

Middle Tennessee State University  
Steering Committee, Faculty Senate  
September 3, 2008

1) Roll Call

- a. Members Present - M. Balachandran, D. Belcher, L. Burriss, J. Cain, J. Dowdy, B. Haskew, C. Higgins, N. Kelker, A. Lutz, M. Martin, H. Means, K. Rushlow, S. Taylor, S. Taylor, K. Smith, L Warise
- b. Members Excused – None
- c. Members Absent – None

2) Items Discussed –

a. Steering Committee Composition

- i. Since a member of the committee Teresa McBreen had to reconsider her appointment, the Steering Committee voted to replace that member with Stephanie Taylor; her selection was based on the fact that Taylor was the other representative available from that college.

- ii. The Steering Committee recommends the following motion be made to amend the By-Laws to form a regular process for this action;

\*\*MOTION: In the event a member of the Steering & Liaison Committee is unable to complete his/her term of duty, the full Faculty Senate membership shall elect a replacement as soon as possible. The candidate(s) will be provided by the Faculty Senate Nominating Committee. The election shall be conducted in accordance with these By-Laws. To be included as Article VII, Section 9, or Article VIII, Section 4.

b. Enrollment Information

- i. Current enrollment is up 1.8%, with current enrollment at 23,685. MTSU is reserving \$1M in expectation of future cuts in the academic year. Based on the remaining tuition dollars, a few FTE positions will be returned from recent cuts.
- ii. Tenure and Promotion policy review will begin in a few weeks. This committee will be put in place and will review the 2004 policies currently in place. If there are policy changes that the faculty wish to recommend, they should be sent to the appropriate faculty senate member. At this time, 27,000 is the target size for MTSU.

c. Budget impact survey

- i. This survey would allow the faculty senate to respond to any prospective future cuts in an informed fashion.
- ii. The attached survey would allow us to collect data directly from the faculty, with an appropriate introduction. Survey will be sent to get return in Oct with a follow-up in the Spring.

d. Tennessee University Faculty Senates

- i. Faculty Senate Presidents from TBR have voted to organize a representative group that is parallel to the group from the UT system (UT Faculty Council); it would be advisory and supportive in nature. A Constitution has been presented and will be available online for our review. This will go to the Faculty Senate for review and action.

e. TBR regulations

- i. Regarding the Mastery test – there will be online sessions with no Mastery tests for Title VI. From William Arnold, the tests will be retained due to the need to

assure mastery of and attention to the information. Online training sessions will continue to be required.

- ii. Can we inquire the details of the implementation of the Little Hatch Act at UTK?
- f. Chairs and Deans Evaluations
  - i. The evaluations have been provided for last year and this year to the Faculty Senate.
  - ii. Copies will stay within the Faculty Senate. If a person requests copies, they are to be referred to the Library copies at the Reserve Desk.
- g. Faculty Senate Budget Committee –
  - i. There was interest in reviving this committee and the logistics need to be reviewed.
  - ii. We will form a group to discuss composition and charge of this committee, especially in an attempt to impact the construction of future budgets. Perhaps identify a couple of issues and a review of trends in budgets.
  - iii. A lot of attention needs to be done at the Dean's level.
  - iv. This will be brought to the Senate in an appropriate form on Monday.
- h. Dean Boyle will be a guest on Monday at a pre-meeting to discuss summer session and some of the ideas that arose in the Faculty Senate Retreat. He will start at 3:45 and will continue as the discussion proceeds.
- i. Announcements-
  - i. Ron Malone – A faculty lot was closed for the football game at 8 am and disrupted the only parking space for that department. A faculty member was told that coaches took priority of faculty and staff on game day. The coaches did not even come in until 4:30 and the lot was half empty all day. Spouses were provided with parking in this lot. Recommendation – bring this to the Faculty Liaison Committee and merge with the bigger issue of the Faculty role and the bigger issue of professionalism on campus.