



FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

Meeting Date:	October 26, 2015	Time:	14:45 – 16:45	Location:	Culp Center, Room 311
Next Meeting:	November 9, 2015	Scribe:			Eric Sellers
Present:	Dilshod Achilov, Leila Al-Imad, Fred Alsop, Robert Beeler, Jessica Bragg, Patrick Brown, Doug Burgess, Randy Byington, Kathy Campbell, Jackie Church, Erin Doran, Dorothy Drinkard-Hawkshawe, Joyce Duncan, Susan Epps, Lon Felker, Tavie Flanagan, Bill Flora, Virginia Foley, Lee Glenn, Nick Hagemeyer, Katherine Hall, Tammy Hayes, Bill Hemphill, Stephen Hendrix, Howard Herrell, Karin Keith, James Livingston, Fred Mackara, Mildred Maisonet, Anthony Masino, Tim McDowell, Theresa McGarry, Shunbin Ning, Sun-Joo Oh, Bea Owens, Peter Panus, Jonathon Peterson, Kerry Proctor-Williams, Deborah Ricker, Eric Sellers, Melissa Shafer, Darshan Shah, April Stidham, Bill Stone, Paul Trogen, Craig Turner, Ahmad Watted,				
Absent:	Tod Jablonski, Koyamangalath Krishnan, Thomas Kwasigroch, Guangya Li, Mary Ann Littleton, Timir Paul, Liang Wang, Robert White				
Excused:	Lorianne Mitchell, Jerome Mwinyelle				

Agenda Items	Responsible
Meeting called to order 14:45	Dr. Epps
1. Information Session – Open Source, Lesley Adebonojo	Dr. Adebonojo
2. Old Business	
3. Approval of Minutes – September 28, 2015	
4. New Business	
4.1 Travel Policies	Dr. Sellers
4.2 Audio Recording of Faculty	Dr. Panus
4.3 Committee Replacements	Dr. Byington
5. Updates	
5.1 Academic Integrity	Dr. Flora
5.2 Executive Committee Meeting with Dr. Collins	Dr. Brown
5.3 IUC Meeting	
5.4 TBR Faculty Sub-Council	Mr. Hemphill
6. Announcements/Other Business	
7. Adjournment	

DISCUSSIONS

1. Information Session - Lesley Adebonojo

Open Educational Resources (OER) campaign –

- Open textbooks for incoming Tennessee Promise students; textbooks essentially free and can be edited by professor.
- Georgia has moved to OER and is using the proprietary courses in k-12 and higher education. In addition, many of the TN border states are the books and they are also being utilized by universities across the nation.
- The books can be downloaded for free and can be edited in the creative commons, which can save



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thousands/semester.

Questions/Comments:

Felker – Are there copyright issues?

No because the creative commons are being used.

Epps – Would this be something that the whole campus would move towards, or just individually?

Faculty will have freedom of choice, but it would be nice if the whole campus moves towards it.

Glenn – to adopt OER the product must be of high quality.

Faculty have the option do determine if they think the quality is high and can modify content

Adebonojo is looking for people to support the approach and anyone who is interested should contact her:

ADEBONOL@mail.etsu.edu

Foley suggested that the information should be presented to curriculum committees in addition to faculty senate

2. Old Business – None discussed

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve: Trogen

Second: Alsop

Motion Approved

4. New Business

4.1 Travel Policies

- In accord with the new Enterprise travel policy, faculty are no longer able to be fully reimbursed at the \$.47/mile rate unless the reimbursement is lower than that which be received according to the Enterprise cost optimizer.

- The Council of Academic Chairs supported a letter written by Dr. Dixon that suggested the policy should allow for the use of personal vehicles even in cases where the reimbursement rate would be higher for personal vehicle use. Subsequently, a large number of faculty have also supported the letter and feel that faculty should have the ability to choose their mode of transportation for official university business.

- The main issues include: the amount of time required to acquire/return rental cars; lack of safety features included in rental cars; travel in poor weather conditions; people who drive vans must be at least 25 years old.

Comments/Discussion

- Brown: (1) 90 minutes seems like an excessively long amount of time to pick up a car. (2) How much off road travel is conducted in service of the university? (3) Trip optimizer does allow extra rental days to be entered and if the personal vehicle expense is lower for the personal vehicle, one may use their personal vehicle. (4) There are no plans to remove the vans from the car pool; therefore, drivers under 25 will not be an issue. (5) Faculty have the option to use their personal vehicle at any time; however, they will only be reimbursed for fuel.

- Proctor Williams: Faculty travel to Sevierville each week and are now required to use rental cars. Faculty have had to wait inordinate amounts of time and Enterprise requires each driver to present their drivers' license.

- Hemphill: Cost savings policy to keep faculty from "making money" on travel.

- Duncan: Faculty have experienced many obstacles and loss of time in acquiring vehicles. Blanket travel policy is not included in the new Enterprise policy. (This issue has been resolved since the meeting and blanket travel is now covered under the new policy.)

- Brown: A big issue is a lack of communication between administration and faculty regarding specifics of the new policy.

- Many members of faculty senate reported very strong support for the petition within their departments and colleges. Moreover, they felt that faculty should have a choice as to whether or not they rent from Enterprise or use their personal vehicles.

Beeler Motion to endorse the letter in principle pending corrections suggested by Brown; seconded by Mackara

Discussion

- Flora: if enterprise was on campus it can be incredibly easy to get and return cars.

- Brown: Enterprise is in a beta phase, we may get a fleet on campus and it is premature to reject the Enterprise contract.

- Maisonet: If this is a beta phase, how are we documenting the faculty range of experiences with the new program and how will feedback be provided to Enterprise and the administration?

- Oh: How will students be reimbursed for driving their personal vehicles to competitions? Also, safety is a major concern and driving an unfamiliar vehicle can be dangerous.



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In favor: 24 opposed: 14 Abstention: 5 Motion passed

4.2 Audio Recording of Faculty

- Panus: A faculty member was recorded by a graduate student who planned to use the information against the advisor. When the faculty member realized he was being recorded he ended the meeting.
- Graduate school said the student didn't do anything wrong.
- There is no law for the state of Tennessee saying this is illegal.
- The main issue is should there be a policy regulating audio recording usage?
- Foley: we could have a policy stating that audio or video recording will only be conducted with permission of all parties.
- Stone: Any attempt we would make to change policy would be illegal. In cases of bullying, sexual harassment, etc., audio recording could provide evidence of the incident.
- Brown: For the university to make a policy it does not make it illegal. For example, smoking is not illegal although it is the university policy that smoking is not permitted on campus.
- Protor-Williams: How is the policy related to HIPPA and IRB issues (or FERPA)? Recording of such conversations would be a violation of law.
- Herrell: To establish a policy may be viewed as adversarial.
- Foley: The main reason this issue was brought up to the faculty senate is that it is perfectly legal for the student to use audio recordings. Executive committee will further address the issue.
- Oh: Is it legal to record a video of a class and post it on YouTube: Yes.

4.3 Committee Replacements

4.3.1 Handbook committee

- Deborah Ricker to replace Tom Schacht
- Joyce Duncan nominated to replace Katherine Sharp

Motion to appoint Duncan to Handbook Committee: Byington Second: Flora Motion Approved

4.3.2 Committee on Committees – purpose to match skills sets of faculty with needs of committees

- Current members include Cathy Campbell, Randy Byington, and Lon Felker.
- Bea Owens and Theresa McGarry volunteered to serve

Motion to appoint Owens and McGarry: Beeler Second: Foley Motion Approved

4.3.3 University Safety Committee

Byington stated that Dr. Isham has already been attending the committee meetings.

Motion to appoint Isham to Safety Committee: Byington Second: Foley Motion Approved

5. Updates

5.1 Academic Integrity – Flora

- Policy has been updated, please send suggested changes to Dr. Flora before the next Faculty Senate meeting.

5.2 Executive Committee Meeting with Dr. Collins - Brown

- The water that pools at Brooks Gym is being fixed.
- Staging for football stadium will not be behind Wharf-Pickel it will be in lots 18 and 19.
- Traffic circle by the parking garage is very heavy during peak hours and changes may be made in order to more efficiently route traffic
- The parking committee is making recommendations regarding students parking in faculty spots, enforcement of parking infractions, increasing fines, and extending the enforcement hours. Dr. Collins will act on recommendations when he receives them and will update the handbook accordingly.
- The only trees being removed from campus are those that are damaged or those that pose a threat to safety.

5.2 Interim University Council Meeting – No new information to report

5.3 TBR Faculty Sub-Council - Hemphill

Highlights of the meeting:

- Vice Chancellor Tristan Denley, representatives from the six TBR universities, and the community colleges were in attendance.
- Gates Foundation \$2 million support to TBR



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- Higher Education Resource Officer (HERO) – Bridget Baird is here at ETSU.
- Critical Conversations Journal – Senior editor is Daryl Carter – multidiscipline publication to expand awareness the purpose is to highlight TBR research and document the TBR’s overall impact. Dr. Carter will be invited to faculty senate to discuss the journal in more detail.
- D2L now running Degree Compass, which recommends degree paths and advising.
- TBR system level IRB for distributing data
- General Education and degree requirements - TN Transfer Pathways, all credits will be counted for Gen Ed once the courses are established.
- Revisions to Admissions are under review
- No additional student cost between 12 – 15 hours; however, to make the policy revenue neutral there will be an increase under 12 hours.
- Faculty Handbook – the idea is to share the handbooks across all institutions
- Sick days cannot be used unless you are actually sick; however, faculty are not allowed to use sick days for inclement weather.
- Many admission applications are coming in with TN Promise. The reason for numbers being low in the south west is that the majority of students are already Pell eligible in those areas and there is a great deal of competition.
- RODP is now ROCC (Regents On Campus Collaborative)
- RFP’s for faculty research and development grants – from 10k – 40k, 1 million in total funding.

6. Announcements/Other Business

- 6.1 Univ Research Advisory Council: Peterson – The Council will be using electronic routing forms moving forward.
- 6.2 McGarry: Women’s Studies Program is in jeopardy of losing the BA degree. The program could be eliminated in as little as two weeks. The Provost and Dean stated that the program is “low-producing” and of all of the low-producing programs it is the only one that may be eliminated even though the program is self-supporting and 300k in the black every year. Last year five students were graduated, two years ago four students were graduated, three will graduate this year, and there are approximately 12 majors at all times. The program does not have any tenure-track faculty lines.
- McDowell: The women’s studies program makes an impact on the school that is much greater than reflected by the number of students the program graduates. In addition, faculty should not support the elimination of any program.
 - Foley: The degree may be eliminated; however, the program itself will be retained.
 - Beeler: Credit hour production should not be considered as a reason to eliminate programs of study.
 - McGarry suggested we should respond as the senate regarding the short notice and ask for a public announcement. The issue should be brought to academic council and will be revisited. The faculty senate asked for clarification regarding whether the program was being eliminated and would like to have a report after the November 5, 2015 meeting with TBR.
 - Express concerns to Phyllis Thompson, the Director of the Women’s Studies Program.
 - McGarry: Can we send a request to Dr. Bach to ask for additional information.
 - McGarry made a motion to formally request information from the provost on why the program is being terminated: Second; Trogen: Motion Approved.

7. Adjournment Motion: Brown Second: Epps Approved Adjournment at 16:45

Please notify Senator Eric Sellers (sellers@etsu.edu or 9-4476, Faculty Senate Secretary, 2015-2016, of any changes or corrections to the minutes. Web Page is maintained by Senator Doug Burgess (burgess@etsu.edu or x96691).