

Faculty Senate Minutes
Southwest Tennessee Community College
Macon Cove Campus
MA C 177
February 14, 2017

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) Absent
Bill Turner (15-17)
MaLinda Wade (15-17) Proxy
LaDonna Young (16-18) Absent

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** Absent
Leslie Peebles (15-17) **Technologies**
Ed Reid (15-17) **Social and Behavioral Sciences**

2. Approval of Minutes

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

3. Invited Guests

Michael Boyd, Executive Director of Information Systems, gave a short presentation on changes coming to his area, brought about by a recent audit. These will have to do with password authentication and will mostly affect guests to the college, although there will be changes as well for faculty, especially those who bring their own devices to campus. These changes will take place on the smaller centers first. Details, in writing, will be forthcoming.

4. Reports from Senate Officers and Senate Committees

- A. Mathilda Doorley, chair of the Faculty Awards Committee, urged senators to encourage faculty to nominate their colleagues for awards. She emphasized that the process is less cumbersome than in the past and that the deadline is fast approaching.
- B. President Bill Summons presented a report from the Faculty Subcouncil. He informed us that, statewide, the co-requisite model for learning support classes seems to be working with pass rates increasing. He mentioned that we would be standardizing our use of the FA grade with the system used by other schools, as soon as that is established and finalized. He noted, too, that there is a behavioral intervention team on every campus. Another issue he addressed was the awarding of credit for prior learning. The system has been altered so that students can accept or reject credits. This change is necessary mostly because military personnel who study at our colleges were earning too many general education credits to receive financial aid for programs in which they were enrolled.

Bill pointed out, too, that the Compass placement test has been replaced with a new instrument called "Accuplacer."

Another issue: TBR will be eliminating "pre" major designations, such as "pre-nursing." The problem is that students who aren't accepted into programs have been asked to repay financial aid money. With new certificate names, TBR will be able to turn these students into "completers" so that they do not have to repay financial aid money.

Bill warned, too, that legislation may be introduced to the state legislature that would allow anybody to carry concealed guns anywhere, even college campuses, without a gun permit. Bill urged us to keep an eye on this potential issue.

- C. David Huffman, chair of the Faculty Handbook Committee, distributed copies of a draft for a new adjunct faculty handbook. He asked that we provide suggestions for changes.

5. Old Business

Dewey Sykes initiated a discussion about the feasibility of mandatory active shooter training for faculty. The body decided, after deliberation, that we did not believe mandatory training is necessary nor do we believe formal training for students is necessary.

It was moved that we ask police services to create more detailed online guidelines for faculty and staff in preparation for the possibility of an active shooter incident. The motion passed. Doug Branch will ask Police Services to create and post these guidelines.

6. New Business

- A. Bill Summons voiced concern about Artesian Schools forming a charter middle school at the Union Ave. campus. A lengthy discussion ensued with several senators voicing concerns about profanity, graffiti, security budgets, and the like. Many opined that the Middle College school at the Union Ave. campus, several years ago, created a detrimental, hostile environment. Several senators hoped we could voice opposition to Artesian's coming in hopes of preventing it.

The drift of the conversation was opposition to Artesian's future presence on campus, but a secondary issue arose, which was the lack of consultation with faculty before plans were made to allow the school to use Southwest's space.

It was moved and passed, unanimously, that we express, in a letter to Dr. Hall, strong regret that the decision for Artesian Charter School's coming to the Union Ave. campus was made without adherence to the principle of shared governance with faculty, transparency, or evident concern for faculty and student welfare.

- B. David Huffman voiced concern that there is no uniform system for locking or unlocking doors at the college. This has been confirmed by Police Services.
- C. Dewey Sykes, following up on concerns expressed at earlier senate meetings that Professors Emeriti were being referred to in college documents as the less respectful "Faculty Emeriti," noted that, indeed, the most recent college catalogue uses the designation "Professor."

7. Adjournment

Bill Summons adjourned the meeting at 4:51 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Doug Branch

Faculty Senate Secretary

