the first grievance with student housing. Second grievance was grant numbers, I spoke to Dr. Tanya Walker who is over that area director grants and accounting. And she said they had lots of retirements at for retirements and she was new and that she would definitely be happy to look into this, so I contacted the person who made the grievance. And they said, based on the</p>		

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	<p>information I gave to them, they would wait a little longer they didn't want to push the issue at that moment. That you know understood her situation, and she says they are picking up steam so that's the situation with grant numbers, the third grievance we have is still in process, we asked for additional information it has been provided, the committee is going to meet and discuss the situation so that when it's still. Ongoing it's a little more complicated situation fourth grievance related to the Secretary re accreditation and this one I've got quite a few little attachments in the notes to kind of help people kind of follow the steps of this process so essentially a faculty Member was told. According this to the SACS consultant you can't teach a course as you've been teaching so I've included. Like I said reports a little on the long side so I'm included little pieces so there's TSU focused report what we're supposed to do and that is part 6.2 which deals with faculty qualifications. And you know when we had that faculty members name here and there was really no way to handle this confidentially. So we had the faculty members information and, apparently, and we had the two comments from the consultants, so you can send the first consult report this person wasn't mentioned all on the second consultant report, they were mentioned. So the basically issue was the Faculty Member said, I feel that I am qualified, but I was told that there is no due process that the decision is made in the story. So basically I'm going to just kind of read what the Committee said, this is a little more complicated situation I'm not sure accurately relay what we decided. So this process does not appear to be driven by faculty or give faculty a part to play. Well consultants do have an important role in guiding the university through the accreditation process. The final decision as to faculty qualifications should lie with faculty, in other words the Faculty Member should have been given you know told hey your. Questions been raised with your qualifications what, what can you document, so this problem is accredited by the accrediting body.</p> <p>They didn't raise any issues with persons credentials, they file the Faculty credential report form every year right years no questions were ever raised in. This first and also, I believe, on the graduate faculty So the question is why was the Faculty Member not me a collection back to reading here faculty quit the committee questions why the department and college chose not to defend the Faculty. When the consultant disputed faculty members qualifications Why were the faculty members qualification not presented in the table there's a table in that report presented by tissue. So other people's qualifications were questioned and they came back with we disagree with this here and here's why other academic units defended their faculty members qualifications and that information is included in the table. The committee suggested the faculty members be made aware of the issues regarding issues raised regarding their qualifications.</p> <p>And faculty be allowed to present supporting information that should be presented when issues such as this are raised the idea that there's no procedure for faculty members to question report goes counter to the principles of faculty governance, the committee suggests that the decisions presented to the tsu fat in the prison tissue focused report be called into question and the Faculty Member begin chance to defend their defender present their qualifications. So that's our last grievance and I'm not sure if we, I think we presented the you know the case here that. The committee basically felt that this person was never given a chance to present their qualifications in the process.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett :Well, thank you, I just have one question I think that's a great idea I was able to read the report so I'm so happy that the committee really looked at the processes and then look at those grievances. But in regards to the processes, yes we're open to as Faculty Senate we're open to your committee, creating a new form. And so we can upload that on our Faculty Senate website, I know, in the summer, the Faculty Senate Executive Committee was just trying to put up some type of platform for faculty to submit their grievances so whatever we can do to reduce any confusion or make it as seamless process that would be great.</p>		
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	<p>Senator Flott it's fine with us, whatever process that your committee feels is best. Then what I'll do whatever program you all want to use like you said in Qualtrics or similarity to what Human Resources uses. Please let us know what you need in order to process those grievances we're in support as Faculty Senate just provide us with that information and we'll have our Faculty Senate web master upload that to our website so we can make those changes for you.</p> <p>Senator Phyllis Flott: So just submit the suggested new form to the Executive Committee and I'll pass it on to the webmaster.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Once the committee creates the platform or form (ready to be uploaded to the website) that they would like to use, then send it to us to upload.</p> <p>Senator Phyllis Flott: But just submit what we think are suggested changes just submit to submit to you.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett Yes, submit to me and then I'll submit it to our Faculty Senator Executive Committee for review. So, just share the survey, link, or information that you would like to upload to our Faculty Senate Website.</p> <p>Senator Phyllis Flott: sounds great.</p>		
	<p>Faculty Benefits and Welfare Committee (E. Phillips)</p> <p>Senator Elaine Phillips: All right, we met about two weeks ago and we had three charges, the first charge that we are going to work on during the Semester is the proposal of a paid family leave for full time employees and one of our senators Derek Charles checked comparative. Family paid leave policies for our some of our sister institutions, and we are going to have a survey come out in one to two weeks to see the need and interest among full time faculty the second charge was the most recent discovery when we learned that the. State employee discount had basically had parted ways with Tennessee State University and I'm going to send a letter to Linda spears finding out what were those benefits or what were those discounts that we received and who, and why initiated to drop from their program The third and most important and longest term is the issue of.</p> <p>salary compression and we are not the only university that is affected by this seems to be a trend in academia, but we are the lowest paid out of. Other institutions that were formerly TB, our institutions, so we are going to look into that also but we had two things that we really want to get to by the end of the Semester, so are those were our first two charges.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: And thank you so much, Senator Phillips, for taking the role as chair. This is a very important committee. As you have seen jumping on board with three charges for your committee to address. I wanted to ask a quick question-follow up concerned with the survey, did you need for me to send that out to all faculty or how would you all distribute that survey, for the first charge.</p> <p>Senator Elaine Phillips: We were going to use Qualtrics. Okay, and looking at my notes. We are going to have a senator's Gardner and McLeish we're going to come up with a survey questions and then put it into Qualtrics. It's going to go out to full time tenured and tenure track faculty and also, I believe that extra go up to full time staff, since they it does say employee family.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett : Okay, so if you all would like for me to send out the survey on behalf of the committee, to all faculty just let me know.</p> <p>Senator Elaine Phillips: Let me contact with senators McLeish.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: All right, perfect just let me know if there's anything that I can do, I do have the latest list of full faculty from Mr. Tim Warren. So just let me know. Thank you all so much.</p>		
	<p>Information Technology Committee (K. Al-Nasr)</p>		
	<p>Nomination and Appointment Committee (C. Brown)</p>		

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	Library Committee (A. Sloss)		
	Professional Development Committee (K. Chilton)		
	Research Committee (V. Tiriveedhi) Senator Tiriveedhi: We met on March 12 because basically on the Faculty incentive plan we discussed on a different point so we had an extensive discussion, we are in meeting on march 26 will give a thorough report to the Senate in the April meeting.		
	Student Appeals Committee (Q.Quick)		
	Post Tenure Review Committee (W. Boadi) Senator Edilberto A. Raynes: Senator Boadi we did not meet in the month of March, because of their illness, but I was told.		
11	Chairperson Triplett: So the SACSCOC on site visit took place this week March 16 th -18 th . We had a successful SACSCOC's reaffirmation visit this week, thank you all for your hard work towards this great accomplishment. Again, congratulations to you all, we could have not done it without everyone's hard work. The Office of the President emailed a statement and I'm just going to highlight that statement, along with some of my notes, when I attended the exit meeting with the SACSCOC's On-Site Committee on yesterday, Thursday, March 18 th . For the last two years TSU has been going through this SACSCOC reaffirmation process for accreditation to determine compliance with the principles of accreditation. As a member institution TSU must go through this process every 10 years the process started with our self study and the submission of the compliance certification document related to the standards and the principles of accreditation our compliance certification document was reviewed by both the SACSCOC Off Site Committee and On Site Committee. The On-Site Committee conducted its review on March 16-18, 2021. The visit was conducted virtually due to the COVID-19 virus. Tennessee State University had a successful On-site visit and review. We were found compliant seventy-two of the seventy-four standards. Two standards related to the audits, 13.2 and 13.4, could not be considered compliant by the committee because the audit for the most recent years has not been completed. The procedures require us to submit a follow up report that contains the audits. Though TSU is allowed five months to submit the information, it is the university's intent to have the document completed well before this time. The On-Site Committee also provided suggestions for the QEP/Cadence while also providing the strengthening and modification. But, overall, the SACSCOC On-Site Committee was satisfied with the QEP/Cadence. The SACSCOC Board of Trustees will meet December of this year to review our documents, as well as the documents of other institutions in this current review cycle. Based on our strong off site and onsite reviews and the expected completion of the audits in a few weeks, we should be able to announce after the SACSCOC December Board meeting that Tennessee State University has been reaffirmed for accreditation. We are so excited. Again, I just want to thank you all for your hard work. Does anyone have any questions and/or concerns? I know that administration has been working hard on the audits, so we are on target to get the audits in within the five month time period.		
	Senator Charles Brown: I'm just going to give a brief up day you can leave your screen right there okay last Friday March 12 the Faculty senate held a special election. Meeting to elect the next faculty Board of trustee and based on the results of the election, Dr. Bill Johnson won the majority of votes by the senators.	Senator Brown	Senator Bekele

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	<p>is currently considered the newly elected faculty trustee on March 15 this past Monday the election results were certified and sent to President Glover and the university attorney. The next step in the process is for Dr Johnson to undergo a background check with the state of Tennessee in TSU if Dr. Johnson is successfully passes the background check, he will serve on the TSU Board of Trustees for two terms 2021 through 2023 and will start attending the TSU Board of Trustees quarterly meetings on Thursday September 16 2021. That concludes the report from the elections, meeting, especially meeting, and we will report back to the Senate once we learn the status of the background check.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Senator Brown, yes, so we will keep you all posted will send an email out once it is official. I will follow up with Mrs. Linda Spears who's the head of HR department to verify if Dr. Bill Johnson has passed the background check with both Tennessee State University and the state of Tennessee. And then we'll move forward. So happy that we were able to select a new Faculty Senator and we look forward to working with Dr Johnson.</p> <p>Senator Amy Sibulkin: I'm just curious to know who's rule is it that one would need a background check for this position.</p> <p>Senator Charles Brown: Yes, that has been outlined in a focus at all of the trustees serving on the Board will undergo a background check by the state of Tennessee and TSU.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Are there questions and/or concerns we're making good time today. I guess, everybody wants to be quiet, so we can get out early today. I understand, I just want to make sure that everyone is okay, with everything and if not, we can try to address those questions, the best way we can. All right, so now we're going to move on to the overview of Amendment Six. I just wanted to bring this up, I know, at our special Faculty Senate meeting to vote on, if Senator Jane Jackson met the qualifications to be added on the ballot for Faculty Trustee. And at that meeting, there was a lot of concern, as it pertains to Amendment Six and I just wanted to make sure if there's any major concerns if we need a review or discuss Amendment Six or what next steps that you all need to take. I want to make sure we do that, I think it was something some individuals had questions and/or concerns. Some faculty senators had concerns with the language in Amendment Six so do we as a faculty senate need to review Amendment Six again, or what are you all thoughts?</p> <p>And I did send Amendment Six out with the meeting materials for you all to review.</p> <p>Senator Charles Brown: Yes, Senator Triplett, I believe, the last time we had a discussion about amendments takes several of the senators thought we should go back and revise.</p> <p>I guess the next point is to determine how might we revise or is this particular task will be given to a particular committee we began, making the revisions and bring it for a before the Senate for review. Okay, so um is that what everyone would like to do is to try to revise Amendment Six.</p> <p>Senator Charles Brown: I can put a motion on the floor to do.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Senator Brown yes.</p> <p>Senator Charles Brown: I would like to make a motion that we provide in Amendment Six and have Amendment Six review by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee.</p> <p>Senator Charles Brown: For the Constitution and Bylaws Committee to make changes and bring it before the Senate for review.</p> <p>Senator Derek Charles: Second</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Thank you. Okay. All right, is there any discussion on the motion?</p> <p>Senator Gashaw Bekele: By the way, question, this is a Kelly.</p> <p>Yes, I believe I think we have discussed what needs to be changed if I remember correctly and Dr Smith, had I think an idea on how you know it should change is there a need to send it back to the Constitution committee or can we make those changes.</p>		
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<p>Because I don't know if it needs a full-fledged kind of like you know discussion or change is just I think you know.</p> <p>The couple of I think minor corrections, if I remember correctly, so I am just wondering if there is a need to send it back or can we just make those changes, based on what Dr Smith, I think, has suggested last time.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: I agree with you, Senator Bekele. I think it was just some of the language just a couple of sentences that needed to be updated to reflect some of the concerns the discussion that was taking place at their special meeting over Amendment Six so it might be something that we could put on our agenda. Or should we have a special meeting to make those revisions? It's really up to you all as a body on how you all want to do this because, once we make changes to the Amendment Six, we have to provide time for the full faculty body to review it and have opportunity to make their final comments and/or edits. We have to go through that process. So, I do not know if this is something that we want to do in the fall when we come back to give people an opportunity to review Amendment Six. Or is it something we can just do at our April meeting to make those few changes. Or should we make those changes now and we can vote on them at our April meeting. Whatever you all think is best.</p> <p>Senator Derek Charles: This the amendment wouldn't need to wouldn't come into play for a couple years, so I would say, we could just put it on the April agenda. And then it can be sent to the full faculty in the fall so. I will be our last meeting Is that correct.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Yes, April 15 is our last meeting.</p> <p>Senator Derek Charles: So I My suggestion would be to just put it on the April meeting for this discussion and approval. Okay.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Okay, thank you. So do we want to change that motion Senator Brown?</p> <p>Senator Charles Brown: Sure we can make a mean the motion that we include. Amendment Six on the April meeting and giving it to the Constitution committee.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Is that right?</p> <p>Senator Charles Brown: Yes, I guess, in terms of. If I may elaborate else thinking, maybe our timing our time for the April meeting would we have enough time to dive into what the changes may need to be, and if there's our discussions. You know, would we run over on our time so that was my only concern.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: I think we can probably make enough time to discuss Amendment Six at our April meeting. I know at our April meeting Dr. Sekmen will provide his Faculty Trustee report and we will have our committee reports. Those are two things that we have to do, I think we can take 20 to 30 minutes or less on Amendment Six. If everyone reads Amendment Six and start thinking about the edits to Amendment Six, and then we can do make changes in real-time. I can share my screen and we can make those changes, while we're in the meeting. Then we can vote on it and then distribute the changes to Amendment Six just as Senator Charles mentioned to the full faculty in the fall.</p> <p>Senator Derek Charles: Because we did have some discussion on it in our last meeting correct.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Yes, we did.</p> <p>Senator Charles Brown: Yeah I'm not sure if there are difference of opinions on some of the language that we may kind of back into. However, you know if it can go it can happen in April, I mean I'm all for it.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Well, if we do not get it done in April, then we can always table it to our first meeting in August, like Senator Charles mentioned earlier.</p> <p>We can just need to reword the motion from Senator Brown and then somebody can second and then we can vote.</p> <p>Senator Charles Brown: I like to make a motion that we make revisions to Amendment Six, and we will revise the amendment during the April 2021 meeting.</p> <p>Senator Gashaw Bekele: And I second that.</p>		
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	<p>Chairperson Triplett: Was seconded by Senator Bekele. Thank you all. We can go ahead and vote. All in favor of the motion to revise Amendment Six at our April 15 meeting. If you can say I.</p> <p>Senator John Kelly: All right.</p> <p>Senator Tiriveedhi: All right.</p> <p>Senator Fur-Chi Chen: All right.</p> <p>Senator Jemal Gische: Okay.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Are there any nays. Do we have anyone abstaining? Do you see anybody abstaining Senator Brown?</p> <p>Senator Charles Brown: I do not.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Okay. I think. Do we have anyone who is present, but not voting?</p> <p>Senator Charles Brown: I don't see anyone.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Okay, so I think everyone's in agreement so that is 22 Faculty Senators and in agreement with this motion. Thank you all</p>		
12	<p>New Business</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Okay, we are now down to new business. We want to welcome our newest Faculty Senator, Dr. Twianie Roberts.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Senator Twianie Roberts is from the College of Education. We are glad to have you. I know we were rushing to get you on board this month. But if there is anything that we can do to help you along the way, the please let us know, I know you have two other colleagues from the College of Education that can bring you up to speed as well. But we look forward to having you on Faculty Senate. I know that you are already working within one of our Standing Committees as well.</p> <p>Senator Twianie Roberts: Yes, I am on the Alumni Committee.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Okay perfect, so we look forward to having you. Thank you so much for joining us. Senator Roberts is replacing a Senator Sumita Chakraborti-Ghosh. She is stepping in for just these two months, but then her first full term will start in the fall of 2021 so she will serve until 2023. Senator Roberts will serve a two year term. All right now we will have a brief discussion on returning in person for instruction for Fall 2021. A couple of faculty members brought up this concern. Does anyone know the direction that the university's going? We have not officially heard anything yet. This may be due to our SACSCOC's On-Site visit this week</p> <p>Senator Charles Brown: Senator Kelly</p> <p>Senator Quincy Quick: yeah I was just making a point that yeah so I've heard it via our chair. That's kind of about the closest thing I've heard to anything official like a department to department chair level.</p> <p>Senator John Kelly: I was going to share the same thing, our mathematical sciences is planning on going for in person classes this fall to my knowledge.</p> <p>Senator Derek Charles: I am with college college of health sciences, when we when we filled out our workloads indicated on campus for the for the fall the dean's office didn't tell us to change and so on the assumption that were quote back to normal.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett (Tennessee State University): Okay, I know that Senator Tiriveedhi did you have I know you've made a comment in the chat box.</p> <p>Senator Tiriveedhi: My only comment was that everything was an official what I heard, but without full vaccination, which currently in the state of Tennessee is phase one see That means to say that 65 and EVO are getting vaccine unless other health related issues. And I'm told by August, if we don't have fun, or at least 70% vaccination, which means to say ages. or define they should come under the vaccination rider if we don't have it, is it really safe to return to full return. At the same time, of course, we are compromising on education, I understand all of that, so what is</p>		

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<p>general opinion on without vaccination, do we want to return on campus hundred percent return on campus. It does not seem like a very good idea to me.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Yeah. I know there are concerns, because when we say in person instruction will faculty have a say or be given an option on how they deliver their courses. I am not sure if some faculty members wanting more involvement in the planning of returning in the fall. Some faculty might not feel comfortable so coming back at 100% knowing that some people have not been vaccinated .Will there be options to teach online or teach hybrid as we did in the fall and in the spring? Will we still have the flexibility to deliver courses in Fall 2021?</p> <p>Senator Sam Dennis: If we go with the President timeline Everyone should be vaccinated before we get come back in and fall. All will be in what they call herd immunity.</p> <p>Senator Tiriveedhi: That would be ideal right if everyone gets vaccinated by July 4 the idea was all of us will celebrate July 4 with our families that would be wonderful. But in case, if not everyone is vaccinated as Senator Triplett is telling it would be a good idea to have the flexibility of hybrid or. A mix and match between in person and online or full online.</p> <p>Senator Gerald Marquis: And how many of our faculty will refuse to get vaccinated since I understand like 20% of the total population.</p> <p>Senator Edilberto A. Raynes: can ask the questions.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Yes, let me get Senator Charles</p> <p>Senator Derek Charles: I was gonna say that since the University has not come out with the policy regarding whether students and or faculty will have to be vaccinated it may be premature to make a statement, or if we do sense the needs of departments can vary greatly we may just need to say that it's a decision that we made on a college and departmental basis I don't know if, as a body we can make a universal recommendation.</p> <p>Especially since we know if the administration is going to have any type of policy regarding students and employees.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Maybe the Faculty Senate Executive Committee can meet with Provost Harris and President Glover to see what direction administration would like to go in regards to how we come back in the fall. The last three semesters courses were online. Administration has allowed the colleges and departments flexibility on their course delivery. Faculty would like to know what direction they will take this fall.</p> <p>Senator Edilberto A. Raynes: Number one um I don't think that. Coffee 19 vaccination is mandated, so it is not yet I mean people can have will not have a vaccine we don't have any. We don't have any reason to not to accept that but, again, it is that the mandated yet number two is in it, Dr. Triplett we have a task force that the President could be in for the pandemic Task Force. Am I correct.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett One more time.</p> <p>Senator Edilberto A. Raynes: There is a task force that was created for this pandemic.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Correct, yes I am on the Pandemic Task Force, but we have not met because we've been meeting for the SACSCOC reaffirmation. Now, since SACSCOC reaffirmation is over the task force may start meeting again.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: The meetings should start back up. I will send an email to Provost Harris, President Glover, and Dr. Curtis Johnson to see when the next Pandemic Task Force meeting.</p> <p>Senator Edilberto A. Raynes: Because, in my opinion, the task force of the pandemic should make a recommendation right basic on the objective measurement whatever objective measurement that you guys going to be graded on and then make a recommendation to have up Harrison on doors, the President.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Okay, I will reach out to President Glover and Provost Harris to see when the next Pandemic Task Force meeting will take place. Because that is</p>		
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	<p>probably the number one issue on everyone's mind is the delivery of courses for the fall.</p> <p>Some senators have concerns on the effectiveness of the vaccine against the different variants. Those are some major concerns but yes, Senator Raynes I will address that at the next Pandemic Taskforce meetings. But I will send an email out to see when that next meeting is and let President Glover and Provost Harris know faculty concerns on returning in the fall. Thank you. Okay, if there's no other discussion spring 2021 enrollment numbers, I know some of you all asked for those numbers. I did email, Mr. Terrence Izzard, Associate Vice President for Admissions and Recruitment, asking for the spring 2021 enrollment numbers on March 11, 2021. I have not heard back from him. Mr. Izzard mentioned that he will follow up with me next week, due to the SACSCOC On-site visit this week. Also, I sent an email to Mr. Eric Williams within the Institution Institutional Research, on March 11, 2021. He stated that the official numbers for spring 2021 are not available, Mr. Williams is waiting on the official enrollment to be made available. But once I receive the spring 2021 enrollment numbers I will share with Faculty Senators. Yes, someone has a question.</p> <p>Senator Amy Sibulkin: Oh, I was just going to comment. Or you didn't want to interrupt.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: No okay I am done with that. Go ahead with your comment.</p> <p>Senator Amy Sibulkin: I'm not sure, is there a real need for the official number, which I understand comes from Mr. Williams um if not one can just get it from navigate. it's right there you just.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Okay, yeah I know, there was an issue with the FTE numbers. I know the Budget Committee took a look at TSU's revenue, how many students are actually paying students (FTE) versus those who are enrolled students. So that is why we are trying to get those numbers and I know the Budget Committee is looking into this.</p> <p>Senator Amy Sibulkin: Okay so it's it more refined issue.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Yes, we are trying to refine those numbers to see from a budget standpoint. Okay, let me see what else we have here. And then the Non-Instructional Assignments, Senator Jackson mentioned that we have received four NIA Grant applications, so the NIA Grant committee will meet to do the review and assessment next week. So thank you all for spreading the word within your colleges to your different colleagues about this great grant opportunity. I know, last academic school year there were two applicants and both those applicants received the NIA grant which was phenomenal for them. So when you apply in the spring, the funding actually picks up in the fall. Is there any other new business before we adjourn?</p> <p>Senator Mark Crawford: Senator Crawford from music. This topic has been mentioned before, and it's certainly not as heavy as the virus, but has there been a response from the administration as to whether they're going to reimburse or at least credit our parking.</p> <p>I haven't used my tag all year but I, you know I paid for one.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Yes indeed, Senator Young-Siegler and I met with. Dr. Curtis Johnson. I do not know what Dr. Johnson stated. I believe he was looking into providing credit for parking. But, I do not know for sure I will have to follow up with Dr. Johnson regarding reimbursement for faculty. Given those months that you purchased your know parking yeah.</p> <p>Senator Mark Crawford: I think it'd be great to just credit us for the next academic school year.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Yes, I have not came on campus at all for 2020 2021.</p> <p>Senator Mark Crawford: Right and I have one of the reserve slots or anybody has one of those knows that cost a little more yes.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Okay and that's important that you brought that up, I reach out to Dr Curtis Johnson because it's different for people that have reserved parking because you're paying more, and if you didn't use the parking permit the entire year of</p>		
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	<p>2020- 2021, then what type of reimbursement would you receive? When I email Dr. Johnson I will cc: you Senator Crawford. So you will get the response from Dr. Johnson as well. Okay, is there anything else? Alright, well, I just want to say our next meeting is Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 2:40pm. At our April meeting we will need to talk and decide as a body, how we will meet going forward: in person, virtual or provide a hybrid meeting. Hybrid meeting providing faculty senators who are not able to come physically into our faculty senate conference room. This is something that I want you all to start thinking about.</p> <p>All right, well without further ado, I just want to go ahead and thank you all for giving me your time. Senator Brown what time do you have?</p> <p>Senator Charles Brown: 3:47pm.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Okay, it is 3:47 pm. Again, I am so thankful for you all being here today If you have any comments or concerns, then please contact me the Faculty Senate Executive Committee meets the week before our meeting to set the agenda. Is there anything else?</p> <p>Dr. Tiravetthi you mentioned that you want to be part of the agenda for you to present your report policy. So, we will make sure to add the Research Committee to the April's agenda. Have a beautiful weekend everyone and stay safe. Enjoy the sunshine hopefully will not have too much more rain. I truly appreciate everyone's support and participation on our Faculty Senate. Thank you all.</p> <p>Senator Quincy Quick: Dr. Triplett.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: Yes, Senator Quick.</p> <p>Senator Quincy Quick: I really quick question. Yes, so you said, have we had any executive committee meetings I haven't been to any I'm sure.</p> <p>Chairperson Triplett: The Faculty Senate Executive Committee is just for the Executive Committee Team, so that is just the Faculty Senate chair, Chair-Elect, Past-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Parliamentarian. Also, includes our Faculty Trustee.</p> <p>Senator Quincy Quick: Okay.</p>		
13	<p>Adjournment Time: 3:49 PM</p>		

Faculty Senator Attendance:

	Present	Absent	College	Last Name	First Name	End of Current 2-Year Election Term	Position
1	X		AGRICULTURE	De Koff	Jason	Apr 2022+	
2		X	AGRICULTURE	Khanal	Aditya	Apr 2022+	
3	X		AGRICULTURE	Fleming	Rita		Treasurer Alumni Rel & Dev Com, Chair
4	X		AGRICULTURE	Dennis	Samuel		Parliamentarian
5	X		AGRICULTURE	Chen	Fur-Chi		
6		X	BUSINESS	Jolayemi	Joel		
7	X		BUSINESS	Marquis	Gerald	Apr 2022+	
8		X	BUSINESS	Jackson	Jane	Apr 2022+	Constitution and By- laws, Chair
9	X		BUSINESS	Flott	Phyllis		Fac Grievance & Appeals, Chair

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10	X		EDUCATION	Roberts	Twianie	4+ allowed	(3/12/21 start)
11	X		EDUCATION	Sibulkin	Amy		
12	X		EDUCATION	Vogel	Eric		
13		X	ENGINEERING	McCurry	Charles		
14		X	ENGINEERING	Fasoro	Abiodun		
15		X	ENGINEERING	Al Nasr	Kamal		Info Technology Com, Chair
16	X		COHS	Brown	Charles	Apr 2022	Nom & Appointment, Chair
17	X		COHS	Charles	Derek	Apr 2022	Fac Benefits & Welfare, Chair
18	X		COHS	Gishe	Jemal	Apr 2022	
19	X		COHS	Raynes	Edilberto	Apr 2022	
20	X		COHS	Smith (former Coker)	Karen	Apr 2022	Secretary Curriculum Committee, Chair
21		X	LIBERAL ARTS	Chaires	Mark		
22	X		LIBERAL ARTS	Klomegah	Roger		
23	X		LIBERAL ARTS	Phillips	Elaine		
24	X		LIBERAL ARTS	Crawford	Mark		Academic Committee, Chair
25	X		LIBERAL ARTS	Bekele	Gashawbeza		
26	X		LIBRARY	Sloss	Angel		Library Committee, Chair
27		X	LAPS	Young- Seigler	Artenzia		Chair-Elect Budget Committee, Chair
28		X	LAPS	Boadi	William		Post Tenure Review, Chair
29	X		LAPS	Kelly	John		
30	X		LAPS	Quick	Quincy		Student Appeals Com, Chair
31	X		LAPS	Tiriveedhi	Venkataswarup		Research Committee, Chair
32	X		PUBLIC SERVICE	Triplett	Kimberly	Apr 2022 1 yr exofficio	Executive Committee, Chair
33		X	PUBLIC SERVICE	Chilton	Kenneth	Apr 2022+	Professional Devel, Chair
		X	Past-Chair (NON- MEMBER)	Burks	Geoffrey	Apr 2021	Past-Chair
		X	Faculty Trustee (NON- MEMBER)	Sekmen	Ali	Apr 2021	