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Members Present –M. Arndt, M. Baggarly, C. Beauchamp, S. Boyd, J. Brickey, T.Brinhaupt, K. Butler, N. Callender, C. Cooper, W. Cribb, K. Darby, J. Dooley, J. Dowdy, L. Dubek, L. Fisher, G. Freeman, T. Greer, C. Harris, R. Heinrich, R. Henderson, P. Kelly, Z. Khan, C. Li, A. Lutz, R. McBride S. Morris, K. N. Nofsinger, J. P. Oliver, L. Selva, C. Stephens, P. Wall, M. Weller, D. Winborn, G. Zlotky

Members Absent – F. Amey, S. Daugherty, W. Ilsley, S. Rawls,

Members Excused – R. Clark, P. Fischer, R. Hoffman, M. Rice, J. Rich, S. Taylor, B. Wallace

Additional Attendees – Casey McCollum (TBR Student Representative)

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## Agenda

1. Roll Call – The meeting was called to order at 4:30PM.
2. Approval of November 8, 2010 Minutes – A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the minutes.
3. Treasurer's Report:
  - a. Travel – \$5.51
  - b. Operating Expenses – \$2,014.61
  - c. Foundation Account – \$596.79
4. President's Report:
  - a. Senators awarded promotion and /or tenure: Foster Amey, Scott Boyd, Phil Oliver, Michael Rice and Jeremy Rich
  - b. Memo from Dean Byrnes re: interim Geosciences Chair position
    - i. The Chair of the Geosciences department resigned. For budgetary reasons, an external candidate was not hired, so Warner has accepted the interim position to begin next August. Warner went over the eligibility rules for Department Chairs on the Senate. He stated that he could be retained by a vote of the Senate; otherwise, he would not be able to serve as Past President.
  - c. VP and Dean searches:
    - i. Dean of Library – Interviews are complete.

- ii. VP International Affairs – Interviews are scheduled for the week of December 13<sup>th</sup>.
- iii. Dean of Liberal Arts – The Search Committee first met on December 1<sup>st</sup> with a plan to be complete by April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- iv. Vice Provost Academic Affairs – The Search Committee first met on November 30<sup>th</sup> with a plan to be complete by April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- v. The Wilkes System for student advising was discussed. Warner stated that he was not aware of this program until November 17<sup>th</sup>. This program will cause all incoming freshmen to be initially placed in the University College. The purpose is to improve retention by advising. Several programs will participate in a pilot with full implementation in 2012. The list of questions to Dean Boyle and his responses was discussed (handout). Warner stated that he was not involved in recommending this model. Warner asked for the Senate's will in this matter. Alfred suggested that if the President has not signed off on the document then we should contact him with input. Warner stated that he would contact Deb Sells and ask if the President had signed off on the document. Warner gave his opinion that this model does not address advising issues for other than freshmen. Luana stated that this model does benefit many students on campus to include the many students which declare nursing but never qualify for the nursing program. Laura expressed her opinion that Dean Boyle needs to be reminded about shared governance.
- vi. The TBR Faculty Subcouncil Report was presented by Alfred. Points of interest are the following:
  - 1. Mr. Morgan will visit all TBR institutions and meet with the Senate Presidents. Warner stated that he was informed that he will meet with Chancellor Morgan on January 10<sup>th</sup>.
  - 2. Mr. Morgan is in favor of faculty representation on administrative committees.
  - 3. Mr. Morgan stated that faculty raises could come out of tuition increases. He stated that the increase of insurance premiums constitutes a pay cut. Several faculty members in the state have salaries that fall beneath the national poverty level. He also stated that we need to remain competitive.
  - 4. Mr. Morgan stated that Tenure may be investigated in the State.
  - 5. Mr. Morgan stated that the Lottery may not be in line with the Complete College Tennessee Act.

Alfred gave a list of several organizations which provide input to the thinking behind the Complete College Tennessee Act.

## 5. Old Business

### a. Funding Formula/Budget Update

- i. Warner presented the letter which was sent to President McPhee regarding the Senates concerns with the Funding Formula. Warner stated that being involved in the process and stating our concerns makes our presence known and impacts how the Administration views the Senate.

- ii. Warner presented next year's budget numbers assuming a Statewide 1% budget reduction (handout). The overall reduction is approximately \$709,600. He showed how MTSU loses significantly more funding than other TBR schools (with the exception of Southwest Community College). He interpreted the handout to present 2% and 3% budget reductions as well (upwards of \$2.3 million).
  - b. Academic Freedom Policy changes (requires Senate vote)
    - i. The Garcetti vs. Ceballos case was discussed. Alfred presented the areas which are protected by academic freedom. He asked for a vote on the changes to the Academic Freedom Policy.
    - ii. A motion was made, seconded and discussion was called for. It was asked if the University Council had responded to the issue. No response had been given. The motion was unanimously approved.
6. New Business
- a. Request to Form A Standing Committee for Military and Veterans Issues
    - i. Warner presented the request by Jimmy Cain to start a standing committee for Veterans Issues. Warner asked the Senate to consider the proposal. Tony presented that the University has no centralized system to address issues with these students and he sometimes handles the issues himself. Warner presented that if the Senate passes a resolution, he will propose that it be put in place for the fall of 2011.
    - ii. A motion was made, seconded and passed to support the creation of this standing committee.
  - b. Senate Representation on Instructional Technology (TAF) Committee and Committee Guideline Changes
    - i. Warner stated that the TAF guidelines are not being followed with the current makeup of the TAF Committee. The issue is that an excess of department chairs and a deficiency of Senate representatives are serving on the committee. With the amount of funding available to the TAF Committee, a possible conflict of interest is possible by having a department chair as the Chair of this committee. Warner communicated the concerns to Deborah. She does not want to step down as the TAF Committee Chair. Warner made several suggestions. Another Senate representative should be appointed and the guidelines should be adjusted to prevent a department chair from chairing the committee. Her appointment to the TAF was made prior to her appointment to the Interim Chair of the Human Sciences Department. Warner presented wording changes to the guidelines to prevent this issue in the future (handout). If voted on, Warner will create a letter to President McPhee addressing these concerns.
    - ii. A motion was made, seconded and passed. Janice Brickey and Jackey Dowdy abstained from the vote.
  - c. Called January meeting? Invite Rich Rhoda or John Morgan?
    - i. It was decided that John Morgan would be invited.
  - d. Basketball game – Spring faculty 'get-together'?

7. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 5:48PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nate Callender  
2010-2011 Faculty Senate Recording Secretary

Edited: