

The University of Tennessee Faculty Senate  
MINUTES  
October 17, 2005

Those absent were: John Ammons, Gary Bates, Micah Beck, Richard Bennett, Bill Blass, Kathy Bohstedt, Marianne Breinig, Tom Burman, Paul Crilly, C. A. Debelius, Joanne Deeken, Joel Diambra, Brian Edwards, Rajan Ganguly, Jean Gauger, Leslie Gay, Bob Gorman\*, Don Hodges\*, Ed Jepson, Barbara Kaye, Don Leatherman, Vena Long, Beauvais Lyons, Charles Norman, John Preston, Dileep Sachan, Karen Sowers, LTC Robert Walsh, Mark Windham

\*Alternate Senators: Deborah Carroll for Bob Gorman, Kimberly Gwinn for Don Hodges

D. Kennedy called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INTRODUCTIONS**

#### Establishment of Quorum (S. Jordan)

Jordan confirmed that a quorum was present.

#### Senate President's Report (D. Kennedy)

Kennedy noted that Chapter Seven of the Faculty Handbook will be voted on today. She commented that today's action will be the culmination of several years of hard work by many faculty, administrators and staff. She noted that the new handbook is evidence of shared governance, negotiation and compromise, and emphasized that it contemplates change, revision and updating.

Kennedy remarked next that the Faculty Senate Web site has been revised and improved and is now available. She thanked Erik Bledsoe for his outstanding work. She reported next that she attended the recent department heads and deans retreat. Department heads received copies of a policies and procedures document which will be revised with faculty input as necessary. Kennedy also noted that the Teaching Council has produced a proposed set of procedures for the Outstanding Teaching Awards. It will be available on the chancellor's Web page shortly.

Kennedy next noted that information on the use of the 13% increase in tuition was available at the meeting. Information on capital projects also was provided. She then noted that A. Mayhew is working on improving the efficiency of the use of classrooms. A maintenance operations protocol document was provided. The chancellor has as one of his key goals planning for growth; facilities, enrollment management and faculty are some aspects of this effort.

Kennedy reported that she will attend the Board of Trustees meeting on October 27 and reminded everyone that last year the Board voted to add the Faculty Senate and student government association presidents as ex-officio, non-voting members of the Academic Affairs and Student Life Committees.

Kennedy concluded by announcing that the next lunch with the chancellor will occur at noon, October 27, and the final one will be held November 21 (rather than the previously announced date of November 17).

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

Crabtree reviewed the budget and planning summary information which describes the use of the 13% tuition increase. Some funds for new faculty lines and operating needs are being held until the

areas under the greatest pressure are identified. Crabtree noted that combining institutional scholarships with lottery scholarships has helped tremendously to recruit new, strong students.

Crabtree turned next to information (provided at the meeting) on capital outlays. He noted that the bids on the renovation of Glocker came in about 31% above budget; the increases in the cost of concrete and steel are two causes of the increase. The project will continue and the funds will be found. There will be an impact on the planned outlays for coming years. Crabtree noted that the need for two new residence halls is not included in the information distributed; a much-needed multipurpose classroom building also is not included.

In response to a comment from C. White, Crabtree said that efforts are being made to water drought-stressed plantings on campus. In response to a question from K. Stephenson, Crabtree said that construction for athletics is separate from the state's capital construction budget, but private funding of construction might be affected by athletic construction. Crabtree answered a question of D. Patterson by saying that conserving energy is an important part of the planning for new buildings and for renovations.

Crabtree concluded by saying that the University of Tennessee is one of four finalists to become a host for Semester at Sea. A decision should be announced before Thanksgiving. W. Morgan asked about a reduction in out-of-state students and Crabtree responded that stiffer admission requirements for those students has led to a reduction. Crabtree also said that some "off-cycle" salary adjustments are being proposed to the Board of Trustees.

## **MINUTES**

Minutes of the Faculty Senate meeting of September 19, 2005, were approved without change.

## **MINUTES POSTED ELECTRONICALLY**

Minutes of the Undergraduate Council meeting of September 20, 2005, and of the Graduate Council meetings of April 21, 2005 and September 1, 2005, were approved.

## **PREVIOUS BUSINESS**

### Proposed Bylaws Changes (L. Gross)

Gross called attention to the proposed changes concerning the Student Affairs Committee; these changes were distributed with the agenda. He noted that ex-officio members of the committee can vote. The proposed changes will be voted on at the next meeting.

Gross reported next that there will be a proposal at the next meeting to eliminate the position of Information Officer. There also will be a proposal to have a representative of the libraries on the IT Committee.

## **REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

### Faculty Handbook Committee-Chapter Seven (C. White)

White noted that an earlier version of Chapter Seven was approved by the Faculty Senate in 2004. Thirteen months later the General Counsel's Office proposed a significantly different version. The current version has been approved by the General Counsel's Office and is more like an earlier version. It was approved unanimously.

## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

### Athletics Committee (K. Misra)

Misra said the committee has met once and has decided which matters it will consider. The information is available on the Faculty Senate Web site. He then briefly reviewed a handout (available at the meeting), titled "Status of COIA." He reported that D. Kennedy will attend the next COIA meeting December 2-3, 2005, in Pullman, Washington.

## **NEW BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### Campus Environmental Stewardship Fund (J. Nolt)

Nolt noted that this fund is an outgrowth of a student initiative. Each student pays \$8.00 per semester into a fund for purchasing "green" power and making other environment-friendly efforts. The new fund will be a development account available for voluntary contributions from faculty, staff, alumni and other donors. Faculty and staff will be able to donate through regular payroll deduction; it is not part of the Campus Chest campaign. Donations will be tax-deductible. Creation of the fund was endorsed by the Faculty Senate.

### Enrollment Management Committee (A. Mayhew)

Mayhew said the committee started four years ago and has representatives from several groups on campus. Its goals have evolved as scholarships have increased and more students have been wanting to come to this campus. Last year's very large freshman class and this year's large freshman class are requiring better planning for upper division courses. Major challenges are to have clear enrollment goals (for the total number and the mix), refining the yield model used to predict the number of students who will enroll, updating scholarship policies, planning for upper-division capacity, and being involved in planning for graduate enrollments. In response to a question from Gross, Mayhew said deans and department heads decide how lower division courses should be staffed.

### Proposed Faculty Senate Meeting Dates (D. Kennedy)

Kennedy asked whether there were any concerns about the proposed dates. No one had a comment.

The meeting adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by  
Sam Jordan, Secretary