

Roane State Community College

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Faculty Senate

February 12, 2016

2:00pm

Location of Meeting:

Harriman, O'Brien 101

Present at Meeting:

Brad Fox – President	Michelle Jones	Tammy Hannon
Mike Farmer – Vice President	Vickie Hensley	Rosemary Bird
Saundra Stiles – Secretary	Stacie Bradshaw	Ralph Monday
Pam Siergiej – TBR Representative	Elizabeth Lewis	Nikki Newberry
Jill Denton	Brenda Luggie	John Brown
	Jason Fishel	Ron Sternfels
	Marcia Shloush	Matt Waters
	Bill West	Joye Gowan

I. Quorum was established

II. **Approval of minutes** - December Faculty Senate meeting minutes approved. (January meeting was cancelled due to weather.)

III. **Constitution Update – Mike Farmer** – New version with updated wording was presented for faculty senate to view (previously sent out by email). A faculty member suggests a change in wording, does not change meaning, only makes flow better. Motion to accept revisions, seconded, no discussion, approved.

IV. **President's Report – Brad Fox** – Brad met with President Whaley on Monday, 2/8/16 and the following items were discussed.

- David Gregory was named Interim Chancellor. No immediate group has been appointed for search committee for new Chancellor. There have been two transition teams created to work on the new boards being created by TBR (splitting universities and TCAT/Community Colleges). Will probably be approximately 2017 before boards are fully functioning.
- Accessibility issue – meetings are ongoing. RSCC has a committee that is meeting to discuss all aspects of accessibility. Currently, RSCC is working with the federal definition of accessibility. Some discussion about how this will impact courses (does it

only apply to online courses, all courses, etc.). Also discussion about courses where certain things are required to be in the field (i.e. nursing has physical requirements), are these courses required to make all materials accessible when they will not have students who need the accessibility.

- Gun Bills are being prepared for legislature. Two bills are going to be put before the legislature, one to allow faculty to carry guns and the other to allow students to carry guns. Chief Stefano has been an expert witness for TBR and shared concern for having additional guns on campus in the event of an active shooter. The issue involves active shooters on campus and police being able to readily identify people.
- Tuition Cap. There are two possibilities that involve tuition capping. One proposal is for a year and then adjusting based on inflation, the other is to cap for incoming freshman and then adjust during their junior year. This is an important issue to keep updated on due to funding and the impact tuition has on funding.
- Budget requests are coming up in March. Brad will sit in on budget hearings.
- Administrative Council meets February 29. Brad has requested the meeting be recorded and made available on the RSCCC website for viewing for those unable to attend.
- Online photo directory. This initiative is moving forward. Intended for internal use only. A white paper overviewing the proposal will be shared with faculty when available.
- Wade McKamey the Walters State Community College President has announced his retirement.

V. TBR Sub council Report – Pam Siergiej – Alfred Lutz (MTSU Representative) is concerned about the Focus Bill. There are several items of interest in the bill. The bill does not include faculty representation on a united board (with both community colleges and universities) as Sub Council is now. Sub Council is recommending they have a similar board when the new university boards are formed, and that they meet quarterly as they do now. Faculty Sub Council is also recommending they use the same tenure and promotion policy. Currently, there is no policy and sub council wants the current policy to transfer over.

VI. Security Committee Update – A faculty member expressed concern for the ORBC and drills that are being conducted there. The faculty members appointed to help during drills seemed to help. One problem was a prerecorded message that played during the fire drill, which instructed students/staff to proceed to a preassigned area in the building. The external speakers did not work and no one knew when the drill was over. Cumberland County seems to be

having speaker issues as well, some were extremely loud and others are not installed yet. There are still issues in the Goff Building about where people are to go during tornado drills, signage is not correct, rooms are locked, etc. Someone asked if there was a way to gather feedback after drills so that faculty/staff could make appropriate people aware of issues.

VII. **Telephone Usage Policy** - The policy has been streamlined. Classroom phones are to be used for business, not personal use. “Classroom phones are to be used ONLY to call the following numbers: Security, Assistant Vice President of Student Services/Dean of Students, the switchboard for emergency assistance, **Audio-Visual Services**, and HELP Desk for technical support.”

VIII. **Work Load Subcommittee** – The data was turned into Shannon Meadows prior to her resignation. There is some confusion about where we are in the process. Brad will follow up with Shannon for clarification. Information has been collected and collated on a spreadsheet. More work needs to be done. Suggested asking Shelley Esquivel, or someone, about looking over data and analyzing what was collected. Ron Sternfels volunteered to look over data with Brad and they will report back with an update. There was discussion about what issue we were trying to resolve – perceived inconsistencies in work load calculations or inconsistencies in policy being followed?

IX. **New Business** – Policy Number: PA-22-01 Subject: Academic Tenure In all likelihood this policy will be reviewed next year and one of the areas for focus is on the use of Form E. What may be considered is for faculty to be able to complete Form E outside of the PRG meeting and then submit at the meeting. Brad has discussed this with Dr. Ward.

X. **Meeting adjourned**