

Faculty Senate
04/13/2015

The MTSU faculty Senate met Monday, April 13, at 4:30 in the Faculty Senate Chambers.

Members Present: Tom Black, Scott Boyd, Nita Brooks, Larry Burriss, William Canak, Hyrum Carroll, Alphonse Carter, Laura Cochrane, John Dougan, Mark Doyle, Laura Dubek, Tricia Farwell, Michelle Finch, Sekou Franklin, Buddy Freeman, Joey Gray, Tina Hall, Jeanne Harrington, Clay Harris, Joseph Hawkins, Brian Hinote, Rhonda Hoffman, Paul Kline, Alfred Lutz, Preston MacDougall, Mary Martin, Ann McCullough, Scott McDaniel, Joel Miller, John Pennington, Michael Principe, Jason Reineke, Lauren Rudd, H. Stephen Smith, Charlene True, Barbara Turnage, Martha Weller, Kristen West, Annette Williams, Zhifu Yang

Members Absent: Alan Boehm (excused), Mamit Deme, Meredith Dye (excused), Paul Fischer, Michael Fleming, Steve Howard, Tom Jurkanin, Robert Kalwinsky (excused), Janet McCormick, Willis Means (excused), Deana Raffo (excused), Sherry Roberts,

1. Minutes from the March 2015 meeting were approved.
2. The Treasurer's report was approved.

Travel:	\$433.48
General Operating:	\$943.17
Foundation:	\$441.16
3. Lance Alexis (Director, Disability and Access Center), discussed recent changes and proposals regarding the change from accessibility of "instructional material" to accessibility of "information material."

A summary of the recommendations has been distributed via e-mail.
The number of recommendations has been cut from 20 to 9.

The top 10 MTSU pages have been made accessible, but TBR is considering requiring that the top 20 or 25 pages be made accessible.

In Georgia only 25% of textbooks were accessible
Instructors should ask publishers if books are available on E-Pub 3

Marion Wilson (MTSU Equity & Compliance) is our point person for the Tennessee Higher Education Accessibility Task Force.

ROCC (Regents On-Line Campus Collaboration) has developed an Accessibility Initiative Plan

Faculty will be asked to participate in an Accessibility Informational Material and Technology (AIMT) survey.

4. Bud Fischer, Dean, College of Basic and Applied Sciences discussed the College's 2015-2020 strategic plan (His PowerPoint of his presentation is on the Faculty Senate D2L page).
5. Senate Elections
Mary Martin – President-elect
Larry Burriss - Secretary
6. Bylaws Revision
Revision posted on Senate D2L page.
Passed unanimously
7. President Canak introduced a faculty suspensions/AAUP concern from the University of Delaware.
8. Maintenance Issues
An ad hoc committee was formed to examine issues concerning deferred maintenance and safety/health concerns in various campus buildings.
Anne McCollough
Kristen West
William Canak
9. The Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics is asking for a vote to support a presidential commission to examine the role of athletics in higher education.
Motion to support passed by a voice vote with six abstentions
10. Updates
 - * Committee Staffing – The College of Mass Communication has all committee positions staffed. Other colleges are working towards completion.
 - * Mike Krause (TBR) will speak to the Senate in May.
 - * President McPhee will hold a Q&A session at the May Senate meeting.
 - * Quest for Student Success seems to be working, with improved retention levels.
 - * There appears to be some confusion regarding a “book-seller memo” from the provost regarding who owns books sent to faculty members: are the books state property, or do they belong to the faculty member?
 - * MTSU did not participate in this year's AAUP Compensation report.

- * A Faculty Senate/Student Schedule poll is live and data should be available before the next Senate meeting.
- * The Compensation Committee is making progress and should have a report available in May
- * TBR Sub-Council
 - + There has apparently been some confusion related to TBR changes to action items prepared by the various sub-councils then sent to the Board. In the future, any changes will be sent back down to the appropriate sub-committee for discussion and re-approval.
 - + TBR has issued a memorandum reaffirming support for tenure and the tenure process.
 - + Discussion of the role and scope of the faculty regent and student regent on the Board. Both serve only a one-year term. In addition, the faculty regent is usually from a community college or tech center, thus raising a question about representation of the four-year universities on the board.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.