

2014-2015 Faculty Senate

MINUTES—April 20, 2015

Faculty Senate—East Tennessee State University

UPCOMING MEETING:	FOLLOWING MEETING:
Faculty Senate Retreat August 18, 2015, 9:00 am Carnegie Hotel	2015-2016 Faculty Senate August 31, 2015, 2:45 p.m. Forum, Culp Center

Present: Leila Al-Imad, Fred Alsop, Beth Baily, Robert Beeler, Patrick Brown, Doug Burgess, Randy Byington, Kathy Campbell, Dorothy Drinkard-Hawkshawe, Joyce Duncan, Susan Epps, Bill Flora, Virginia Foley, Lee Glenn, Nick Hagemeyer, Tammy Hayes, Jill Hayter, Bill Hemphill, Tod Jablonski, Karin Keith, Dhirendra Kumar, Fred Mackara, Anthony Masino, Tim McDowell, Bea Owens, Peter Panus, Jonathon Peterson, Deborah Ricker, Thomas Schacht, Eric Sellers, Melissa Shafer, Darshan Shah, Kathryn Sharp, Taylor Stevenson, Kim Summey, Paul Trogen, Craig Turner, Jennifer Vanover-Hall, Liang Wang, Robert White.

Excused: Lon Felker, Kerry Proctor-Williams, Judy Rice, April Stidham, Jim Thigpen

Absent: Daryl Carter, Helene Holbrook, Koyamangalath Krishnan, Ken Kellogg, Guangya Li, Mary Ann Littleton, Jerome Mwinyelle, Timir Paul, Bill Stone, Ahmad Watted,

Guests: David Champollion, James Stukes, Jennifer Rice

CALL TO ORDER: President Foley called the meeting to order at 2:50 pm.

President Foley introduced Jennifer Rice and James Stukes who are in attendance to introduce a program called Buc Path. Guest Rice said that the program Buc Path was funded by a grant through InTopForm. It was created with assistance from a committee that was comprised of several faculty and staff members and a student focus group. The purpose of this program was to create a check list for students of academic dates and things they need to prepare each semester and also a suggestion of events that would allow them to get their full college experience.

Buc Path is now online. It can be accessed through the A-Z index. It contains clickable options that give students more information and directs them to websites, phone numbers, and links that will provide more information about each one of the steps. There are paths right now for the high school senior year, and the first, second, third, and fourth year of college. Some items are repetitive such as filling out the FAFSA and meeting with an advisor, but each year there are different suggestions for student

engagement such as encouraging them to attend sporting or cultural arts event. One of the things being worked on is a pre-transfer year for transfer students that will be sent out to community colleges.

Senator Byington asked how dual enrollment students fit into this model. Guest Stukes replied that their requirements are a little different. He said that dual enrollment students register with their high school. Senator Beeler asked if there was anything for the transfer students. He said that, for example, MATH 3000 is a pre-requisite for any of the upper level math classes and is not taught at the community colleges. Is there something to let them know that they need to take MATH 3000 as soon as possible? Guest Rice said that one of the items that may be included on that pre-transfer year is to encourage transfers students to look at their major curriculum for ETSU and communicate with their advisor early on rather than waiting until the semester they're going to transfer.

Senator Beeler asked if there is any sort of alerts for the Intent to Graduate form which has a deadline that is earlier than what our students expect. Guest Rice agreed that there are several students who during their senior year aren't aware that they are supposed to file an Intent to Graduate form. It is listed on the Buc Path in the third year. Senator Peterson asked if Buc Paths was linked to a calendar. Guest Rice replied it is not but it is a good idea. Senator Epps asked if there was a reminder to complete the SAIs on the checklist. Guest Rice again replied it is not but it is also a good idea. President Foley thanked Jennifer Rice and James Stukes for their time.

President Foley requested approval of the minutes from April 6th, 2015. Senator Epps moved to accept with corrections. Senator Brown seconded. The minutes were approved with no dissent or abstentions.

President Foley asked Senator Schacht to speak on the Health Care Merger.

Senator Schacht stated that the Tennessee legislature is actively entertaining bills that would modify the rules under which a Certificate of Public Advantage could be issued. The effect of those rules is two-fold: one, it would make it easier to qualify for provision to get such a merger; and the second effect of this legislation in its current form would be to make it much harder to challenge a Certificate of Public Advantage. For example, under one version of the new legislation, there would be a requirement that anybody who challenged this post a bond in an amount sufficient to compensate the organization for any losses it might suffer if the challenge failed. There is also a provision that would make anyone who challenged a merger potentially liable to pay the legal fees of the hospital system if the challenge failed.

Dr. Schacht said that he sent out an email to everyone on a report called the Synthesis Project. This research was commissioned by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. It was originally reported upon in 2006 and was updated in 2012. The thrust of this project was to examine from an economic point of view the impact of hospital consolidations when they have occurred. The conclusions are increases in hospital market concentration lead to increases in the cost of hospital care. The magnitude of the increases reported as substantial exceeded 20% when mergers occurred in concentrated markets. Hospital mergers were noted to reduce quality of care; whereas hospital competition was noted to improve quality when there is an administered pricing system such as Medicare. The report seems to outline the potential downside for a merger.

Senator Schacht continued that the primary focus on the local rhetoric has been a desire to keep hospital services local. The carrot for ETSU has been promise of increased funding for research as well as a promise for some increased funding for residency slots. An unanswered question is if the legislation passes in its current form, what recourse would ETSU have if these promises are not kept in the future? He said the university's analysis of the situation has not looked at the downside. It has been a one-sided analysis and has only looked at what the promised benefits are and not the potential drawbacks.

President Foley stated that when President Noland met with the senate executive committee last week, he asked for patience. He said that there were many questions and a lot of the details were being worked out. She said that Senator Schacht brought up the concern about posting bond when challenging the Certificate of Public Advantage. It seemed news to President Noland at the time. He did say that this would be the first time that the president of the university has had a seat of the governing board of the hospitals and that the COPA committee would include three ETSU representatives: a vice president, a faculty member, and the university attorney.

Senator Brown added that president Noland also said there would be some job loss, ideally not as much as if they sold to an outside entity. They don't plan on closing any facilities, but there will be repurposing of them. All of these details will have to be in the COPA itself.

Senator Peterson stated that Dr. Noland has come out publically and supported the merger. How does that align with his saying be patient about the details when he's already come out in support of it? President Foley answered that he is very much in favor of it because of the commitment of 10-15 million dollars of research money annually for ETSU and that the governance would be local and we would have a seat at the table. When he said be patient, it was that there are lot of questions that nobody has answers to yet. He indicated there would be opportunities for those questions to be asked. The real question right now is with the legislation. Senator Schacht added that the position that's been discussed on the board of the merged entity for the university president is non-voting.

Senator Bailey stated that there is concern that there hasn't been much discussion about how this is going to affect our medical student rotation slots and residency slots. Senator Schacht said to add to that, the current plan announced a couple of years ago is for the hospital systems to cut their support for about 50 residency slots. If they restore that funding, they will simply be putting us back to where we were a couple of years ago. He continued that unanswered to all of that is how this will affect ETSU's ability to hire faculty in a competitive marketplace. As it is currently, ETSU cannot compete with them in terms of faculty salaries. He said that if they want to hire a physician, and we want to hire the same person, they can always out bid us. We could be in the situation of having 50 more residency slots than we thought we were going to have and having difficulty staffing the necessary teaching compliment with faculty.

Senator White asked if there was any data on the benefits of monopolies to locals. Senator Schacht replied that when he was doing the research, he was looking for that kind of information. He could not find it.

President Foley stated that we need to be educated, vigilant, and involved when we have the opportunity. She is not sure what other steps we could take at this time.

Senator Mackara commented that he would like to hear more information about this. It would be nice if we could get some other expertise to talk about this with us. Senator Schacht said that is the reason for the resolution that he introduced at the last meeting that basically asks for two things. First that we request intervener status which gets us put on a mailing list and then we are copied on every document that gets filed. Under the current law the state has the option but is not required to have public hearings about the application. The second issue is the resolution would encourage the state to hold public hearings.

Senator Panus suggested that if we are allowed three voting members on the COPA and one of them was a faculty member - someone from the faculty senate should be the faculty representative. President Foley responded that in the executive committee meeting last Monday it was discussed who that might be. Senators Schacht and Byington were suggested. If anyone has other recommendations please let her know.

Senator Al-Imad asked if there is a public hearing, would we all be able to go. Senator Schacht replied that if it is conducted the way it should be conducted, a public hearing is open to the public. The public can go and speak.

President Foley stated that this is the last Faculty Senate meeting of the year for the full body. The Executive Committee continues to meet in the summer. As more information is disclosed she will share it by email.

Senator Schacht stated that there is a motion on the table with a proposed resolution regarding requesting intervener status. Senator Alsop seconded the motion. President Foley asked for the vote. The motion passed with no dissent and four abstentions.

President Foley announced that the next agenda item is a discussion of summer school. She said that she received an email from Senator Holbrook who was not able to be here today but she passed along that she got significantly modified summer schedules last Friday. She went from 7 to 1.2 units for the summer. She is looking elsewhere for summer work. President Foley asked if anyone else has been impacted by the summer school plan.

Senator Keith said that according to her department if they go to a faculty who is scheduled to teach a course and that faculty says "no, I will not do it for less money", then they will go to another faculty and basically exhaust faculty until they get to the adjunct level.

Senator Alsop stated that there is a two prong concern: one is who will be able to teach and who will not and the other is the 3.5 million dollars taken off the front end.

Guest Champollion stated that there continues to be a serious problem with summer school. The provost's office is using summer money to pay for things during the year. What the provost's office is trying to dictate is 'we'll let you teach that class, but we're going to pay you less, but nothing will be

taken off of the provost's office cut'. The senate really should consider some kind of definitive statement that this is not acceptable. Not only are we all under-paid already now they want to under pay us more.

Senator Alsop said that there is no discussion of the 3.5 million dollars that's being taken. Discussion is being focused on everything else around it. That's applying the tax before the product is sold.

President Foley agreed that we do need to make a statement as a faculty senate. She said that if someone wants to draft a statement and we can send it out and vote electronically and pass that statement on.

Senator Brown added that regardless of whether you agree or don't in this pilot funding model for faculty, each college is still on the hook for their piece of that 3.5 million dollars. The College of Public Health is still on the hook and as a result, he said his summer class went from having a cap of 24 to 36 because it's a high demand class. He is going to get paid, but he will have to work harder for it.

Guest Champollion suggested the executive committee work on drafting a statement. President Foley said that was a good suggestion and they would work on that. She asked that we move on to the new business of elections.

Senator Byington, chair of the Committee on Committees, announced that there were two items before officer elections. He said that there is an opening in the College of Education for a member of the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee. Don Good has agreed to serve in that role. Senator Byington moved that the senate appoint Don Good for the College of Education's Intercollegiate Athletic Committee position. Senator Panus seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent or abstention

Senator Byington continued that there is also an opening on the Academic Technology Subcommittee of the ITGC and that person needs to be a member of senate. Senator Trogen volunteered to serve on the committee. Senator Byington moved to accept Senator Trogen as the representative. Senator Brown seconded. The motion carried without dissent or abstention.

Senator Byington announced that there are four officer positions open for elections. Dr. Foley's term as President is a two year term, so that position is not open for nominations this year. The first open position is Vice President. The floor is open for nominations of Vice President of Faculty Senate. Senator Brown nominated Susan Epps as Vice President. Senator Schacht seconded the nomination. Senator Byington asked if there were other nominations. There being none, Senator Brown moved that we accept by acclamation. Senator Panus seconded. Senator Susan Epps was elected by acclamation.

Senator Byington stated that the next position is the Chief Operating Officer. It is a one year position. He opened the floor for nominations. Senator Epps nominated Patrick Brown. Senator Beeler seconded the nomination. Senator Byington called for additional nominations. There being none, Senator Beeler moved that the nominations close and we accept by acclamation. Senator Flora seconded the motion. Senator Patrick Brown was elected by acclamation.

Senator Byington said that the office of secretary is elected annually. He opened the floor for nominations for secretary of senate. Senator Shafer nominated Eric Sellers. Senator Beeler seconded

the nomination. Senator Byington called for additional nominations. There being none, Senator Beeler moved that the nominations close and we accept by acclamation. Senator Epps seconded the motion. Senator Eric Sellers was elected by acclamation.

Senator Byington stated that the at-large members of the executive committee are elected at the senate retreat in August. The last position to be elected today is that of treasurer. He opened the floor for nominations for treasurer. Senator Stevenson nominated Melissa Shafer. Senator Epps seconded the nomination. Senator Byington called for additional nominations. There being none, Senator Beeler moved that the nominations close and we accept by acclamation. Senator Flora seconded the motion. Senator Melissa Shafer was elected by acclamation.

President Foley announced that she had a few updates from the latest Senior Staff meeting.

- In the state budget which was passed there is funding for the Fine Arts Building. There is also funding for some deferred maintenance projects and for faculty raises. ETSU got approved for reoccurring line item funding for the Fossil Site. This is the first recurring line item since the Craft Center at Tennessee Tech.
- Our student fee request has been submitted to TBR and a portion of it is going to fund ETSU's part of the faculty raise that was approved by the state. The other part of it will go to the equity pool and a third part is going to expand new faculty lines. The students also passed a fee for renovating and expanding the Culp Center.
- There are three candidates and one alternate for the Foundation Vice President search. The candidates are coming in today and next week. Two are from Purdue and one is from UVA.
- Because of the football stadium and where it is going to be constructed, we are losing parking lots 18 and 19. One major result is the outsourcing of motor pool. The state already has a contract with Enterprise Rental Car so it is just a matter of working out the details of that contract.

President Foley stated that there will be an implementation committee with regards to the motor pool outsourcing and the administration would like us to suggest names of faculty members who use the motor pool frequently. President Foley asked for volunteers. Senator Mackara volunteered to serve.

Senator Byington said that it is a little larger than just what happens with the football parking lot. Over the next 4 to 5 years there will be construction of the Football Stadium, the Fine Arts Center, a data center, and the renovation to the Culp Center and to Lamb Hall, all which will have implications on parking.

Senator Masino said that it has come to his attention there is an issue with parking. ETSU has a policy of writing tickets for students that are parked in the wrong spot. He said that the students in his class tell him they park in faculty parking all the time. He has called parking services to get enforcement. A comment he got back from them was they only tow if they are in an unindicated spot, they're blocking traffic, or if they're parking in the president's parking spot. They have put on their parking website their tow policy, but they are not following it. He has suggested to them on multiple occasions, go to a tiered ticket approach and announce public towing days.

President Foley asked Senator Masino to forward the email he sent to her so that Senator Trogen could bring it forward to the Parking Committee.

President Foley announced that there were a few more updates from Senior Staff.

- Faculty/Staff Appreciation week starts next week. Sunday we get two free tickets to the baseball game. There will be a different faculty or staff member featured each day on the website so log on and check it out.
- Spring Fling is the 29th on the quad.
- This is Civility Week and we are encouraged to attend events that are being held this week.
- Dr. Sander announced the game time tour tonight in Elizabethton and Thursday from 11-1 at ETSU campus on the quad.
- Thursday there will be Blackhawk helicopters on campus. It's a recruiting event for ROTC.

President Foley announced that Mike Krauss has been cancelled for this week. The first cancellation was on us, we anticipated bad weather and told him not to come as the university was closed. This cancellation was because of a scheduling conflict that occurred because it's the last week of the legislative session. He will be rescheduled.

Senator Hemphill said that he spoke to Representative Matthew Hill. He mentioned the fact he hadn't been invited here in some time. Senator Hemphill suggested we schedule another session with legislators.

Senator Panus asked if there was an update on D2L. As he understands it, the contract is coming up in July. Senator Byington replied that the only information he knows is that vendors were being reviewed. President Foley added that Karen King mentioned Banner is up for bid.

Senator White stated that the Carnegie is all in favor of having a faculty club. They are willing to show a lot of hospitality. He said that he is thinking there would be a fee to be a member and we would set up to have a private room over at the Wellington with a private server during certain times. Maybe two days a week for happy hour where part of the faculty club fee would give you free orders, one drink, then you would pay for the rest. President Foley asked Senator White to write up the plan and she would send it out to everybody.

President Foley asked if there was a motion to adjourn. Senator Brown moved. Senator Epps seconded.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Please notify Senator Melissa Shafer (shaferm@etsu.edu or 9-5837, Faculty Senate Secretary, 2014-2015, of any changes or corrections to the minutes. Web Page is maintained by Senator Doug Burgess (burgess@etsu.edu or x96691).