

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE AT CHATTANOOGA
FACULTY SENATE MINUTES**

August 26, 2004

Division	Present:	Absent:
President	Richard Rice	
Past-President	Marvin Ernst	
At-Large	Neal Coulter, Jim Henry, Stephen Kuhn, Jonathan McNair, Greg O'Dea, Claire McCullough	
Behavioral	David Brodsky, Fritz Efaw	Rich Metzger
Business		Rich Allen, Chris Brockman, P. Dileepan, Obasi Haki-Akan
Engineering	Roger Briley, Joe Dumas, Jim Hiestand	Rick Keyser
Fine Arts	Matt Greenwell, Stacy Ray, Gavin Townsend	
HEPS	Nicholas Boer, Ann Johnson, Ted Miller, Burch Oglesby, Randy Walker	Robin Lee
Humanities	Vicki Steinberg, Talia Walsh	Joseph Wilferth
Library	Priscilla Seaman	
Math & Science	Linda Collins, Bob Marlowe, Henry Spratt	David Ashe
Ex-Officio	Fred Obear, John Friedl, Jocelyn Sanders, Theresa Liedtka	David Pittenger, Richard Brown Mary Lynn Williamson

Among the Guests Present: Deborah Arfken, Linda Orth, Sandy Zitkus, Oralia Preble-Niemi

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m.

Comments by the New President

Richard Rice welcomed members to the organizational meeting of the 2004-2005 Faculty Senate, delayed from the spring due to scheduling problems. He remarked that several divisions needed to elect more members and recommended that elections be conducted electronically. The secretary will contact the senior members of these divisions to arrange for elections.

Elections

Randy Walker was elected unanimously to be first vice-president and chair of the Committee on Committees. Matt Greenwell was elected unanimously to be second vice-president and chair of the Handbook Committee. Jim Hiestand agreed to once again serve as parliamentarian.

The following members of the Faculty Senate were nominated and unanimously elected to serve on the Committee on Committees: Burch Oglesby (Health & Ed), Claire McCullough (Engineering), Linda Collins (A & S), Stacy Ray (A & S), P. Dileepan (Business).

The following members of the Faculty Senate were nominated and unanimously elected to serve on the Handbook Committee: Robin Lee (Health & Ed), Jim Henry (Engineering), Jonathan McNair (Arts and Sciences), Vicki Steinberg (Arts and Sciences), Rich Allen (Business).

The following members of the Faculty were nominated and unanimously elected to serve on the Grade Appeals Committee: Melissa Anwiyo (Arts and Sciences), Joanie Sompayrac (Business), and Jim Hiestand, chair (Engineering); with Gail Meyer (Arts and Sciences) and Ann Johnson (HEPS) as alternates.

Professor Rice remarked that the Grade Appeals Committee may be busier than usual this year, in light of the Hope Scholarship regulation that students who fall below the acceptable GPA level for a single semester lose their scholarships permanently. Other Senate members also commented that the Grade Appeals Committee, as well as the General Education Committee, need to have members available for appeals that occur during the summer. It was suggested that the Handbook be changed to include more alternates for these committees. (Heads up, Matt.)

The following members of the Faculty were nominated and unanimously elected to serve on the ad hoc Football Study Committee: Tom Rybolt, chair (Chemistry), Burch Oglesby (EHLS), Joe Dumas (Engineering), Melissa Burchfield (Honors Program), and Yancy Freeman (Admissions). Two more members are expected to be appointed to this committee at the next Senate meeting. [Note: In the spring, the Senate approved a motion to create this ad hoc committee to study the costs of the football program at UTC.]

Remaining committee appointments, including standing committees of the Faculty, will be made at the next Senate meeting.

Senate Issues for 2004-2005

President Rice presented the Senate with a list of issues, not assumed to be complete, that he wishes the Senate and its committees to address this year, as follows.

1. *Review and clarification of the Faculty Handbook, especially with regard to the new EDO appeal process (Sections 3.7.3 and 3.8.1)*
Professor Rice reminded the Senate that a new appeals process, required by Knoxville, was approved and sent last year. There is a need to clarify this process and update the Handbook.
2. *Follow-up on Budget Committee recommendations*
Professor Rice commented that the Senate needs to draw attention to the recommendations of the Budget Committee which were adopted last year. Further progress needs to be made with faculty salaries, building on the modest gains made this year. The faculty also needs to monitor overall budget allocations to Academic Affairs in general, with salary equity being a particular concern.
3. *Review of the mission and role of General Education*
General Education needs to be reviewed in light of the changes and exceptions made in 2003-2004.
4. *Senate election process*
It is time to clarify the process by which members of the Senate are elected. This process should include deadlines, distribution of information about nominees, and electronic voting. Previous methods, such as meeting in corners after faculty meetings, are lacking. We need to build on the good start made last year toward a better process.
5. *Clarification of the role of service and advising in the tenure/promotion process*
The role that service and advising play in obtaining tenure or promotion needs to be clarified, especially given the description of UTC as “an engaged metropolitan university.” There is also a question

regarding the status of service activities as a term of employment. Professor Rice suggested that perhaps Provost Friedl should address this issue at a future Senate meeting.

6. *Football Study Committee*

Last year the Senate created this ad hoc committee to conduct a cost/benefit analysis of UTC football program. As noted earlier in the minutes, five people were appointed to this committee, with two more to be appointed at the next Senate meeting. The band director and chair of the Athletics Committee were suggested as possible nominees.

Faculty Concerns: Lab Fees

President Rice asked for faculty concerns and Professor Collins asked about the situation regarding the adoption of a lab fee at UTC. Provost Friedl reminded the Senate that when the Senate passed a motion last spring recommending the adoption of such a fee, it was also decided to postpone sending it to Knoxville until the new UT president was on board. In accordance with this plan, last week the Provost sent the lab fee proposal on to the chancellor. Chancellor Obear then commented that he believes the best approach to obtaining a lab fee is to include it in the next overall budget package. In his opinion, sending the lab fee as an isolated budget request up to Knoxville would mean that it would be shot right back unapproved. Instead we need to look at the total fee structure and consider the lab fee and other fees considered last year as part of a total package. Professor Greenwell made a comment about the instructional enhancement fee recommended last year. Provost Friedl said that this fee had been sent to Knoxville for approval and was rejected. The Provost intends to submit a request, as part of his overall budget plan, for a fee that would cover the cost of supplies that are expended every semester, such as lab supplies. Professor Rice commented that this matter can be discussed further at the next (regular) meeting of the Senate.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:47 p.m.