

Faculty Senate Minutes  
Southwest Tennessee Community College  
Macon Cove Campus  
MA C 175  
November 15, 2016

1. Call to Order and Roll

Faculty Senate president Bill Summons called the meeting to order at 3:00.  
Secretary Doug Branch called the roll:

William Summons, **Senate President**,

Division Senators, Arts and Sciences

Doug Branch (15-17) **Secretary**

Joyce Johnson (15-17)

Mahmuda Sultana (16-18)

Bill Turner (15-17)

MaLinda Wade (15-17) Proxy

LaDonna Young (16-18)

Division Senators, Career Studies

Charles (Eddie) Baker (16-18) **Parliamentarian**

Tim Harrison (16-18)

Joan McGrory (15-17) **Treasurer**

Dewey Sykes (15-17) **Vice-President**

Department Senators

Shilpa Desai (16-18) **Allied Health**

Mahnaz Ghaffarian (15-17) **Business**

Annette Fournet (appointed 16- 17) **Communications and Fine Arts**

David Huffman (15-17) **Languages and Literature**

Rosie Taylor (16-18) **Natural Sciences** Absent

Marilyn Wilbourn (16-18) **Nursing** Absent

Shantell Chism (15-17) **Mathematics** Proxy

Leslie Peebles (15-17) **Technologies**

Ed Reid (15-17) **Social and Behavioral Sciences**

## 2. Approval of Minutes

The body approved the minutes from the October, 2016 Faculty Senate meeting. Secretary Doug Branch will ask that those minutes be posted to the senate website.

## 3. Invited Guests

- A. Chris Ezell, vice president for academic affairs, presented a new organizational chart for the college. He also informed the senate that four new dean positions were currently being advertised and that those interested in the positions would be able to apply until about January 15. Committees of approximately ten people, consisting of Ezell, a few faculty members and chairs, possibly a staff person, and a few senior staff members would be formed to select the new deans. Once those deans are hired, it is possible that a few departments will be realigned with a goal toward making our structure compatible with the state Pathways program. This might mean combining a few departments or possibly adding a few more. Ezell does not think that realignment will involve our having fewer departments at the college. The notion, then, is that a more precise organizational chart will be created when the new deans are in place and possibly a new departmental structure formed.
- B. College president Tracy Hall, who was present as well, amplified Ezell's comments, pointing out that the new organization might involve eliminating a few older positions to make room for new ones.
- C. Ezell also discussed his vision about online course development, addressing questions that had been raised about the present program. He expressed support for the ideas of creating entire online programs, for more hybrid classes, and the notion of reducing the time, especially experienced online faculty, to implement new online courses. He further noted that Distance Education would be, in the future, a function of Faculty Support, a move which might help clarify the role of D.E.

## 4. Reports from Senate Officers and Senate Committees

Faculty Senate President Bill Summons reported that legislation allowing students to carry guns on college campuses would soon be introduced to the state legislature. Council for TBR has suggested that colleges that are

against this should pass resolutions and that those resolutions would be taken to the legislature. Bill encouraged concerned senators to contact their legislators and agreed with TBR council that a resolution from the senate would be helpful.

Opposition to the main thrust of the possible legislation was unanimous in the senate.

It was moved, seconded, and passed that Bill write a resolution to this effect. Doug Branch, Tin Harrison, Eddie Baker, would look over the resolution and make suggestions before it would be sent to TBR.

## 5. Old Business

- A. Dewey Sykes, vice president, announced that Sharepoint, for faculty senate, was in service and that the leadership feedback surveys recently completed were posted. Interested faculty may log in from my.southwest.edu. Dewey will publicize the availability of the Sharepoint site.
- B. Dewey wished to discuss the awarding of “professor emeritus” status, an item that had been tabled from the previous meeting. He and others noticed that the title seems to have changed, in the catalog, from “professor emeritus” to “faculty emeritus.” Dewey advocated restoring the title to “professor emeritus.”

It was moved, seconded, and passed that the senate give Dewey the authority to write a letter, with the senate’s imprimatur, advocating such a change. Dewey agreed to do so, Doug to add any input once the letter is written.

## 6. New Business

- A. The senate chose the 2016-2017 Promotion and Tenure Committees and the Promotion and Tenure Appeals Committees, in accordance with constitutional procedures:

Promotion and Tenure Committee: Phyllis Porter, Amanda Banker, Dewey Sykes, Roma Magtoto, Joyce Johnson, Victoria Gray, Kahlil Rassy.

Promotion and Tenure Committee Alternates: Annette Fournet, Gwynne Hutton

Promotion and Tenure Appeals Committee: Terrence Johnson, Valetta Brinson, Doug Branch, Dieter Tillman, Jason Jennings, Mary Pratt, Charles Pender

Promotion and Tenure Appeals Committee Alternates: Marcia Hunter, Leslie Peebles

- B. The senate approved the new list of faculty senate committees presented by Doug Branch. Doug will send that list to the webmaster.
  
- C. Bill Summons gave an update on the search for a new TBR chancellor. Bill reported that he was involved in twelve interviews and that the committee was presently working on checking credentials and recommendations. The decisions about whom to interview would be made soon. Bill commended Governor Haslam, who attended the meetings, remained for long periods, and took an active interest in the process. Bill also opined that a new focus for community colleges seemed to be developing at the state level. That new focus is toward career and workforce development, getting jobs for graduates, and moving away from a concern about transfer credit. Articulation agreements already worked out, though, will stay in place, Bill believes.

## 7. Adjournment

Bill adjourned the meeting at 5:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Doug Branch

Faculty Senate Secretary