

The University of Tennessee Faculty Senate
MINUTES
February 3, 2003

Those absent were: Hamparsum Bozdogan, Paula Carney, Jon Coddington, Col. Alfred Coffman, Marlene K. Davis, Sylvia Davis, Tom Doherty, David Eastwood, Susan Hamilton, Marion Hansen, Ralph Harvey, Mark Hedrick, Leslie Hickok, Dennie Kelley, Desiree Kennedy, Majid Keyhani, Ken Kimble, Jon Levin, Jeff MacCabe, Trevor Moulden, Wayne Mulkey, Roland Roberts*, W. Tim Rogers, Gilya Schmidt, John Shumaker, Marlys Staudt, Elizabeth Sutherland, Esteban Walker, John Waller, Jan Williams, Rick Williams

*Guest: Steven Yen for Roland Roberts

M. Combs called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS and INTRODUCTIONS

Combs confirmed with the Secretary that a quorum appeared to be present. He then noted that the "Special Business Item" should be "Entertain Discussion of Proxy Voting".

Combs next welcomed back Beauvais Lyons and then asked that everyone join him in celebrating the Life of Bernie Silverstein who passed away Saturday. He noted that Silverstein served as President of the Senate during the 1986-1987 academic year and was instrumental in establishing the policy of tuition discounts for children of faculty and staff.

Combs wanted to introduce Mr. Steve Leonard, the new UT Executive Vice President, but Mr. Leonard was not able to be present. Combs then noted that the meeting with the president to discuss the new research foundation has been postponed for a number of reasons from the announced date of February 10.

Combs next noted that today's meeting marks the half-way point for this year's senate. He then briefly reviewed progress to date, including a sabbatical leave policy for which procedures are being finalized. He also discussed activities for the next three months.

Combs next asked all regular senators to be certain to vote for members of the Committee on Committees. He then noted that he had informed President Shumaker that he is willing to assemble faculty groups to meet with the president to assist with efforts to help the state's budget situation and to participate in the creation of the new position of chancellor and the selection of an individual to fill that position.

Combs next noted that the official opening ceremonies for Africa Semester will occur tomorrow afternoon at 5:00 p.m. on the plaza of the University Center. He also noted that proxy votes are not allowed by the current bylaws. O. Stephens then discussed the matter and suggested the possibility of allowing alternates.

Combs then paused to consider the minutes.

MINUTES

Minutes of the Faculty Senate meeting of November 18, 2002, were approved with the change from B. Lyons to W. Lyons in the second paragraph under "Announcements and Introductions" to

distinguish between Bill Lyons (William) and Beauvais Lyons. Minutes of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee meeting of January 13, 2003, were approved without change.

NEW BUSINESS

G. Graber noted that he had distributed a proposed change in the bylaws to allow voting alternates later this spring. T. Diacon spoke against allowing proxy voting, since unexpected topics often arise in meetings. He suggested dealing directly with the problem of absences. In response to a question from T.-W. Wang, Graber said he assumed alternates would be elected for this spring the same ways current senators were elected in their units. Wang then spoke in support of proxy voting. W. Morgan pointed out that an alternate may vote the way he or she wishes, not simply the way the senator for whom the alternate is substituting for might wish to vote.

COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL REPORTS

Report on Election of Senate President-Elect (C. Hodges)

Hodges noted that Combs would be sending a letter requesting nominations; she asked that nominators get the agreement of the proposed nominee before making a nomination. She then asked that senators send her suggestions about the kind of support that should be sought for a president-elect. Hodges also noted that a new position of Vice President for International Development has been created and soon will be filled; she is chair of the search committee.

Committee to Revise the Faculty Handbook

Moffett said the committee has done a lot of work, but is not yet ready to provide any documents to the Faculty Senate. The General Council must review some chapters before they are distributed.

Committee on Senate Structure and Effectiveness (G. Graber for P. Phillips)

Graber noted that a partial report from the committee is on the Faculty Senate web site. He then briefly reviewed some of the recommendations and noted that a possible schedule for making a transition to the new structure is on the web.

Budget Committee Report (L. Gross)

Gross noted that he also is on the Recycling Committee and that a report has been presented to the administration; it proposes significant increases in recycling on campus.

Gross then said that the Budget Committee does not have the annual faculty salary report because IRIS is presenting difficulties in getting the data. He also noted that the Budget Committee is participating in the budget hearings, but that President Shumaker has withdrawn system-level reporting in these hearings.

Gross next discussed the new Research Foundation and financial aspects of it. He noted that questions and comments provided by faculty groups in Memphis and Knoxville have not been responded to by anyone.

Report on the Oak Ridge Faculty Affiliates Agreement (C. Woods)

Woods reported that he and Provost Crabtree met with science and engineering department heads to discuss concerns about the agreement. One concern was faculty affiliates lacking appropriate academic credentials; the possibility of having "staff affiliates" is being studied. A memorandum to be sent to affiliates to describe their privileges is being developed. Wang noted that the original Memorandum of Understanding talked about UT faculty having reciprocal privileges at Oak Ridge; she then pointed out that some faculty cannot have access because of security and other concerns.

Woods responded that the problem is being worked on. S. Smith noted that some people on the affiliates list have less substantial records than others who were not on the list and this situation is causing some difficulties. Woods said he would raise the matter with L. Reidinger. Gross said that he understands that everyone on the list now is a faculty affiliate and asked how a department can remove someone from the list. Woods responded that no one on the list is currently affiliated with a department and if a department does not want someone, then that person will remain affiliated with the Provost's Office. Gross commented that then there appears to be no reason for a department to spend its time and energy on the process and that the institution seemingly has sold faculty affiliations at less than \$25 apiece.

Address by the Provost (L. Crabtree)

Crabtree said he wanted to note some positives, in particular, many aspects of the Africa Semester, progress in the dean searches, the new sabbatical policy to be implemented next fall term, work on university governance, work on an open budget process and work on budget reductions (ranging from \$4.5 million to \$14 million). Crabtree said administrators believe such reductions could be managed without harming the academic effort. In particular, the president has agreed that equipment-purchase programs and the thirty new faculty positions should be protected. Crabtree responded to a question from Gross by saying that athletics would have its budget hearing at the systems level, but he expects such hearings to be public, as the provost hearings are. In response to a suggestion that guidelines for likely "winners" be distributed with the applications for sabbaticals in an effort to save faculty from wasting time, Crabtree described the process that will be used to determine which applications are funded. In response to another question, he said that the matter of whether banking of courses should be continued is still being debated. Finally, in response to another question, Crabtree said a search for a new dean in Communications will occur next year.

Report from the Enrollment Management Committee (A. Mayhew)

Mayhew reviewed some of the history of the committee and some of the procedures. The committee seeks to match enrollment to academic capacity. It also advises those who recruit new students and brings together representatives from diverse areas concerned with enrollment. It concentrates on undergraduate recruitment, but also is involved in graduate recruitment. The goal for 2003-2004 is 3800 new freshmen enrollments in the fall with higher ACT scores. In response to a question from Gross, Mayhew said the data are being studied to determine where efforts to recruit can be most effective.

OLD BUSINESS

B. Lyons noted that revisions to the bylaws concerning the Athletics Committee were read at the November meeting. Gross noted that adding three non-faculty members to the committee would dilute faculty impact on the committee, so he will oppose the revision. Gross then moved that the new appointments be non-voting *ex-officio* members. The motion was seconded. M. Rogge asked whether a quorum was present. A quorum was not present, so action was delayed to the next meeting.

M. Anderson announced that the AAUP chapter will sponsor workshops on February 18, 19, 20 on the Research Foundation, intellectual property and electronic privacy.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Sam Jordan, Secretary