

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Southwest Tennessee Community College
Macon Campus
February 7, 2012

A. Call to Order and Roll Call

Joyce Johnson, president, called the meeting to order at 3 p.m.

The following Senators were present:

Lee Smart, Joyce Johnson, Bill Turner, Jason Whitt, Mahnaz Ghaffarian. Doug Branch, Rosie Taylor, Ravi Mehra, Ladonna Young, , Steve Haley Leslie Peoples
Sindy Abadie Michael Scott, Dewey Sykes, Jesse Lipford, John Friedlander

The following senators sent proxies:

Karen Pearce, Pam Jones, Joan McGrory

The following Senators were absent:

Amy Cox, Donald Thomas

B. Reading and Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved.

C. Reports from Senate Officers and Committees

Jason Whitt is chair of the faculty election committee reported that the department representative letter would go out shortly to department chairs and the division representative request would go out in early March. Also a letter to faculty requesting candidates for president would go out shortly. The committee will be Chair Jason Whitt, Bill Turner, Lee Smart and Sindy Abadie.

The faculty handbook committee report was deferred until the next meeting.

Rosie Taylor chair of the Awards committee asked each senator to nominate someone for a faculty award as nominations will close this week.

D. Old Business

The topic of MWF classes was again discussed and Joyce indicated that the Provost had responded to our resolution in a letter which is attached to the minutes.

E. New Business

Joyce Johnson gave the faculty senate an overview of the sub council committee meeting.

[Legislative Agenda](#)

Guns on Campus – we have been able to hold it at bay for now. They feel that it may come up again in this election year of the state legislature.

Board of Reagent Members – They would like to add a student and faculty member to the board for an extended term, 2 yrs. First year – they would be non-voting members, in the second year they would be voting members. It was drafted after the UT student and faculty board members.

Teacher Effectiveness – We are asking for revisions to the statute to allow TBR to obtain full access of the data so that programs can address any issues. Data protected – using IRB standard not to identify individual teachers

Blind Vending – Quality of the food is not up to what our students want. Blind vending is not providing the types of food and the healthy options in the food that students want. We are asking to be exempt from the blind vending statute.

Wrongly Terminated Tenure – Recommending an amendment to the statutes that if the court finds their tenure was wrongly taken away, then they should receive back pay.

Background Check – Last year, public chapter 506 was passed requiring that background checks for all people with access to dorms. Currently, the law singles out certain groups that have to pay for their own background check such as student RA. They are requesting to allow the institution pay for the background check instead of the students.

- ✓ The governor may be proposing a 5% cut for higher education.
- ✓ Capital projects must have matching funds for each project – cap on matching funds being 15% for community colleges and 10% for TCC

Action Items

Revision to the Tobacco and Alcoholic Beverages Modisher – added “or in wine tasting process”

High School Course Requirements for Fall 2013 – eliminate the sentence that “each institution will decide to admit with exceptions”. An effort from requiring student to go back and take a course they were deficient in high school when they are ready to graduate.

Standard Calculation of Transfer GPAs – add ‘to enroll’ in the language

Principles for Articulation in Vocational/Technical Education – change in wording and the number of clock hours from 900 to 1125

Guideline A-100 to accommodate VA benefits – learning support in line with regulations of the US Department of Veteran Affairs. Courses with VA benefits have to have a certain contact time and credit hour. VA is not paying for LS courses because they thought they were correspondence courses. We have explained to the VA that these are not independent study courses; but they are saying we are not in compliance.

Discussion Item – Common Calendar 2013-2025

Fall Semester – Midterm Break week 8 -- big issue is to move the break to the Mon., Tue., before Thanksgiving. Problem is the amount of time available for processing grades and no time for classes after the break. They would be returning to final exam week (2013, 2014, 2019, 2024, 2025). Universities can have flexibility to choose the break, so this may vary among the universities, but the community colleges will all have to agree on the break. All grades must be submitted no later than Monday of week 17.

Spring Semester – All classes will begin on the Tuesday after MLK holiday with the exception of when MLK is on the 21st day of January (2014 & 2019). Class will begin the Monday before MLK holiday. Good Friday is optional per institution except with Community Colleges. We all have to agree on breaks – complete college act unified community college system

Rules and Policy

Dr. Shorts explained that a “Rule” has to be approved by the Attorney General and takes about 2 years. A “policy” requires board approval

Academic Freedom Policy for Shared Governance

This has been negotiated wording that we (faculty) and legal can agree. When you are acting as part of a formal group on your campus, your speech is that is protected. It will protect in relation to you doing your job; i.e. faculty senate meeting, department faculty meetings.

- It does not cover you getting on twitter and reeling on people.
- If you are Faculty senate president and you decide to go around the faculty and protest on the governor lawn – you are not covered.

But this will protect you if you are in shared governance, responsible professional behavior. Stated that we will not be able to get a broad version such as the University of Minnesota

Academic Misconduct

This will still allow due process. The rule didn't allow faculty to give an “F” grade, but we can have a policy on campus that would allow and F grade. The faculty sub council is proposing it become a rule. It was stated that it normally does not go through the sub council, the board need to approve then it will go to the attorney general office in order for it to be changed. Review by legal and academic affairs.

The faculty welfare committee was asked by the Senate to get a clarification of the sick day policy and what days are credited against sick days and justification. The faculty welfare committee sent a report clarifying the policy it is attached. A motion was made and unanimously approved to accept the report.

Dr. Tosh was present at the meeting to clarify the new FA category on final grades at the SEC's request. This was very informative and some new guidelines are attached to clarify this. In general if a student attended after the withdrawal date they should not be included in this category but the examples in the handout are very helpful.

Ron Parr also attended the meeting to address the bookstore issues as requested by the SEC. He indicated he was meeting with Follett to address their concerns over a significant decrease in sales and that he would welcome any faculty input for this meeting and would also try to get answers to their concerns. He pointed out that the pyridine for all bookstores is changing and that there were no easy answers but that it was certain that the business plan had to change to respond to the changing market

for E books, online resellers etc. When asked about the college running the bookstore he said there was no interest based on such things as inventory cost and the lack of expertise in this area not to mention the changing pyridine.

Steve Haley asked Mr. Parr to talk about the % of the budget for instruction. He indicated it was around 37%. He spoke for a few minutes on budget projections and how the college hopes to adjust without additional riffs and buyouts.

The next meeting will be on the Union campus.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 PM.

2011-2012 Senate

President: Joyce Johnson jdjohnson7@southwest.tn.edu

6057

Division Senators

Division Senators of Arts and Sciences - Five Seats. Language and Literature, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Mathematics, Natural Sciences, and Communications & Graphic and Fine Arts				
Senator	Term	email	Department	Ext.
Karen Pierce	(11-13)	kpierce	Social & Behavioral Sciences	5317
Bill Turner	(11-13)	wturner	Mathematics	4254
Doug Branch	(11-13)	dbranch	Languages and Literature	4483
Rosie Taylor	(10-12)	rdtaylor	Natural Sciences	5225
Steve Haley	(10-12)	shaley	Social and Behavioral Sciences	5635

Division Senators of Career Studies - Five Seats. Business, Technologies, Allied Health, Nursing				
Senator	Term	email	Department	Ext.
Joan McGrory	(11-13)	jmcgrory	Business	4594
Ravi Mehra	(10-12)	rmehra	Business	4326
Lee Smart	(10-12)	lsmart	Business	6045
Dewey Sykes	(11-13)	dsykes	Technologies	4735
Sindy Abadie	(10-12)	csabadie	Business	6021

Department Senators:

Division: Career Studies

Departments:

- Business
- Technologies
- Nursing
- Allied Health

Senator	Term	email	Department	Ext.
Leslie Peeples	(11-13)	lpeeples	Technologies	4006
Mahnaz Ghaffarian	(11-13)	mghaffarian	Business	4479
	(11-13)			
Amy Cox	(10-12)	acox	Allied Health	5390
Pam Jones	(11-13)	Pljones7	Nursing	5439

Division: Arts and Sciences

Departments:

- Languages, and Literature
- Communication and Graphic and Fines Arts
- Social & Behavioral Science
- Mathematics
- Natural Science

Senator	Term	email	Department	Ext.
Michael Scott	(11-13)	mscott	Communications & Arts	4535
Donald Thomas	(10-12)	dlthomas	Natural Science	5223
Jesse Lipford	(10-12)	jlipford	Social and Behavioral Sciences	
John Friedlander	(11-13)	jfriedlander	Languages& Literature	4274
Jason Whitt	(11-13)	jwhitt	Mathematics	5245
Ladonna Young	(11-13)	lyoung	Social and Behavioral Sciences	4160