

Faculty Senate Minutes
November 3, 2025
JUB 100

ATTENDING

PRESIDENT: Michael Federici

PRESIDENT ELECT: Patrick McCarthy

PARLIMENTARIAN: Larry Burriss

RECORDING SECRETARY: Shannon Randol

MEMBERS: Jeremy Aber, Lando Carter, Kelsey Duncan, Tricia Farwell, Joyce Finch, Robert Fowler, Jessica Gaby, Aaron Gamino, Grant Gardner, Beverly Geckle, Lisa Green, Kim Honaker, Kristi Julian, Ron Kates, DeAnna Kempf, Sylvester Lamin, William Langston, Sungyoon Lee, Will Leggett, Alfred Lutz, Preston MacDougall, John Maynor, Lei Miao, Tim Moake, Pamela Morris, Tim Nelson, Suman Neupane, Soraya Nogueira, Keely O'Brien, John Ouellette, Sharon Parente, Patrick Richey, James Robertson, Arpan Sainju, Sonya Sanderson, Lauren Shouse, Gregory Slack, Carter Smith, Suzanne Sutherland, William Yelverton, Sam Zaza, Kevin Zhao

ABSENT: Jacob Avila, Rick Lewis (excused), Everett Singleton, Ashley Valanzola

Quorum was established

The meeting was called to order at 3:00pm by Michael Federici.

MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 6 SENATE MEETING

(Lutz/Finch) Motion to approve

(Aber) Call to question

Unanimous approval. Motion passes

NEWS FROM PRESIDENT'S CABINET AND OTHER MEETINGS

Kari Neely – Faculty Trustee

Report from THEC Master Plan presentation available in Teams

(General > Faculty Trustee Presentations > THEC Master Plan Report)

SUMMER PAY CAP ELIMINATION PROPOSAL (PATRICK AND LAUREN, ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE)

(Aber/Smith) Motion to approve proposal

Summer Pay Cap is causing situations for those doing research or online course development

Perceived need to remove language that limits percentage of pay

Winter and Summer months being combined is problematic

Chairs still maintain authority to limit faculty members commitments

Administration concerned about faculty being spread too thin

(Aber/Ouelette) Call to question

42 yea / 0 nea / 1 abstention. Motion passes

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY AND DISMISSAL/SUSPENSION PROCESS (GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE)

Should the Senate draft a proposal that focuses on social media use for faculty which includes process for adjudicating such cases

Governance committee to study and decide if proposal is needed

What protection(s) currently exist and are they sufficient?

Currently there is a case out of Mississippi that may provide insight

Potential problem is that administration may become aware of the need for a policy

MTSU Policy 103 Free Speech on Campus

BOARD OF TRUSTEES RECEPTION MARCH 17? (SUZANNE, GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE)

Nominations can be individual faculty member scholarship or faculty working with students

Board responsive to both situations

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee

Waiting on meeting date to be set

Academic Affairs Committee

Still in communication with Provost Office

Scholarship Committee

Provost Research Fund proposal with the Provost

Discussing deadline extension for NIA applications

Clarification on release time as some faculty are asking for partial course reduction

NTT Faculty Committee

Upcoming meeting to discuss feedback on proposal

NEW BUSINESS

Anyone having offices or classes in Murphy Center, please speak with Kari Neely

OLD BUSINESS

ITT visit to Faculty Senate

Yvette Clark coming to December meeting

Questions can be sent to Micheal Federici

(Smith/Sanderson) Motion to adjourn

Unanimous approval. Motion passes.

Adjourned at 4:20pm

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 1st at 3pm in JUB 100