

Faculty Senate Minutes
Signal Mountain Room, University Center, 3:10 p.m.
December 07, 2006

The minutes can also be found at: <http://www.utc.edu/FacultySenate/minutes.php>

<u>Division</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
President	Gavin Townsend	
Past-President		Richard Rice
At-Large	Jim Hiestand, Joanie Sompayrac, Judith Wakim, Randy Walker, and Michelle White	Cheryl Robinson
Adjunct		Jean Howard-Hill
Behavioral Sciences	Fritz Efaw, Lyn Miles, and Shela Van Ness	Helen Eigenberg
Business Adm.	Debbie Archambeault, Beni Asllani, and Diane Halstead	Chris Brockman
Eng & Comp Sci	Claire McCullough	Ignatius Formunung , Roger Briley and Kathy Winters
Fine Arts		Stuart Benkert, Jillian Zwilling and Mac Smotherman
CHEPS	Dolly Gerregano, Linda Johnston, John Freeman, and Michelle Vineyard	Kay Lindgren
Humanities	Felicia Sturzer , Rebecca Jones, Joe Wilferth, Dana Wertemberger and Matthew Guy	
Library	Mike Bell and Jason Griffey	
Math and Sciences	Betsy Darken, and Manuel Santiago	Bob Marlowe, Sharon Brueggeman and Peggy Kovach
Ex-Officio	Herb Burhenn, David Pittenger, Theresa Liedtka and Jocelyn Sanders	Roger Brown, Richard Brown, and Hugh Prevost

Among the guests present: Bruce Hutchinson, Linda Orth, Yvonne Kilpatrick, Mary Tanner and Charles Nelson.

Summary: A proposal from Academic Standards was passed that requires students to use the same academic catalog for all majors and minors. In addition, the Faculty Senate voted approval (24-0-0) for all the curriculum proposals. Finally, Gavin Townsend summarized some possible issues for the Spring semester: raising minimum ACT score for admission, meetings of the full faculty (should we still have them?), and student health. During faculty concerns, Lyn Miles expressed concern with how the “merger” agreements is being applied and asked for comments. In addition, Manuel Santiago expressed concern for campus safety.

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 3:13 p.m.
2. Moment of remembrance (Dr. Tim Gaudin) and silence for Dr. Stephen Halperin: Dr Halperin was born in NY in 1965 He received a BA in 1989 from Queens College, MS in 1993 from Penn State and Ph.D. in 2000 from Penn State. He was very passionate about teaching, an accomplished researcher, an avid reader, played violin, and beloved by students and peers.
3. Approval of minutes from November 16, 2006: Dr. Townsend moved approval of the minutes. **Approved by voice vote** with corrections: correct spelling of Dr. Brueggeman’s name and double wording (the executive) on the bottom of page 2

http://www.utc.edu/Departments/fcouncil/Archives/2000_2010Archives/2006_07/2006_07Minutes/2006Minutes_1116.pdf

4. Report from Executive Committee: The letter to the governor has been mailed and copies were sent to all of our local state representatives and the local senator. Faculty Senate Secretary now has one course release per semester, as approved by the Provost. We are working on adjunct parking. Dr. Pittenger gave us an update on the situation, but they (Debbie Parker, Richard Brown and Provost Burhenn) are still working on the issue. Nothing is firm at this time. UFC (University Faculty Council) will have the first meeting on January 8. Gavin Townsend and Lyn Miles (our representatives) will meet with President Petersen and the other UFC representatives at this time.
5. Academic Standards (Fran Bender): Fran Bender could not come. Felicia Sturzer said the Academic Standards Committee had three issues. The first was to correct a loop hole in the undergraduate catalog. The correction is that all academic requirements should be met from the same catalog year. The second was that transfer students should have 10 years to do courses and select catalogs. This issue was tabled by the committee as the committee waits for more information. The third issue was continuation standards. This issue was also tabled by the committee.

Linda Orth said that the change in the text is because the catalog is tied to the student and not the major or minor. Jennifer Beech wanted to know what happens if a new minor is a new catalog would students need to switch catalogs? Yes, they will.

Gavin Townsend wondered if there was a downside to this. Felicia Sturzer wasn't sure. Joe Wilferth pointed out that what Jennifer Beech asked was the downside. Can students pick an earlier catalog than the year that they entered at UTC? Linda Orth said that it would be based on if students had been here before or if they had started at Chattanooga State. Randy Walker wondered what the problem is with having students in different catalog years. Linda Orth indicated it would be better to tie the Major/Minor catalog year to the student. Felicia Sturzer indicated that it is a problem if the student is in an older catalog when courses are no longer taught. Randy Walker pointed out that students can still choose an out-of-date catalog, so therefore this proposal does not prevent this from happening. Vote: 12 – 12. Due to the tie vote, the standard procedure is for the Faculty Senate president to vote. Gavin Townsend voted in favor of the resolution so the **vote passed 13 – 12**.

http://www.utc.edu/Departments/fcouncil/Archives/2000_2010Archives/2006_07/2006_07Attachments/2006AcademicStandards1207.pdf

6. Curriculum Committee (Bruce Hutchinson): There are 14 proposals that were approved by the committee. The committee recommends approval of each of these. Gretchen Potts asked if there was a difference between “approved” and “accepted”. There is not a difference. Randy Walker wondered if the physics math proposal would require many programs to change their catalogs. Jim Hiestand wanted to know why the proposal for the new UHON course said it would not affect other departments, but it is stated in the proposal that new faculty from other departments could teach this course. Joanie Sompayrac said it would affect a department if the faculty needed release time to teach, but it would expose new faculty to UHON. The cover sheet for the CPSC is unsigned, but there is a copy of it signed in the Provost's office. Jim Hiestand also wondered if the business intern course was required. It is not required, just an option. Vote: 24 – 0. **Vote passed unanimously.**

Bruce Hutchinson told the senate that 16 proposals would be presented at the Jan. meeting and 14 more for the Feb. 1 meeting. The curriculum committee has a couple requests:

- Please group small proposals from the same department
- Begin the title of proposals with the name of the department that is bringing the proposal forth
- The first time acronyms are used in a proposal, please define the acronyms.

http://www.utc.edu/Departments/fcouncil/Archives/2000_2010Archives/2006_07/2006_07Attachments/CurriculumProposals_120706.pdf

7. Administrative Reports: The provost's office is working on how to distribute funds that are available for salary adjustments. A plan should be in place by the beginning of January.
8. Other Business:

Changing the Minimum ACS Entrance: Gavin Townsend wondered if the minimal ACT for admittance should be re-evaluated. (should it be raised?) Lyn Miles wondered if we know anything about the history of the different levels. The reason was because she indicated there is a violation of the UC/UT “Merger” agreement from 1969. Joanie Sompayrac would like to see us pursue this issue. Fritz Efav reminded us that one of the important points of the branding of UT was about access and success. Has the UT-system given any thought to issues like this? Maybe we should ask President Petersen. Manuel Santiago had a document from Tom Rybolt with some statistics. (See Appendix A) Twenty-five percent of students admitted to UTC have less than a 2.0 GPA. David Pittenger thought that UTC did take superscoring (this needs to be checked with admissions). He also said that UTK uses a complex formula for admission where UTC and UT-Martin only use GPA and ACT. Measures of success are affected by ACT and financial situation of the student. Jocelyn Sanders wanted to know where the statistics came from. This would need to be clarified by Tom Rybolt. The senate wished to explore this issue more. Randy Walker moved that this was an issue for the Academic Standards Committee and seconded by Diane Halstead. Jim Hiestand thought it would still be a good idea to bring in admissions to address the Faculty Senate. (Please put on agenda for January meeting) The senate **voted to recommend** this issue to the standards committee.

Meetings of the full faculty: Has the full faculty grown too large to have a quorum at full-faculty meetings? Should we reduce full faculty meetings? Shela Van Ness thought it would be good idea to cut back to one meeting per semester and that perhaps we could vote electronically on issues. The meeting is symbolic and we should try to get faculty together at least once a semester. Joanie Sompayrac agrees with this, but she has a problem with people calling a quorum to avoid voting on an issue. She supports one meeting a semester, but electronic voting on issues. Fritz Efav felt that objecting to the calling of a quorum is going against parliamentary procedure. He also felt that electronic voting was giving up too much. Randy Walker wondered if we cut the number of faculty meetings to one/semester, should we alter the faculty handbook to give more power to the faculty senate. Betsy Darken agreed and she also felt that the faculty senate represents the faculty much better than full faculty meetings. Jim Hiestand is concerned that if we go to electronic voting we will continue to see a decline in attendance at the full faculty meetings. Fritz Efav felt this is a slippery slope that would continue to remove power, and is ultimately antidemocratic. Felicia Sturzer felt that a reasonable compromise would be one meeting/semester and that electronic voting would represent the entire faculty. Michelle Vineyard feels this is something we need to seriously consider. Shela Van Ness indicated that faculty meetings

become more personal and that electronic voting would stimulate more participation. Diane Halstead felt we need to look at what is covered in the meetings. The executive committee will take this up in January

Student Health: Does it make sense to offer student health care for more fees (for all students) or should the university require that all students show proof of insurance. Hugh Prevost is exploring this. Currently, the student polyclinic has a “no turn away” policy.

9. Faculty Concerns

Campus Safety: Manuel Santiago brought this issue. There are no provisions for how to address the cancellation of a final exam for safety issues and then how to reschedule the exams. Others wondered if there is any policy that addresses this type of thing. David Pittenger indicated the inclement weather policy covers all of this.

“Merger” agreement: Shela Van Ness feels we should look at the merger and make sure we are on track. Perhaps an ad hoc committee or executive committee should look at this. Shela Van Ness moved to refer this to the executive committee will look at this, seconded by Randy Walker. This was **approved by voice vote**.

Email Lyn Miles and Gavin Townsend with issues that should be raised at the first meeting of the University Faculty Council.

10. Announcements

11. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 4:26 p.m.

Appendix A: Document from Manuel Santiago (given to him by Tom Rybolt)

UTC -Two categories of admission for freshmen applicants under 21 years of age are described below.

Regular Admission

Regular admission will be granted to graduates of approved high schools* who meet one of the following two descriptions: a high school grade point average of at least 2.75 (on a 4.0 scale) and a minimum score of 17 on the Enhanced ACT (810 SAT) and completion of all 14 high school units listed below or a high school grade point average of at least 2.00 (on a 4.0 scale) and a minimum score of 21 on the Enhanced ACT (980 SAT) and completion of all 14 high school units listed below.

Conditional Admission

Students who do not qualify for regular admission are eligible for conditional admission if they meet the following minimal requirements: completion of the 14 high school units listed above; minimum high school grade point average of 2.0 (on a 4.0 scale); minimum score of 17 on the Enhanced ACT (810 SAT); high school graduation or acceptable high school equivalency diploma (45 on the General Education Development test).

Applicants with extenuating circumstances who fail to meet conditional admission requirements will be considered for conditional admission on a case-by-case basis. Students admitted with high school unit deficiencies will be required to remove their deficiencies by taking specified courses within their first 42 hours of enrollment. Credit earned in such courses does not apply toward any degree requirements, including general education, major or elective requirements. Students admitted with a high school deficiency in American history are required by Tennessee law to complete 6 semester hours of college-level American history (Tennessee Code Annotated 549-3253).

Freshmen admitted on condition must earn at least 1.0 GPA during their first semester at UTC or suspension will result. If a student is placed in developmental courses, the institutional grade point average will be used to determine continuation. The cumulative grade point average will be used for continuation standards of all other students. In addition, they may be subject to one or more of the following conditions:

State schools and their middle 50% range for ACT and percent admitted with GPA below 2.0 (data taken from <http://www.collegeboard.com>)

	UTC	UTK	UTM	ETSU
ACT 17-23	23-28	19-24	20-25	
GPA<2.0	25%	1%	0%	1%
High Sch				

Above implies that UTC admits 25% of students that are below conditional admission.