

Faculty Senate Newsletter

November 10, 2008

SENATE ACTIVITIES

To address the possibility of additional program cuts or reductions in the coming year, the Faculty Senate and the Provost's office have created a joint **Task Force on Criteria and Procedures for Academic Program Evaluation**. Members are: Brian Ambroziak, Senate President-Elect Toby Boulet, Vice Provost Carolyn Hodges, Provost Susan Martin, Matt Murray, Senate President John Nolt, Lynne Parker, John Romeiser, and Paula Williams. The task force is investigating possible criteria and procedures for program cuts or reductions. It will report to the Senate in the spring, at which time the Senate will have an opportunity to debate and vote on its recommendations.

The Senate will address **Program Closures** for the Dance minor, Industrial and Organizational Psychology and Audiology and Speech Pathology (whose graduate program will be closed so far at UTK is concerned but transferred administratively to UT Memphis) through the regular curricular processes of the Graduate and Undergraduate Councils.

Senate Leadership will meet with the new **Chancellor, Jimmy Cheek**, on December 1 to discuss the transition to his administration.

The **Faculty Senate Effectiveness Task Force** continues its work and will report to the Senate in the spring. Thanks to everyone who participated in the survey on Senate effectiveness. Results may be viewed at: <http://web.utk.edu/~senate/docs/2008-09/FinalChartData.pdf>. Candace White will present a summary of these results at the November 17 Faculty Senate meeting.

The **Safe Zones Task Force**, created by the Senate last spring and chaired by Jane Redmond and Rod Ellis, has completed its report on the establishment of safe zones for LGBT people at UTK. The report can be found as an attachment to the Nov. 3 Senate Executive Committee agenda at: <http://web.utk.edu/~senate/docs/2008-09/November3ExecutiveCommitteeAgenda.pdf>. Interim Chancellor Simek has received the report and is considering its recommendations.

At its October 20 meeting, the Senate voted to join the new statewide organization of faculty senates of four-year public colleges and universities, **Tennessee University Faculty Senates**.

Next meeting of the Faculty Senate: Monday, November 17, 2008, 3:30-5 p.m., Shiloh Room, University Center. UT Women's **Athletic Director Joan Cronan** will address the Senate. The Senate will also consider two resolutions coming from the Faculty Affairs Committee by way of the Executive Committee. One of these concerns **changes in the procedures for reappointment of department heads**; the other concerns **changes in the timing of annual faculty evaluations**.

Senate meetings are open to the public. A full agenda will be posted soon at:
<http://web.utk.edu/~senate/>.

REPORTS

The most recent **Faculty Salary Data Report** can be found at:

http://web.utk.edu/~senate/docs/2008-09/UTK_Salary_Survey_2007_with_medians.pdf

UTK's Office of Sustainability recently completed its **Second Annual Inventory of University of Tennessee, Knoxville Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions**. One important finding from the inventory is that GHG emissions decreased by 2.2 percent from Fiscal Year 2004-05 to Fiscal Year 2007-08. For more information visit <http://environment.utk.edu/presidentsclimatecom1.html>.

Atheletic Director Mike Hamilton's Presentation to the Senate on October 20 is available at: http://web.utk.edu/~senate/docs/2008-09/2008_Faculty_Senate_presentation_-_final.pdf

President John Nolt's Remarks to the Board of Trustees on October 24 are available at <http://web.utk.edu/~nolt/faculty%20senate/Speech%20to%20Board%20Oct%20Meeting.htm>.