

The University of Tennessee Faculty Senate  
MINUTES  
February 2, 2004

Those absent were: Bruce Bomar, Hui-Shyong Change, Chris Cox, Joan Creasia, Marianne Custer, Sylvia Davis, Tom Doherty, Glenn Graber, Susan Hamilton, Marion Hansen, Heather Hirschfeld, Joe Iannelli, Ed Jepson, Majid Keyhani, Dukwon Kim, John Koontz, William Lyons, Jan Musfeldt, Bill Nugent, Bonnie Ownley, John Rehder, Mary Rogge, Dileep Sachan, Pamela Small, Mandyam Srinivasan\*, Marlys Staudt, LTC Robert Walsh, John Wilkerson, Rick Williams\*

\*Alternate Senator: Ed Perfect for Rick Williams, Virginia Kupritz for Mandyam Srinivasan

B. Lyons called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INTRODUCTIONS**

### Establishment of Quorum (S. Jordan)

Jordan confirmed that it appeared a quorum was present.

### President's Report (B. Lyons)

To save time, Lyons distributed copies of his comments. The statement included an update on the Senate Scorecard, with additional flaming torches for the (2) the Professional Leave Policy, (2) the New General Education Policy, (1) Faculty Handbook and (2) Committee Work. He expressed concern that any cost of living raises will not cover increases in insurance premiums for the lowest paid staff. He also indicated he is working to help implement the Faculty Senate resolution on non-discrimination. He announced that he has established an ad-hoc committee comprised of Clif Woods, Bob Glenn, Susan Martin, Norma Cook, Al Womac and himself to create an improved evaluation form for Department Heads. With the new handbook changes regarding five-year terms for department heads, he stressed the need for an improved evaluation system. The new form would be designed to (1) foster broad participation by faculty, staff and students; (2) provide confidentiality of responses; and (3) allow for some open-ended comments. The committee will compile a report for the Council of Deans and the Senate Executive Committee in March. He also encouraged participation in the upcoming Faculty Senate elections and he indicated that the Executive Committee will be reviewing the committee structure to propose possible changes for Senate action later this year. Finally, he encouraged approval of the proposed Faculty Senate Shared Governance Fund.

Lyons also noted that Fred Venditti, Faculty Senate President in 1984-85, had died the previous week. He cited some of Professor Venditti's accomplishments before a moment of silence was observed to honor his life.

### Chancellor's Report (L. Crabtree)

Crabtree reported that 1,359 additional applications have been received from potential freshmen and transfer students in comparison to the number at this time last year. He added that graduate applications are up 14.55%. He also said that the preliminary signs concerning next year's budget are positive and that professional leave applications are being processed. In response to a question about the predicted high rate at which incoming freshmen may not be able to retain their lottery scholarships, Crabtree said that A. Mayhew is dealing with that concern and that having an advisor for each student is an important part of the plans.

## **MINUTES**

Minutes of the Faculty Senate meeting of January 9, 2004, were approved without change.

## **REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

### Faculty Handbook Task Force (M. Moffett)

Moffett noted that minor changes have been made in Chapter 5 (p.2, ll. 4-5, p.3, ll. 9-14 and 18-31) and in Chapter 6 (p.2, ll. 31-32, p.5, ll. 1-4, and p.6, ll. 5-7). There were no questions or comments.

Chapter 4 was approved with no changes and no nay votes.

Moffett then briefly discussed some concerns of N. Cook about several parts of Chapter 5.

C. Craig noted that Cook had noticed that the proposed chapter does not mention that a faculty member making a complaint may be accompanied by an advisor. Moffett said the omission is intentional and, in part, is meant to begin a grievance process without lawyers involved for either side. Chapter 5 was approved as presented with no nay votes.

Moffett then turned to Chapter 6. Gross noted that p.1, ll. 25-27, should be a sentence and, the words "by providing" in l. 26 could be deleted to correct the problem. The suggestion was accepted. After a short discussion the senators approved Chapter 6 with no nay votes.

Lyons next led a discussion of Chapter 7. He described the history of the fourth draft being presented for first reading and noted that "outside compensated services" are now "outside compensated activities." Determining the nature and extent of such activities is left to the faculty member and the department or unit head to negotiate. All such discussions are to be in the context of the faculty member's obligations to the institution. Faculty can appeal decisions of a department head.

Gross noted that "compensated outside services" still appears in this draft. Gross also suggested having in Policy Provision 2 a link to the appropriate part of the UT Fiscal Policy to make clearer what kinds of uses of university facilities, equipment, etc. are allowed.

After a short discussion it was agreed that Policy Provision 2 should contain an explicit statement that faculty on 9-month appointments do not have to report on outside compensated activities undertaken during the summer. Gross encouraged everyone to think about the matter of faculty having to negotiate with the heads without some sort of guidelines in the Faculty Handbook.

## **REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

### Nominations Committee (P. Pierce for G. Graber)

Pierce asked for nominations for president-elect. Supporting comments should be included with nominations of others.

### Benefits Committee (B. Lyons for B. Ownley)

Lyons called attention to the proposed bylaws revision (distributed with the agenda for the last meeting and at today's meeting) concerning the chairperson of the Benefits Committee. The proposal passed with no objections.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Faculty Senate Shared Governance Fund (C. White)

White described the history of the fund, which is a "gift fund." It is not intended to replace the small amount of support from the institution. Crabtree donated \$500 and Lyons and White each contributed \$250. She noted that others have contributed and she asked that all senators consider making contributions. The fund currently is over \$2,000. The statement of provisions for administering the fund was altered by replacing "purposed that furthers" in the last bullet item with "proposed activities that further." The amended document then was approved with no nay votes. It was pointed out that contributions may be made through payroll deductions.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by  
Sam Jordan, Secretary