

The University of Tennessee Faculty Senate
MINUTES
April 5, 2004

Those absent were: Kendra Albright, James Bailey, Bruce Bomar, Loren Crabtree, Sylvia Davis, Tom Doherty, William Hamel, Susan Hamilton, Marion Hansen, Ralph Harvey, Wes Hines, Heather Hirschfeld, Joe Iannelli, Ed Jepson, Barbara Kaye, Dennie Kelley*, Majid Keyhani, Dukwon Kim, William Lyons, Jan Musfeldt, Bill Nugent, John Preston, W. Tim Rogers, Mary Rogge, Dileep Sachan, Neal Schrick, Pamela Small, Mandyam Srinivasan, Marlys Staudt, LTC Robert Walsh, Dan Ward, Rick Williams

*Alternate Senators: Laura Jolly for Dennie Kelley

B. Lyons called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INTRODUCTIONS

Establishment of Quorum (S. Jordan)
Jordan confirmed that a quorum was present.

President's Report (B. Lyons)

Lyons noted that today marks the completion of the review of the Faculty Handbook. He noted that milestone by awarding another torch to this project on his scorecard. He also awarded another torch to the presidential search effort. Lyons encouraged everyone to seek and to report information about the candidates for presidency.

Lyons also noted the Life of the Mind program for freshmen. A large number of faculty need to be involved in this program. A sign-up sheet will be circulated during the meeting. Lyons then reported that almost all elections for senators have been completed. He next reviewed some of the day's agenda items.

Lyons also reported that Chancellor Crabtree is in New Orleans for the women's basketball championship game. He did provide a written report from the Chancellor, which was distributed at the meeting. In the Chancellor's message, he thanked the Faculty Senate for their work on the Faculty Handbook. He also noted three tasks before the University: completion of the Presidential search; conclusion of searches for the Deans of the Colleges of Education, Health and Human Sciences, as well as Communications and Information; and the challenge of preparing a budget for next year within the limits of state funding and tuition rates.

MINUTES

Minutes of the Faculty Senate meeting of March 1, 2004, were approved without change.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Faculty Handbook Task Force (M. Moffett)

Moffett noted that the title to section 8.2 should be "Revision of Titles and Nonsubstantive Revisions." She then turned to Chapter Seven. L. Gross stated that he might not support the current version. He cited concerns about the lack of guidance for departments and heads and his concern that the writing of books is covered by the rules on outside compensated activities. Moffett responded that book-writing is not covered by Chapter Seven. Gross and others stated that their

reading of it includes book-writing. Lyons noted that a faculty member whose department head decides that certain activities are not to be included as part of the faculty member's annual effort may appeal that decision. B. Dunne said that the real question is whether one is performing one's UT duties. D. Bassett moved that "Publication and/or editing of research/scholarship/creative activity and" be inserted at the beginning of the sentence that starts on line 3 of p.2. The motion was seconded and approved without objection.

Bassett then objected to some of the imprecision in Chapter 7. C. White responded that the huge variety of activities pursued by faculty on this campus forces the use of imprecise language. Moffett emphasized that faculty must be performing their university duties in a satisfactory manner. M. Beck spoke in favor of flexible language. Lyons then said he would like to proceed to a vote on Chapter 7 as amended at the meeting. Chapter 7 was approved with a few negative votes.

Moffett next said that, except for the change to the title of section 8.2, Chapter 8 is as presented previously. It was approved with no negative votes. Lyons then thanked Moffett and the task force for their work.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Nominations Committee (G. Graber)

Graber introduced the two candidates for president-elect. D. Kennedy noted that she had distributed electronically a short biography and statement on challenges. She reviewed a few of those points in her statement. F. Weber said that he, too, had made available a biographical sketch and brief statement. He then said that he thinks the faculty should review all policies in the context of newer ways of communicating. He also said he believes there is a need for a committee to look at problems of all citizens of the institution, not to fix the problems, but to determine what can be done and what the costs would be.

Lyons noted that the ballot box is available at the meeting for those who wished to vote and that April 8th is the final date for ballots to be submitted to Sharonne Winston.

Proposed Faculty Senate Committee Restructuring (C. White)

White noted that the proposals previously have been considered and amended and expressed her hope that word-smithing might be limited. The item on the formation of an Appeals Committee was approved without change. The statement for the Faculty Affairs Committee was changed by the deletion of the first "shall consist" in the first sentence. The item for this committee then was approved without objection.

White turned next to the material for the Information Technology Committee. G. Schroedl asked why the chairperson is to be elected. White responded that the idea is to be certain an informed person chairs the committee. The material for this committee then was approved without change.

Deletion of the Instruction with Technology Subcommittee was approved next. Then the material for the Student Affairs Committee was approved with the understanding that the appropriate new name for the Undergraduate Academic Council would be used. Deletion of the Development and Alumni Relations Committee was approved without objection. Deletion of the Government Relations Committee was considered next. D. Kahn spoke against deletion on the grounds that this committee can spread the word about research across the state. Moffett asked whether the committee ever had done so. White then said she is sympathetic to Kahn's point, but thinks there are other ways to communicate. The deletion of this committee then was approved with a few negative votes.

Deletion of International Education Committee, changes to the membership and charges of the Educational Policy Committee and changes to the Professional Development Committee's charge were considered and approved together.

Finally, changes to the membership of the Executive Committee were considered. A motion by P. Pierce to delete "(or the designees)" was seconded and approved without objection. In response to a question about why "University President and" was deleted by the Executive Committee, Gross said that the words had been added when former President Gilley was in office and handling more duties than previous presidents and White noted that the president is not on faculty senate executive committees of other UT campuses.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution Concerning the Next University President (Executive Committee)

Lyons read the resolution (distributed with the agenda). K. Hughes asked whether the discussion might be split into two parts: one concerning moving the president to Nashville and one concerning moving certain duties of the president to the chancellor of the Knoxville campus. It was decided to consider the second part first. Lyons said he intended for all the "Whereas" clauses to accompany each part. Schroedl suggested adding campus facilities to the responsibilities of the chancellor. Addition of "facilities" after "campus budgets" was moved, seconded and approved. M. Anderson suggested rewording the second "whereas" clause to include "flagship institution." Lyons suggested that the "whereas" clauses could be adjusted later. The second part on the duties of the chancellor then was approved.

Lyons then moved to the first part. White spoke in favor. She noted that the UT System is often compared to the single flagship institution in other states. She then read part of an editorial by Warren Neel, which appeared in The Tennessean. She also noted that former President Shumaker believed the president of the system should be located in Nashville. She also read a message from the faculty senate president at Martin who offered to take a similar resolution to the faculty senate there, if this resolution passes. M. Combs pointed out that it is the president's office, not simply one person, that would move. B. Dunne then noted that a move to Nashville would cause a number of offices and their functions to move. Gross responded that the functions belong in Knoxville as responsibilities of the chancellor. Moffett reported that two of her colleagues believe the president should remain on this campus. Pierce expressed her belief that the Faculty Senate should not try to deal with this matter. M. Papke offered similar opinions. The first part then was defeated with a few positive votes.

Lyons next turned to the full resolution. Anderson moved that the second "Whereas" clause be changed to "Whereas the University of Tennessee, Knoxville campus has a unique responsibility for academic excellence as the flagship campus in the system." The motion was seconded and approved. A motion to add "and infrastructure" after "programs" in the third "Whereas" clause was made, seconded and approved. G. Graber then proposed adding "and infrastructure" after "facilities" in the second resolved statement. The motion was seconded and approved.

The meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Sam Jordan, Secretary