

Faculty Senate Steering  
04/06/2015

The faculty Senate Steering Committee met April 6, 2015, at 3:00 p.m., in the faculty Senate Chambers.

Members Present: Scott Boyd, Larry Burriss, William Canak, Tricia Farwell, Michelle Finch, Joey Gray, Brian Hinote, Rhonda Hoffman, Alfred Lutz, Preston MacDougall, Janel McCormick, Scott McDaniel, Willis Means, Deana Raffo, Jason Reineke

Members Absent: Tom Black, John Dougan

The following items will be reviewed/discussed at the next Faculty Senate meeting:

1. Faculty Suspension/AAUP

- \* A faculty suspension at the University of Delaware has raised due process issue.
- \* The Senate will appoint an ad hoc committee to look into MTSU faculty suspension policies.

2. Bylaws draft

- \* Trish Farwell: Should the Senate sponsor a workshop on accessibility?
- \* Changes in rules concerning “access to facilities” to “access to information.”
- \* Discussion concerning succeeding terms for TBR Sub-Council representative.

3. AAUP financial report

- \* Is MTSU appearing in the reports? If not, why not?

4. Poll of student opinions re scheduling

- \* Under IRB review.

5. TUFs Discussion Items

- \* 94 education topics before the legislature, only 12 dealt with higher education, and most of those probably won't pass.
- \* Budget: The state funding formula does not seem to recognize realities of budget needs.
- \* UT is considering looking at productivity relative to post-tenure review.
- \* Does state control of the budget insure effective management?
- \* “Guns on campus” is a “disturbing” issue.”
- \* Who determines “fitness for duty”?
- \* Will Partners for Health issues result in higher premiums?

- \* Book bundling may violate a 2008 act that prohibits bundling because it interferes with student choice.
6. Maintenance
    - \* How does building maintenance (or lack of maintenance) impact health?
    - \* Are buildings becoming unsafe and unhealthy because of deferred maintenance? How many buildings? What are the issues?
  7. Quest for Student Success
    - \* Rick Sluder is very encouraged about retention.
  8. Standing Committee Staffing
    - \* Progress being made.
  9. Fitness for Duty Policy Considerations
    - \* Who decides if someone is “fit for duty”?
  10. Merit pay
    - \* Numerous issues need to be studied before a plan is implemented.
    - \* Do we need merit pay if everyone is so far behind in base pay?
  11. COIA

Is there support for a Presidential Commission on Intercollegiate Athletic?
  12. Updates
    - \* Lecturer position is still under review.
    - \* Healthcare premiums are probably going to go up.
    - \* Mike Krause – Speak to the Senate in May.
    - \* Bud Fischer, dean, College of Basic and Applied Sciences, will speak to the April meeting.
    - \* Alfred Lutz, TBR Sub-Council
      - + Discussion of Jackson State Community College president’s remarks concerning tenure.
      - + Policy changes that are made at the sub-council level, and then modified at a higher level will now come back down to the appropriate sub-council for review.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.