

2008 – 2009 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Signal Mountain Room, University Center, 3:10 p.m.
Sept 4, 2008

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

<u>Division</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
President	Pedro Campa	
Past-President	Gavin Townsend	
At-Large	Mike Bell, Linda Hill, Chris Stuart, and Claire McCullough	Tammy Garland and Jim Tucker
Adjunct		
Behavioral Sciences	Tom Buchanan, Helen Eigenberg, and Nick Honerkamp	Terri LeMoyné
Business Adm.	Beverly Brockman, Jim Henley, and Kathleen Wheatley	
Eng & Comp Sci	Ron Goulet and Michel Holder	Frank Jones and Li Yang
Fine Arts	Stuart Benkert, Patrick Sweetman, and Kenyon Wilson	
CHEPS	Kay Lindgren, Deborah McAllister, and Elizabeth O'Brien	Linda Johnston, Cheryl Robinson, and Dana Wertenberger
Humanities	Ralph Covino, Lauren Ingraham, Vicki Steinberg, and Lynn Purkey	
Library	Colleen Harris	
Math & Sciences	Doug Kutz and Irene Loomis	Hill Craddock,
Ex-Officio	Richard Brown, Theresa Liedtka, and John Delaney	Phil Oldham, Jocelyn Sanders, and Roger Brown
SGA Liaison		

Among the guests present: Linda Orth, John Graef, Stephanie Bellar, and Boris Belinsky

Summary:

1. Call to Order
Meeting was called to order at 3:11 PM.
2. Approval of minutes from April 17, 2008
Minutes were approved.
3. Confirmation of Officers and Faculty Senate Committees.
The officers, Drs. Irene Loomis and Chris Stuart as first and second vice presidents respectively, and Dr. Lynn Purkey as temporary executive secretary, were approved by acclamation.
4. Committee on Committees.
Ralph Covino nominated Michael Bell and Michelle Holder, and Irene Loomis seconded. They were elected by acclamation.
5. The Handbook Committee:
Nick Honecamp nominated Lauren Ingraham, Vicki Steinberg, and Deborah McCallister; Colleen Harris nominated Ron Gullet and Katherine Wheatley. The five were elected by acclamation. (After the senate meeting, it was discovered that there were already two members of the committee, Colleen Harris and Ralph Covino. Because of that, Vicki Steinberg and Ron Gullet stepped down from the committee, leaving the final composition of the committee as Lauren Ingraham, Deborah McCallister, Katherine Wheatley, Colleen Harris, and Ralph Covino.)

6. Report from the Executive Committee: Clarification on Guerry Professorships

There are two sets of Guerry Professorships. The first professorships were established by the Board of Trustees of the UC Foundation, in honor of Charlotte and Alexander Guerry, who were long time benefactors of the university. These are granted to full professors selected for their academic contributions in research and service to the university. The candidates have been selected after faculty nominations by the Guerry professors, and the finalists chosen by the Chancellor in consultation with the UC Foundation. The more recent type of Guerry professorships (Guerry II) were created by a separate gift from the Guerry family as a hiring incentive for recruiting outstanding faculty and administrators to UTC. The selection procedure for Guerry II professorships is unclear.

7. Curriculum Committee: Proposal for a Masters Degree in Mathematics

The faculty senate voted against approval of the proposal for a Masters Degree in Mathematics (11 in favor, 14 nays, 1 abstention), but agreed to put the proposal before the entire faculty. The proposal was presented by Drs. Bellar and Graef. The Graduate Council met in April to discuss this measure, but it was too late to act upon it. There were later modifications to the original proposal. This measure was discussed at the August 28, 2008 meeting, and passed upon its second reading in the Graduate Council. Faculty senate members raised a number of questions and issues regarding the proposal:

- Is developmental math beneficial? Since the funding for the proposal provided that graduate students teach developmental math courses, there was concern over the number of sections of developmental math, and the percentage of such students who graduate from college. Dr. Graef answered that the developmental program was beneficial in the long run, although he did not have general statistics regarding the matter.
- Would there be adequate funding for this program? Some faculty members feared that already scarce resources would become even more meager.
- How will faculty resources be allocated and who will develop the new courses? - According to Dr. Graef, at least one new full-time faculty position would be needed. The typical teaching load for tenured math under this proposal would be 1 graduate and 2 undergraduate courses, comprising 1/3 of the total teaching load. It would be a “filter up” effect, as some lecturers and adjuncts in the department are also qualified to teach trigonometry, calculus, and algebra, who currently teach developmental courses, freeing tenured faculty to teach the graduate courses.
- The proposal of a one-time expenditure of \$20,000.00 for journals and books to support the program drew criticism.
- Are teaching assistants with a B.A. qualified to teach developmental courses? - Belinsky commented that teaching assistants would not be simply students, but the best students and that they would have an advisor who was personally responsible for their teaching. Currently these classes use uniform exams, and instructors do not grade their own students’ tests. Some faculty members noted that younger instructors can sometimes be more dynamic and engaging than older faculty members.
- Won’t the proposal violate the SACS standard of 18 hours of coursework? – According to Dr. Graf, this does not violate SACS.
- It was felt that the proposal does not adequately take into account the true cost in professors, including the cost of supporting graduate students, both in regards to supervising their teaching, their education, and the

necessary infrastructure. – Dr. Graef stated that there were mechanisms built into program, which would address these issues such as a two-tiered committee, a graduate coordinator, mentors, etc.

- Faculty members were critical of the disparity in pay across the curriculum. Math instructors receive double the pay of some of their colleagues in other fields.
- Dr. Kutz questioned the costs and the possibility of receiving grants. – Dr. Graef said it is difficult to get major grants in mathematics.
- Ron Goulet asked why the faculty would vote on this issue, if the math department supports the proposal? – Dr. Campa replied that the Senate should vote because faculty should not give carte blanche to the graduate council, and the executive committee cannot make such decisions.
- Honerkamp moved to send the vote to the full faculty. The motion carried by acclamation.

8. Administrative Reports: In the Provost's absence, Dr. Brown spoke regarding the budget difficulties facing the university. The administration planned to put core academic programs first, and to not cut any faculty members. According to Dr. Brown, the revenue projections for the state of Tennessee are still bleak (millions of dollars below projections). The state has proposed to give all state, including university, employees a one-time bonus of \$400.00.

Other Business:

9. Faculty Concerns:

Dr. Campa took exception to the lack of a raise this academic year, and the low bonus that the state proposed, which he likened to the custom giving a can of milk and a peseta to beggars in his native Cuba.

10. Announcements: NONE

11. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 4:21PM.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Lynn Purkey
Faculty Senate Secretary
September 4, 2008**