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Faculty Senate - September 16, 2013 Minutes

Faculty Senate

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FACULTY SENATE
Minutes
September 16, 2013

Absent: Rob Blitt, Stan Bowie, Ernest Brothers, Theodore Brown, Jr., Gregory Button, Patricia Carter, Chris Cimino, Christopher Clark, Wanda Costen, Ray Degennaro, Gerd Duscher, Neal Eash, Alberto Garcia, Hansjoerg Goeritz, Iris Goodwin, Martin Griffin, John Haas, Sadie Hutson, Wonjae Hwang, Ramki Kalyanaraman, Dayton Lambert, Kurt Lamour, Bob Legg, Joseph Majdalani, Susan Martin, Angela McClure, Stephen Paddison, Gene Peterson, Tulio Prado, Nathan Preuss, Andy Puckett, Susan Ratliff, Fernando Schwartz, John Schwartz, Steve Smith, Rob Spirko, Curtis Stewart, Ahmad Vakili, Mark Windham, Kathi Wong, Kenton Yeager, Mary Ziegler

I. CALL TO ORDER

D. Golden called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m. J. Poore established that a quorum was present.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS

Moment of Silence (D. Golden)

A moment of silence was held in remembrance of Vincent Anfara, Faculty Senate President 2011-2012.

Provost Report (S. Martin)

Provost Martin was unable to attend and no report was available.

Chancellor's Report (J. Cheek)

Chancellor Cheek gave a presentation to the Faculty Senate, which is archived on the Faculty Senate Blackboard Learn site (Online@UT). The focus of the address was on our continued journey and progress towards becoming a top 25 public university. Details can be found in the archived address.

Senate President's Report (D. Golden)

- Faculty Senate officers for 2013-2014 were introduced by D. Golden. Joanne Hall serves as President-elect, Bonnie Ownley serves as Secretary, Jessica Poore serves as Parliamentarian, Stefanie Ohnesorg serves as Information Officer, and Steve Thomas serves as Past-President.
- D. Golden attended the launch of the "Drive to 55" campaign (driveto55.org), which is an initiative to increase the percentage of Tennesseans with higher education degrees to 55% by 2025. Higher education degrees include two-year, four-year, and some technical certifications in critical fields. Currently only 32% of Tennessee residents have an advanced degree.
- Chairs of several Faculty Senate caucuses are still needed. Caucuses are encouraged to fill these positions as soon as possible.
- There are new developments on the UTIA Gas and Oil Research Initiative. The Initiative is on hold after receiving no bids from potential industry partners.
- An updated version of the UT *Faculty Handbook* is available online.
- Efforts are underway to determine the most effective way to communicate to Faculty Senate members and Faculty at large. A one-way listserv will be used to send information out to faculty as two-way listservs become burdensome to manage. A link to the Faculty Senate is now available on Blackboard Learn through Online@UT and two-way discussion is available. D. Golden and S. Winston are also working on using SharePoint for communication, which will be in the form of blog-type postings.

III. MINUTES OF FACULTY SENATE AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (D. Golden)

The minutes of the Faculty Senate meeting of May 6, 2013, were approved by unanimous consent, following corrections in spelling and a typographical error. The unapproved minutes of the Faculty Senate Executive Council meeting of September 3, 2013, have been posted for review.

IV. MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL (D. Hodges)

The Graduate Council minutes for the meetings of February 28, 2013, and April 4, 2013 were presented for review. The highlights of these meetings were the following:

- At the February 28th meeting a change in the dissertation examination process was approved. Effective Fall 2014, the dissertation examination must be scheduled through the Graduate School at least two weeks prior to the examination. The current policy allows scheduling of the examination only one week prior to the defense. The change simplifies the timing requirements to have both the defense date scheduled, and copies of the dissertation distributed to the student's committee at least two weeks prior to the examination.
- In the minutes of February 28th, three non-tenure-track and one tenure-track faculty members were approved to direct dissertations.
- A policy was proposed for Remote Participation in Oral Defenses for committee members and students. The student and all committee members must agree in advance for remote participation, and approval at the department level must be obtained. All participants join in with two-way audio and video connections. Audio-only connections for committee members must be approved by the major professor. If the student is the one participating remotely, both audio and video connections are required. The Graduate School is not responsible for costs associated with remote participation. The Remote Participation at Oral Defense Notification Form is required by the Graduate School.
- In the April 4th meeting minutes, two tenured faculty and three tenure-track faculty were approved to direct doctoral dissertations.
- Changes were also made to the bylaws of the Credentials Committee of the Graduate Council.

There were no questions and the minutes were accepted by unanimous consent.

V. PREVIOUS BUSINESS

Non-tenure-track Issues Committee (J. Fowler and P. Daves)

A resolution to amend the Senate bylaws and add a standing committee on Non-tenure-track Issues was presented at the May 6, 2013, Faculty Senate meeting. S. Harris offered a friendly amendment. She requested that the following sentence in the resolution, "In years when there are not enough non-tenure-track faculty on the Senate to fill the four spots on the committee, the chairperson may ask non-senate members to be on the committee." be changed to "In years when there are not enough Senators to fill the spots on the committee, the chairperson may ask non-senate members to be on the committee." P. Daves moved that the resolution be approved as amended. The motion passed by voice vote.

Lecture Promotion Guidelines (J. Fowler and P. Daves)

Following approval of the Lecture Promotion Guidelines by the Faculty Senate at the March 4, 2013, meeting, the Guidelines were sent to General Counsel for review. P. Daves indicated that General Counsel reorganized the text, which improved the document, without changing content. The revision by General Counsel revises the revision to the UT *Faculty Handbook*. There were no questions and Daves moved that the revisions be accepted. The motion passed by voice vote.

VI. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES (D. Golden)

D. Golden indicated that some committees have already met, but there were no reports to be presented.

VII. NEW BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Election of Councils and Committees (D. Golden)

Membership and Chairs of Councils and Committees are posted on the Faculty Senate website. S. Harris is Chair of the Non-tenure-track Issues Committee. D. Golden mentioned that a Proxy was needed to fill W. Costen's term during her absence. Golden indicated that ratification of appointments to committees is needed. T. Shepardson asked whether we also needed to ratify appointment of ex-officio members. Golden replied that those appointments do not require ratification because they are defined in the bylaws by virtue of the position held. He indicated that GSS positions will be filled soon. M. Fry moved to accept the appointments with spelling corrections, M. Collins seconded the motion. The motion passed with one abstention.

Resolution (D. Golden)

D. Golden read a resolution in appreciation of Steve R. Thomas, past-president of the Faculty Senate. M. Collins moved that the resolution be approved, and T. Handler seconded the motion. The resolution was approved by unanimous consent and is listed below.

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville Faculty Senate

WHEREAS, Steve R. Thomas, for over three decades has been a generous and effective library faculty colleague, collaborator, and leader in selection and implementation of the integrated library systems that make research and discovery possible; and

WHEREAS, he has served with distinction as President of the Faculty Senate during the 2012-2013 academic year, maintaining the reputation of the Faculty Senate through his diligent leadership and capable representation of faculty issues at the campus, system, and board levels; and

WHEREAS, he has played a vital role in contributing to library cataloging and technology systems, especially in overseeing and coordinating functions to enable ease of use; and

WHEREAS, his technical expertise and leadership have been instrumental in the work of the Libraries' Catalog Advisory Group, a collaboration of public and technical services personnel that shaped essential user functions; and

WHEREAS, he has also served the Faculty Senate and the faculty of this campus as a member of the Tennessee University Faculty Senates and the University Faculty Council and as a member and chair of various Faculty Senate, campus, and University committees and task forces;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT *The University of Tennessee,
Knoxville Faculty Senate expresses its sincere appreciation to*

Steve R. Thomas

*for his exemplary leadership and service to the Faculty Senate and
The University of Tennessee; and*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT *a copy of this Resolution be
presented to Steve R. Thomas, and that the Resolution become part of
the minutes of the Faculty Senate meeting held on September 16, 2013.*

Bonnie H. Ownley, Ph.D.
Secretary

David A. Golden, Ph.D.
President

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment was moved and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie H. Ownley, Secretary