The University of Tennessee Faculty Senate
MINUTES
October 21, 2002

Those absent were: Hamparsum Bozdogan, Paula Carney, Marianne Custer, Tom Doherty, Bruce Fisher, Kathy Greenberg, Susan Hamilton, Marion Hansen, Leslie Hickok, Dennie Kelley, Majid Keyhani, Dukwon Kim, Ken Kimble, Beauvais Lyons, Jeff MacCabe, William MacMorran, Gary McDaniel, Jan Musfeldt, Bill Nugent, Loretta Price, W. Tim Rogers, Mary Rogge, Gilya Schmidt, John Shumaker, Pamela Small, Susan Smith, Richard Strange, Bruce Tonn, Esteban Walker, Dan Ward

M. Combs called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS and INTRODUCTIONS

Combs confirmed with the Secretary that a quorum was present.

Combs next thanked the musical group, Rusty Strings, for its pre-meeting concert. He then asked Faculty Senators to review the minutes distributed with the agenda and noted that a number of Faculty Senators participated in recent special information sessions. He also noted that Faculty Senators have been added as members of the Enrollment Management Committee and faculty have been recommended to serve on a variety of committees. In addition, he reported that Senators L. Jolly and M. Keyhani are the first elected faculty members serving as chairs of the Undergraduate Council and Graduate Council, respectively.

Combs next reported that he and L. Crabtree are discussing faculty representation on the Calendar Committee, so that faculty will have input into the 2004-2005 and later calendars. He also said that item V. concerning the Educational Policy Committee in the proposed bylaws changes has been withdrawn. Combs also said that he and Crabtree are assembling task forces to study the concept of moving from department heads to chairs, to review the guidelines for summer school and mini-term, and to review and develop an acceptable policy for information technology. He also announced that projected dates for next year's Faculty Senate meetings are available on the web and passed out a few copies of the proposed policy on awarding honorary degrees. Finally, he reported that the Educational Marketing Group has received 1,023 responses to its questionnaire with 152 from faculty.

MINUTES

Minutes of the Faculty Senate meeting of September 9, 2002, and of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee meeting of October 7, 2002, were approved without change.

COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL REPORTS

Legislative Committee (C. White)
White reported that the committee is working with students to get out the vote in November. A debate among some candidates was supported by the committee. White also noted that the committee believes it should be involved in local government as well as state legislative matters. She next introduced T. Ballard to report on the legislature, which will reconvene in January, but will not do much until February.

<u>State of Tennessee Legislature</u> (T. Ballard)
Ballard noted that the shutdown of many state functions in July led to the approval of a budget with more funding for higher education. He next observed that four or five incumbents lost in the August election. There are eighty-two House incumbents on the ballot in November with forty-one of them unopposed; ten Senate incumbents are on the ballot with four unopposed. According to the Tennessee Journal the next State House is likely to have fifty-seven Democrats and forty-two Republicans. The teacher equalization issue will force the legislature to consider revenue and there will be several new leaders, so the session should be interesting. Finally, Ballard noted the shift from talking about the glass being half-empty to talking about the glass being half-full, that is, about what is good at UT and what could be better. Equitable sharing of any new revenues is another focus as is the identification of efforts by which UT wants to be measured. There is hope that the business community will become more involved in trying to influence legislators.

M. Moffett noted that the Knoxville News-Sentinel has a new editor who seems to be willing to cover positive stories about UT and expressed her hopes that positive stories will be provided in large numbers. Ballard agreed and said efforts along that line are already being made.

<u>The New Information Technology Policy</u> (M. Combs)
Combs noted that the Executive Committee is recommending to the Faculty Senate that this policy, created without Faculty Senate input, be rejected and the old policy be reinstated. He reported that after the Executive Committee meeting he met with F. Muly, the responsible administrator, together with the chairs of the Research Council and the Educational Policy Committee. He listed two possibilities: recommend (1) removal of the new policy and replacement of it with the former Acceptable Use Practices document, or (2) leaving the new policy in place but adding text indicating that it is under review.

T.-W. Wang asked what was inadequate about the old policy and what can be done to avoid this kind of situation in the future. Both Combs and Crabtree spoke in favor of more and better communication. L. Gross then identified a portion of the new policy that he cannot possibly adhere to, because the necessary software is not available. After several comments, D. Birdwell said there is nothing in the old policy that people cannot live with. He then described how the old policy was developed jointly by administrators and Faculty Senate representatives. He also described how the new policy was developed and how faculty were not adequately involved, noted that the new policy has requirements that cannot be met, and said that its scope has been extended. He then recommended returning to the former policy. If that choice is not selected, he said he hopes that the word "draft" will be added to the new policy statement.

F. Muly, in response to a question, said that the new policy will apply to the Memphis campus as well as to the Knoxville campus. She also said the new policy was needed because of concerns about security. She acknowledged that there is no software available to meet certain requirements in certain situations. In response to a question from J. Malia, Combs said that the Faculty Senate's actions would be reported to the Provost. Crabtree then said that the matter really is in the arena of the Vice President for Information Technology and spoke in favor of the second option.

The recommendation from the Executive Committee (contained in the minutes of the last Executive Committee meeting) then was approved.

<u>Faculty Statement in Support of Chancellor Position</u> (M. Combs)
Combs called attention to the statement approved by the Executive Committee and distributed with the agenda. He asked for comments to guide him in his comments to the Board of Trustees later in the week. Gross noted that he voted against the resolution in the Executive Committee meeting,

because he sees it as "buying a pig in a poke." He noted in particular that we do not know exactly how the chancellor position will be described, except that athletics will not report to the chancellor. White noted that President Shumaker sees having athletics report to him as a political asset. In response to a question from B. Robinson, G. Graber said that the statement says "endorse the concept of restoring the position of Chancellor," rather than "endorse restoring the position of Chancellor," because the new position has not been defined. The statement from the Executive Committee then was approved.

Committee to Revise Faculty Handbook (M. Moffett)
Moffett reported that the committee is writing a new chapter on faculty rights and responsibilities and is working with A. Chesney on the matter of non-tenure-track faculty.

Committee on Senate Structure and Effectiveness (P. Phillips)
Phillips reviewed the report distributed with the agenda. It recommends that only faculty have voting rights in the Faculty Senate, the Faculty Senate be smaller, TENNSENS be reinstated, and that Senate-Chancellor committees be reinstated to decide academic and other policies.

Vote on Proposed Bylaws Changes Read at September 9, 2002, Meeting (T. Miller)
Miller briefly reviewed the nature of the changes. The proposal was seconded and then approved.

Proposed Bylaws Changes—Questions Only (T. Miller)
Miller noted that the proposed changes were distributed with the agenda and that item V. is being withdrawn for further consideration. It also was noted that under item I. the correct wording is Associate Director of Women's Athletics/Compliance and Associate Director of Men's Athletics/Compliance. Finally, it was noted that the Director of Alumni Affairs should be added as an *ex-officio* member of the Development and Alumni Relations Committee.

Senate Committee Goals for 2002-2003 (M. Combs)
Combs observed that the goals have been approved by the Executive Committee. There were no comments.

NEW BUSINESS

Gross presented a resolution from the Budget Committee concerning the new mini-term/summer school policy in which the Faculty Senate was not involved. A main concern is the introduction of a salary cap for faculty teaching in summer school at a time when many faculty activities during the summer already are not compensated. A. Mayhew noted that there had been a cap on mini-term salaries and that it was raised when it was extended to summer school in the new policy. She also noted that the merging of mini-term and summer school prompted the new policy. She also said that the different costs for GTA teaching and faculty teaching of the same course were an aspect of the decision to extend the cap. Phillips urged that the use of fees generated by thesis and dissertation hours be looked into by the task force. In response to another comment Mayhew said that she expects summer session, 2003, to proceed under the new policy. Crabtree confirmed that summer session, 2003, will not be affected by Faculty Senate action on the new policy. Gross then accepted a friendly motion to insert "future" between "all" and "aspects" in item 1 of the resolution. The amended resolution then was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Sam Jordan, Secretary