Faculty Senate Minutes  
Southwest Tennessee Community College  
Macon Cove, MA B 149  
September 9, 2014

1. Call to Order and Roll

Faculty Senate Bill Summons called the meeting to order at 3:00. Faculty Senate Secretary called the roll, which follows:

William Summons, Senate President

Division Senators, Arts and Sciences

Doug Branch, Secretary
Shannon Little
Karen Pierce
Mahmuda Sultana
Bill Turner, Treasurer

Division Senators, Career Studies

Lisa Hadley
Tim Harrison, Parliamentarian
Joan McGrory
Dewey Sykes, Vice-President

Department Senators

Michelle Hill (12-14) Allied Health
Mahnaz Ghaffarian (13-15) Business
Michael Scott (13-15) Communications and Fine Arts
David Huffman (13-15) Languages and Literature (Absent)
Mathilda Doorley (14-16) Natural Science
Monique Cage (14-16) Nursing (Absent)
Hannah Province (13-15) Mathematics
Leslie Peeples (13-15) Technologies (Proxy)
Robert Walker (13-15) Social and Behavioral Sciences (Absent)

2. Approval of Minutes

It was moved, seconded, and approved that we accept the minutes from the April, 2014 Faculty Senate meeting. Secretary Doug Branch will ask that those minutes be posted on the Faculty Senate website.
3. Reports from Senate Officers and Senate Committees

A. Dewey Sykes, chair of the Subcommittee for Faculty Evaluation of Administrators, gave his report, which consisted of an update and presentation of the instrument his committee recommends faculty use to evaluate administrators. Dewey stressed that the instrument may or may not have perfect scientific validity, but that it was designed primarily to give administrators a sense of the faculty’s perception of their strengths and weaknesses.

Dewey further suggested that using the college-owned version of Survey Monkey might be a poor idea because perfect anonymity would not be assured. He suggested that the Senate purchase a Survey Monkey account to administer the survey.

It was moved, seconded, and approved that we use Faculty Senate funds to pay for a Service Monkey account.

It was moved, seconded, and approved that the Subcommittee for Faculty Evaluation of Administrators set up and conduct the survey such that administrators are, this year, evaluated for the positions they held during the 2013-2014 academic year.

It was moved, seconded, and approved that the Faculty Senate adopt the instrument presented by the Subcommittee for Faculty Evaluation of Administrators.

B. Doug Branch voiced a concern that division senators are currently unable to communicate effectively with their faculty constituents because email distribution lists, sorted by division, are unavailable.

It was generally agreed that this issue is problematic. Joan McGrory agreed to investigate obtaining such lists. She agreed to report on her success at the next meeting.

C. Further questions ensued concerning which faculty members should be allowed to participate in Senate activities, such as evaluating administrators, voting for Senators, and attending Senate meetings.

It was moved, seconded, and approved that only faculty of F status in Banner, as opposed to those of FA status, should participate in Faculty Senate elections, meetings, or evaluations of administrators.

4. New Business
A. A discussion ensued about the fact that new faculty ID’s use “Staff” for the designation of all employees rather than distinguishing “Faculty” as a separate category.

We asked Hannah Province and Mathilda Doorley to investigate whether new ID’s could be produced that would include “Faculty” as a separate category. They agreed to do so and report back next month.

B. Bill Summons asked whether we wish TBR Vice-Chancellor Tristan Denley to address the Faculty Senate on recent changes at TBR, especially those concerning the redesign of Developmental courses. Denley had expressed to Bill his willingness to make such an address.

We asked Bill to invite Tristan Denley to address the faculty, possibly in the spring, to make such a presentation, preferably one opened up to a question and answer session.

C. A motion was made, seconded, and approved that Bill Summons formally request of Chancellor Morgan that Southwest faculty be represented on the search committee for the new Southwest President. Specifically, we would request a minimum of two faculty representatives, one from each of our divisions, to be recommended by the Southwest Faculty Senate.

D. A motion was made, seconded, and approved that Bill Summons formally request of President Nathan Essex that faculty be represented on the search committees for the new dean and new provost. Specifically, we would request a minimum of two faculty representatives, one from each of our divisions, to be recommended by the Southwest Faculty Senate.

5. Adjournment

Prior to Bill Summons’ adjourning the meeting at 5:00, Doug Branch requested that all senators be prepared, next month, to have a group photograph be taken for the Faculty Senate website.

Respectfully Submitted,

Doug Branch

Faculty Senate Secretary