

2007 – 2008 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Signal Mountain Room, University Center, 3:10 p.m.
November 15, 2007

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, Michelle White, Linda Hill, Randy Walker and Chris Stuart	Tammy Garland
Adjunct	Ann Moore	
Behavioral Sciences	Terri LeMoyné and Lyn Miles	Helen Eigenberg and Tom Buchanan
Business Adm.	Diane Halstead and Beverly Brockman	Debbie Archambeault, and Kathleen Wheatley
Eng & Comp Sci	Michel Holder, Claire McCullough, Ignatius Fomunung and Li Yang	
Fine Arts	Stuart Benkert, Mac Smotherman and Patrick Sweetman	
CHEPS	John Freeman, Dolly Gerregano, Kay Lindgren, Michelle Vineyard, and Linda Johnston	Dana Wertenberger
Humanities	Felicia Sturzer and Joe Wilferth	Rebecca Jones, Matthew Guy, Oralia Preble-Niemi and Lauren Ingraham
Library	Jason Griffey	
Math & Sciences	Marc Loizeaux, Bob Marlowe and Doug Kutz	Manuel Santiago and Peggy Kovach
Ex-Officio	Roger Brown, David Pittenger, John Delaney and Theresa Liedtka	Jocelyn Sanders, Phil Oldham and Richard Brown
SGA Liaison		

Among the guests present: Jim Cunningham, Herb Burhenn, Bruce Hutchinson, Karen Adsit, Karen McGuffee, Ralph Covino, Mike Russell, Chuck Cantrell, Fran Bender, Richard Gambrell, Deborah Parker, Monty Wilson and Yvonne Kilpatrick

Summary: The senate voted to accept a proposal by the Academic Standards committee that changes the Latin standards for graduation. Paraphrased: **a student must complete 60 hours at UTC to receive Latin honors. Additionally, a GPA of 3.5 would be cum laude, a GPA of 3.7 would be magna cum laude and a GPA of 3.9 would be summa cum laude.** Monty Wilson gave a presentation on campus technology (Appendix A). The Senate **approved the curriculum proposals** by a vote of 27 – 0 – 0. Lyn Miles gave a report on the Board of Trustees (BOT) Meeting and showed an annual report video from President Petersen. Chancellor Brown spoke about the tuition discount plan approved at the BOT Meeting, updated the Senate on the Strategic Plan and reminded the Senate of the BOT meeting at UTC in March. The Senate passed a resolution from the Math Department which encourages advisors to enroll incoming/transfer students in appropriate Math classes as soon as possible, so that students do not delay Math courses until later in their academic career.

1. Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 3:15 PM. After checking for quorum (at least 22 senators present at the start of the meeting), Gavin Townsend introduced the new adjunct faculty representative, Ann Jones, a past president of the Faculty Council.

2. Approval of minutes from October 18, 2007:

Minutes were approved with the following corrections: (1) In attendance, but missing from the minutes: Colleen Harris, Terry Denniston, Chuck Cantrell and Theresa Liedtka (2) Under 3, change “rational” to “rationale” (appears several times) (3) Under 5, paragraph 6, 5th sentence, remove “the”; 6th sentence, change “the” to “that” and add “the” before “engine”; last sentence combine “without” (4) Under 3, 15th paragraph, last sentence, change who to “which”.

Jim Hiestand apologized if he was misunderstood at the previous meeting. He wasn't saying that Faculty couldn't advocate, but that faculty shouldn't get students to advocate for them. Gretchen Potts also apologized if she misinterpreted Jim in the minutes.

http://www.utc.edu/FacultySenate/Archives/2000_2010Archives/2007_08/2007_08Minutes/2007Minutes_1018.pdf

3. Academic Standards (Fran Bender)

Fran Bender presented a proposal by Academic Standards Committee to change the standards for Latin honors (see link below). The committee proposed that Latin honors at UTC require 60 hours taken at UTC. The second part of the proposal was to change the GPA standards of Latin honors to 3.5 (*cum laude*), 3.7 (*magna cum laude*) and a 3.9 GPA or higher (*summa cum laude*). The GPAs would not be rounded. The committee researched many schools in TN and the southeast and thus came up with this proposal.

Gretchen Potts asked how changing the *summa* to a 3.9 GPA would affect the number of students who receive *summa*. Fran Bender did not know, but Linda Orth guessed that perhaps there would be 12 students each semester. Fran Bender stated that the committee felt it took the pressure off of students/faculty.

Ralph Covino asked about the Alumni dimension and wondered if this would be applied retroactively. He was worried that angering UTC's brightest graduates would not be a good idea. Fran Bender stated that it was not retroactive and it would start in the Fall of 2008.

Randy Walker asked if the committee discussed the rationale because by lowering the GPA, the honor is “watered” down. Fran Bender said this was not specifically discussed. Instead, the committee was interested in “spreading” the honor around. Randy Walker felt that it devalued the process and that UTC should strive to be the best. Fran Bender stated that it allows 8 – 10 people to honor their accomplishments.

Chris Stuart asked that the Senate consider how the rest of the world views a *summa*. Felicia Sturzer stated that the current requirements still allow a student with a 3.9 to receive *summa*; it just is based on who is the highest ranking. It would not change it all that much, but it would remove pressure from the student.

Ann Moore stated “what is the definition of *summa*”? It means “highest”, so therefore, there should only be one student with that honor.

Claire McCullough felt that this would be a positive change because other universities use this to recognize achievement. It would make the standard objective rather than subjective. It would be less likely to affect students' choices for class and majors.

The proposal from academic standards **passed by a vote of 23 – 4.**

http://www.utc.edu/FacultySenate/Archives/2000_2010Archives/2007_08/2007_08Attachments/111507_Standards.pdf

4. Campus Technology Report (Monty Wilson)

Monty Wilson gave a PowerPoint presentation on the state of campus technology and instructed the Senate on how IT is run at UT-Martin. (See Appendix A)

Bob Marlowe asked when Banner would be coordinated with prerequisites/co-requisites. David Pittenger answered that UTC is hopeful to begin implementing Banner soon. Departments have been asked to review the pre/co-requisite requirements. Monty Wilson stated that if the process of obtaining Banner started in January, it would be Spring 2010 when the very basic of enrolling in classes and assigning grades is implemented. All the bells and whistles will not be available on day one. David Pittenger stated that there are fundamental policies that must be in place once Banner is “rolled out”.

Gavin Townsend asked how many people would need to be hired to implement Banner. Monty Wilson answered that UTC really needs to do an assessment before this is determined. More people will be needed, but how many people will be needed still needs to be assessed.

Deborah Arfken asked if IT was involved in developing a security alert system. Monty Wilson answered that it was being handled by the security office. They are working on a contract that will send emergency “text” messages to students/faculty/staff if needed.

Gavin Townsend asked if there was anything that we could learn from Martin. Monty Wilson stated that he would be very supportive of replacing computers every 3 years, because it would be less pressure on the HelpDesk. In order to do this, Martin took some money from each department, and the Provost also provided funds. Additionally, Monty Wilson stated that the IT at Martin works for the provost. This is not the case at UTC.

Michelle White asked if IT had considered switching to a web-based long distance carrier, which might be cheaper than UTC's current long distance. Monty Wilson stated that there is a difference between what is charged for long distance and what UTC pays for long distance. The extra funds are used to support the phone system. UTC currently has a contract with Qwest for long distance.

5. Curriculum Committee (Bruce Hutchinson)

Bruce Hutchinson presented the curriculum proposals (see link) and stated that the committee recommended approval. Jim Hiestand pointed out that a typo on the Engineering proposals needs to be fixed. The curriculum proposals (#1 – #8) **passed by a vote of 27– 0.**

Bruce Hutchinson called the Senate's attention to the information item, but the Senate would not vote on it.

If a department brings a course forward that desired a lab fee, please check with David Pittenger before submitting the proposal.

November 15, 2007 was the last day to bring curriculum proposals forward. There will be about ~40 more proposals that will be brought forward at future meetings.

http://www.utc.edu/Administration/FacultySenate/Archives/2000_2010Archives/2007_08/2007_08Attachments/111507_Curriculum.pdf

6. Report from Executive Committee (Gavin Townsend)

a. University Club Update

The University Club Committee has been meeting very frequently. It will cost about \$1300/year in insurance to maintain the first floor of the Patten House where alcohol can be served. The chancellor has provided the committee with startup funds to purchase lockers, an ice machine and advertisements. The chair of the committee, Bill Prince, is working on getting discounts from local businesses. Dues will most likely be \$35 - \$40.

b. Update on Board of Trustees' Meeting (Lyn Miles)

Lyn Miles gave a summary on the meeting. UTC will continue to be allowed to offer discount tuition to Georgia residents. She was disappointed in the academic session as she was hoping for more substance, rather than ceremony. UTK Faculty Senate President, David Patterson, presented during lunch and raised issues of governance, lack of confidence in IT and lack of confidence in President Petersen. President Petersen presented a video annual report at the meeting. This video was viewed by the UTC Faculty Senate. At a luncheon with the regional trustees, the trustees offered to transmit the Merger Agreement report. A trustee from Memphis asked that the report be on the agenda at the March Board of Trustee meeting.

7. Administrative Reports

Chancellor Brown thanked the campus for the words of encouragement during his recovery. He also thanked Lyn Miles and Gavin Townsend for representing UTC at the BOT meeting. They have done an excellent job. BOT did extend the regional tuition discount. With only three months to recruit for the Fall, UTC enrolled almost enough students to "break even". Once the Spring semester is factored in, UTC will most likely "break even". Next year, we will most likely surpass the "break even" point.

Chancellor Brown also thanked everyone who participated in the Strategic Plan Process. We will continue to solicit input and of course, implementation is in the hands of all the faculty/staff/students. The plan will be presented on November 28 (1/2 hour before the holiday party). At that meeting, Chancellor Brown will outline the next step in the process. The last thing that he wants is for the "Plan" to sit on the shelf.

The BOT will be on our campus in March. Many of the trustees will be seeing the campus for the first time in many years. We must highlight our faculty and student accomplishments.

Dr. Oldham and Dr. Richard Brown are at THEC representing UTC.

8. Other Business

a. Math Resolution (Marc Loizeaux)

Marc Loizeaux presented a resolution from the Math Department and asked the Senate to support it. The resolution stresses the importance of enrolling entering and transfer students in the appropriate course as soon as possible. Additionally, it requests that students continue in their classes in sequence instead of waiting until later in the academic career.

Gretchen Potts asked if Math would have enough courses to support all these students. Marc Loizeaux answered that if the chair of the Math Department is told of students who need a course and there are enough of those students, he might add another section.

Gavin Townsend asked if this couldn't also be applied to composition courses. David Pittenger stated that this is already encouraged in English. Marc Loizeaux stated that it is also important for students to take the placement test as soon as possible. Gavin Townsend asked about the extent of the problem. Linda Orth indicated there are definitely students who wait.

David Pittenger stated that he had worked with John Graef about the consequences of students transferring in courses from Chattanooga State. If a student takes a math course at UTC and then the subsequent course at UTC, there is an 80% chance that the student will succeed. If the student takes the first course at Chatt State, but the second course at UTC, there is about a 40% chance that the student will succeed. David Pittenger encourages students to take these courses at UTC.

The Senate voted to support the Math resolution. (17 – 2 – 3).

http://www.utc.edu/FacultySenate/Archives/2000_2010Archives/2007_08/2007_08Attachments/111507_MathResolution.pdf

9. Faculty Concerns: None

10. Announcements: None

11. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Gretchen E. Potts
Faculty Senate Secretary
November 16, 2007**

