

Minutes

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

FACULTY SENATE

October 13, 2009

GEB A304

Members present (n=38): Anita Airee; Baddour, Harry; Baselski, Vicki; Tiffany Bee; Beth Bowman; John Buolamwini; F. Hammond Cole; Leilani Collins; George Cook; Patricia Cowan; Susan Crim; Patricia Cunningham; Maggie DeBon; Rolland Dickerson, Martin Donaldson; David Hamilton; Edward Harris; Peg Hartig; Detlef Heck; Wyenona Hicks; Monica Jablonski; Eldridge Johnson; Brian P. Kelly; Abbas Kitabchi; Edward Lazarus; Michael McDonald, Susan Neeley-Barnes; Richard Nollan; Tommie Norris; Karen Olson; Helena Parfenova; Tayabeh Pourmotabbed; Fabio Re; Rebecca Reynolds; Susan Senogles; Sidney Stein; Parker Suttle; Lisa Tekell; Junling Wang; Glenn Wetzel; April Williams; Thad Wilson; Audrey Zucker-Levin

Academic Affairs Representative: Cheryl Scheid

Members absent (n=39): Ronald Adkins; Joel Bessoff; Howard Bromley; Lawrence Brown; Jacqueline Burchum; Joseph Callaway; Robert Canada; Alejandro Dopico; Cecilia Dowsing-Adams; Marion Dugdale; Allen Edmonson; Allea English; Zheng Fan; Amado Freire; Janet Harrison; Mary Ellen Hoehn; Karen Johnson; Terreia Jones; Maurice Lewis; Alexander Matthew; Leslie McKeon; Abubakar Naida; Rob Nolly; Anthony Lynn Patterson; Yeshwant Rawal; Phyllis Richey; Sandeep Samant; Robert Schoumacher; Richard Smith; Edwin Thomas; Shelly Timmons; Sherry Webb; Bruce Woodworth; Nadeem Zafar

Call to order the meeting was called to order at 3:36 pm

Approval of Minutes

September 8, 2009 Faculty Senate Meeting. Minutes were approved with minor changes.

Announcements

- Report from UT Faculty Council and UT Board of Trustee Meeting-Oct 8 & 9
- George Cook, UTFC Campus Representative
 - President Simek is willing to set up a town hall meeting in Memphis to address the faculty.
 - The chancellor search is moving along.
 - The System office is planning to move from the Andy Holt tower to another location in Knoxville. This is the first step in getting the system office off the Knoxville Campus.
 - Our domain name will change effective September 1st from utmem.edu to uthsc.edu. You will have 6 months to inform people of the domain name change. Effective March 1, 2010, utmem.edu will no longer work. Outgoing mail will have uthsc.edu starting November 2.
 - A diversity plan was discussed and can be found on the UTFC website.

The meeting was temporarily stopped to allow our pre-meeting speaker time to address the faculty senate.

Executive Vice Chancellor & Chief of Staff Kennard Brown addressed the faculty.

Budget Reductions:

The budget issues continue to get worse. Sales tax revenue has declined resulting in a projected \$20 to \$22 million budget decrease over the next 2 years. The stimulus money (\$30 – 33 million) will be gone in 2 years and can not be used for long term recurrent salaries. For these reasons we must make budget reductions now. The bulk of UTHSC costs are personnel costs with the bulk of that coming from the College of Medicine as they are the largest college.

The plan is to save \$5 million by not filling vacant positions, to increase tuition 15% to generate another \$5 million in revenue, and to initiate staff reductions in force. The RIF's will be done based on Standard Human Resources Dept. policy. We are not sure when the letters will go out to those who will be affected. They will be given as much notice as possible (30-90 days). There are no academic units identified to be discontinued. All alternatives will be exhausted before an academic unit is targeted.

The \$30-33 million stimulus money has some restrictions. It can be used for infrastructure issues and to make building improvements that decrease energy cost. Approximately \$3 million will be used for recruiting including start up packages. UTMG is working on a strategic investment to generate a revenue stream. Establishing a joint venture between UT and UTMG is being explored including purchasing the Scottish Rite building; demolish it and then building a clinical building on the site. The Med continues to make cuts. Some academic programs will be affected by these cuts, but we don't know what they are yet.

Dr. Brown was asked about capital equipment purchases from the stimulus money. He responded by stating that requests should go to Interim Chancellor Schwab.

The meeting resumed with the following:

Post-Doc Handbook:

On August 18 the FSEC approved the Postdoctoral Fellows handbook. The handbook was presented to the FS at the September meeting for review. The Post-doc handbook, as presented at the last meeting, is now to be considered for approval. George Cook moved to approve the Post-Doc Handbook. His motion was seconded by Peg Hartig. The handbook was discussed and unanimously approved.

New Business

Faculty Handbook Review -- Sections 8 and Appendices

Appendices: some of the old appendices have been moved to the evaluation manual or have a reference to a web site.

Appendix H: Academic Program Discontinuation and re-organization. A paragraph was added to include consultation/notice to affected faculty members when departments or programs are being considered for re-organization.

A glossary was added.

After a brief discussion a motion to accept the appendices was made by Richard Nollan, seconded by Peg Hartig and approved by unanimous vote.

Section 8: Termination of Tenured Faculty Member

Section 8 was presented to the faculty senate. A motion to approve Section 8 was made by Richard Nollan and seconded by Susan Senogles. After brief discussion section 8 was approved unanimously with one abstention.

Please be prepared to discuss sections 4 & 5 next month.

Reports of Committees

Budget and Benefits:

- They are moving forward with a proposal to address salary increases for faculty receiving promotions in rank that will apply across all colleges.
- They will meet with Tony Ferraro to discuss budget issues.

Faculty Affairs:

- They started working on the upward evaluation.

Legislative Resources:

- They discussed past work including forming a data base of faculty who have identified expertise in specific areas
- Anthony Haynes will be the Faculty Senate pre-meeting speaker next month.
- If you have any questions for Anthony, please forward them to Martin Donaldson.

Educational Policy:

- They are reviewing the honor code policy and procedure

Clinical Affairs:

- Tried to meet; finding a good time for all is difficult.

Computing:

- They are working with the Taylor Strickland Chief Information Officer (CIO) to address technology requirements on campus.
- Working on podcasting policy

Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 4:50pm

Upcoming meetings

October 20 – FSEC and Committee Chairs with Chancellor Schwab -- 8:00 Hyman 101

November 5 – FSEC – 8:00 Hyman 101

November 10 – UTHSC Faculty Senate – 3:30 GEB 304

Minutes respectfully submitted by Audrey Zucker-Levin 11/6/09; approved 11/10/09.