

Faculty Senate Executive Council
MINUTES
March 15, 2010

Present: Vince Anfara, Doug Birdwell, Toby Boulet, Jimmy Cheek, Rob Heller, Joan Heminway, Laura Howes, Suzanne Kurth, Beauvais Lyons, Susan Martin, John Nolt, Stefanie Ohnesorg, Ken Stephenson, and Steve Thomas

Guests: Ed Cortez (facilitator for VOL Vision discussion), John Koontz (for Dixie Thompson), Scott Simmons (Graduate Assistant)

I. CALL TO ORDER

T. Boulet called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m.

II. REVIEW OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2010, meeting was made by S. Thomas and seconded by V. Anfara. Minutes approved.

III. REPORTS

President's Report (T. Boulet)

T. Boulet's report had been distributed with the meeting agenda. He said since then he had received a call from Coach Dooley indicating he would like an opportunity to engage in dialogue with the faculty in the fall. Boulet asked for opinions about whether such a meeting should be with the Executive Council, the Athletics Committee, or the Senate as a whole. He and R. Heller agreed to work on a plan.

Chancellor's Report (J. Cheek)

A committee is already in place working on plans for achieving a top 25 ranking for UTK. Dean Burstein is chairing the committee and Boulet is a member of the committee. Cheek was pleased that the Board of Trustees (BOT) approved differential tuition for three colleges. The campus budget cut for the coming year would be \$12 million dollars. He noted the cut had been anticipated, but it meant total cuts in recent years would total \$52 million.

D. Birdwell asked when the cuts would take effect given the use of stimulus funds. Cheek said plans were in place to deal with \$40 million in cuts, but not the recent \$12 million. He said it was important to maintain enrollment levels or there would be more financial loss.

Provost's Report (S. Martin)

S. Martin said the good news was that Chancellor Cheek recognized that Academic Affairs could not withstand any more cuts. She said everything possible was being done to support the teaching mission. She reported that S. McMillan is trying to implement some of the ideas (e.g., about course scheduling) generated by the Academic Efficiency and Effectiveness Task Force. She noted McMillan had convened a non-tenure track faculty group. She indicated she would be forming a search committee for Architecture as Dean McRae had announced he would be resigning at the end of the next academic year.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Faculty Affairs Committee (S. Thomas)

S. Thomas said the Committee's resolution about lecturer appointments presented at the last meeting had been modified by adding the word "typically" to indicate appointments initially were typically at that level. And, a paragraph had been added indicating what to do in cases that were not typical. J. Koontz asked if salary levels were set for the positions. Thomas said they were not.

Nominations and Appointments (J. Heminway)

J. Heminway encouraged people to vote. She requested that candidates for Information Officer and Secretary be put forward for an electronic vote. S. Ohnesorg had agreed to be a candidate for Information Officer. Boulet pointed out the *Faculty Senate Bylaws* state appointments to both positions require Executive Council approval. At another point the *Bylaws* indicated that they should go to the Nominations and Appointments Committee. A motion to approve nominees for Information Officer and Secretary electronically was made by Birdwell, seconded and approved.

Adjournment was moved, second and approved. Meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m. for a VOL Vision discussion.