

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE AT CHATTANOOGA  
FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

September 18, 2003

ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:

Obasi Haski-Akan, Rich Allen,  
David Ashe , Mike Bell, Stephanie  
Bellar, Nicholas Boer, Chris  
Brockman, Linda Collins, Neal  
Coulter, Parthansarati Dileepan, Fritz  
Efaw, Marvin Ernst, David Garrison,  
Matt Greenwell, Bill Harman, Jim  
Henry, Jim Hiestand, Lauri Hyers,  
Anne Johnson, Rich Keyser, Robin  
Lee, Anne Lindsey, Claire  
McCullough, Gail Meyer, Greg  
O'Dea, Burch Oglesby, Gretchen  
Potts, Stacy Ray, Sean Richards,  
John Trimpey, Judith Wakim, Randy  
Walker, Joe Wilferth

ELECTED MEMBERS ABSENT:

Roger Briley, Terry LeMoynes, Joe  
Owino, Barbara Walton

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT:

Richard Brown, John Friedl, Jocelyn  
Sanders, Bill Stacy

AMONG THE GUESTS PRESENT:

Karen Adsit, Betsy Alderman,  
Deborah Arfken, Debbie Bell,  
Rebekah Bromley, Herbert Burhenn,  
Chuck Cantrell, Betsy Darken,  
Maurice Edwards, Phil Kazemersky,  
Linda Orth, David J. Pittenger,  
Edward Rozema, Kit Rushing,  
Shannon M. Smith, Mary Tanner,  
Harriet Weekowski

Faculty Senate President, Marvin Ernst, called the meeting to order. Minutes were passed with no corrections. President Ernst introduced the new members of the UTC Faculty Senate:

Jim Henry-Engineering: At-large representative Full Professor

Greg O' Dea-English: At-large representative Associate Professor

Neal Coulter-Library: At-large representative Assistant Professor

## **Executive Council Report**

The Governor wants an open search process in looking for the new system president. Faculty will have a voice in the process. Four faculty members will serve as on the search advisory council, one from each campus. Two faculty representatives, no proportional representation, will serve on the search committee. Each campus will submit two nominees. Governor Bredesen will select the faculty from the total pool of eight nominees.

UTC Faculty Senate Executive Committee will review nominations from this campus, Sept. 30 is deadline for getting nominations, self or others, to the Executive Council.

The proposal for combining science with engineering and computer sciences is postponed until there can be more discussion among faculty.

President Ernst thanked the Chancellor for the open forum of last week.

A point of procedure, curriculum proposals should go through Dr. Bellar as the single source for electronic distribution. It is our hope that members of the Faculty Senate are more likely to save the message. However, there is a big proposal coming up. It will be posted on a web site. Senate members can read the proposal on line and download the critical pages of the proposal.

## **Continuing Business**

### Curriculum

- Communications: taken as a group, 230, 231, 271 passed without a quorum in Curriculum committee UTC Senate vote 30-0-0
- Nursing, pass/fail passed Curriculum committee without a quorum UTC Senate vote 30-0-0

### Election of Committee Members:

- Grade Appeal: Anne Johnson and Robin Lee current members, Jim Hiestand agreed to be a permanent member, Gene Van Horn will be asked, will seek out another alternate
  - Passed by voice vote. Send names of people who are willing to serve to Randy Walker.
- Handbook Committee: Greg O'Dea and Robin Lee
  - Passed by voice vote
- Honors Court is an appointed body: B. Norwood, M. Rankin, B. Oglesby, K. McGuffe, Betty McNuttley, Ron Goulet
  - Passed by voice vote

### **Administrative Reports**

Provost Friedl: Will ask the faculty to provide guidelines to Provost for what to do with the money recently released. Inflation of starting salaries, compression, equity, and merit are all legitimate concerns of faculty. He will implement the guidelines.

Chancellor Stacy: He had just arrived back Knoxville where he had talked with the Governor about compensation issues.

Vice-Chancellor Brown: He is still working on summer pay plan and is hopeful that it will be resolved soon. Contact Tom Ellis if you need to speak with someone about weekend access to your building.

### **New Business**

SGA Proposal for rating of classes and professors not complete. It is postponed until next meeting.

**Faculty Concerns:** President Ernst reminded the Senate that Verbie Prevost and Joanie Sompayrac are heading up a committee which is charged to examine administrative raises over the last five years. If anomalies are seen that will be brought to the attention of the decision makers.

B. Darken, voiced her concern about the impact of recent decision making processes and would like to see the Faculty Senate take a more active role in analyzing that process. Two motions, presented as a whole, were provided by Dr. Darken; Dr. Henry was the official Senate sponsor of the formal motions. There was a motion to separate the two motions which passed on a voice vote.

Motion One: The UTC Faculty Senate is deeply disturbed by a number of events indicating a lack of collegiality and acceptable public behavior on this campus. Of particular concern is the behavior of Provost John Friedl at the general faculty meeting on September 9. At this meeting, Provost Friedl made a number of remarks related to the firing of the Director of the University Honors Program this past summer. The UTC Faculty Senate considers these remarks to have been highly inappropriate. A public meeting is not a fitting venue for the discussion of this personnel matter, regardless of the accuracy or inaccuracy of the facts presented or provocations that may have occurred at other occasions.

This motion was tabled, vote 27 –3-0

Motion Two: The Senate is deeply concerned about a number of abusive email messages on the UTC email network (Raven). Such messages are not only reprehensible but also are in violation of the UTC Acceptable Use Practices, which include the following policy “All users are expected to act in a responsible, ethical, and legal manner with the understanding that UTC Technology Resources are conducted in a public forum. Users

must respect the rights of others (especially rights of privacy and confidentiality); intellectual [property rights; State and federal laws, including Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA); and due process.”

“No one shall use UTC Technology Resources to transmit abusive, threatening, or harassing material, chain letters, spam, or communications prohibited by state or federal laws.”

The Senate values the use of Raven for promoting freedom of expression but affirms that this freedom is coupled with the responsibilities described above.

There was considerable discussion on what role the Senate should take in monitoring the compliance of said policy.

- There are two teams that monitor technology use. One team is focused more on security while the second one is more about abuse.
- It was suggested that given the length of the motion it would help to see the motion in writing.
- One of the issues brought before the Senate was the degree to which a chilling effect may result if compliance is left solely in the hands of the administration. Some messages have been sent to legal office for review.
- Another issue dealt with the “space between your offense and my intent to offend” since there is already a process to pull your access.
- Let the office that is responsible for this post. If it goes to the IT committee they can post.
- Ask the IT people to restate the policy.

There was a motion amend the motion to say that policy should be posted to Raven on a regular schedule. Amendment passed 14-10-1.

Main motion, as amended, failed 6-19.

President Ernst offered his appreciation to Dr. Darken for bringing these issues to the attention of the Faculty Senate.

### **Faculty Concerns:**

What happened to Bob Dickenson? His visit to campus has been postponed.

Will we return to a planning process, what happened to the academic strategic plan? It is in place and can be found on the academic affairs page.

There is a concern about how we buy into the share the pain plan. It is not the job of the faculty to make program cut recommendations—administrators have that role.

Dr. Efaw announced the UTC Faculty Federation meeting next week.

Adjourned by voice vote.