Roane State Community College

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Faculty Senate

September 9, 2016
2:00pm

Location of Meeting:
Oak Ridge campus, Goff Building 226, 2:00pm

Present at Meeting:

Brad Fox – President	Elizabeth Weaver	Jason Fishel
Mike Farmer – Vice	Gary Genna	Brooke Lakin
President	David Blevins	Dave Rath
Saundra Stiles –	Sue Sain	Teresa Lucas
Secretary Pam Siergiej –	Karyn Goins	Bill West
TBR Representative	Pat Wurth	Elizabeth Lewis
Jill Denton	Stacie Bradshaw	Laura Vaughn
Ron Sternfels	Fran Kinnunen	
Kathy Arcangeli	Matt Waters	

I. **Quorum was established**

II. **Approval of minutes** - April Faculty Senate meeting minutes approved.

III. Committee Appointments –

Academic & Curriculum Council:

- Allied Health – Karyn Goins

- Humanities – Fran Kinnunen

- Math/Science – Elizabeth Weaver

- Nursing – Brooke Lakin

- Social Science – Brad Fox

Promotion & Tenure Committee:

- Allied Health – Gary Genna

- Humanities – Brad will follow up with Ralph Monday to identify a representative.

- Math/Science – Pam Siergiej

- Nursing – Bill West

- Social Science – Pat Wurth

- Library – Laura Vaughn

IV. **President's Report – Brad Fox** – Brad has met with several Administrative people to start off the semester. Met with VP Ward to discuss Accessibility initiative. The Accessibility Committee will met on Monday 9/12 to discuss future plans. The next steps in the process will come from TBR. One faculty member expressed concern about being required to make things accessible for certain programs that will never be affected by accessibility due to the nature of the program. (i.e. some programs are restricted by physical restraints, and their admission requirements do not allow for students with accessibility issues to be admitted) Faculty expressed concern that accessibility could negatively impact all students' learning. Several faculty members stated they believe RSCC faculty do a good job when student's come to them with accessibility issues; but requiring certain things in relation to accessibility is not a useful or productive way to spend time. The First 24 Committee (not official name) is still in the planning stages. The first meeting will likely be in late September. The Work Load Sub-Committee (formed last academic year by faculty senate) is moving forward. VP Ward stated support last academic year for this committee, and thinks moving forward to create some guidelines is a good idea. Volunteers for the committee are still needed. If you'd like to serve, email Brad. One faculty member from each division would be optimal. Some things they will be discussing include – release time hours and how they are calculated, how hours are counted for labs/lecture in various programs. Enrollment is down 2.6% overall, but up in traditional students and down in the adult student category. Brad has asked Jamie Stringer for a spreadsheet to show enrollment numbers. When he gets this, he will share with Senate. The ORBC back parking lot has been secured. There are now chains across the entrance that prevent people from entering the back parking lot. There will be a 2% COLA increase for faculty. The Administration is still looking at making payments on the salary plan to move toward the 93% they want everyone to be at. Letters will go out in October to everyone explaining where they are. A faculty member asked if the salary plan can be made public. Several faculty members agreed they would like to see the plan that Administration refers to. Brad asked Mike Farmer to discuss this with VP Gibbs. The TBR Chancellor hiring process is ongoing with anticipated start date in January. The Innovation Committee has been formed, and updates will be given as Jamie Stringer makes them available.

V. **New Business** –

- Benroth Award process - a faculty member believes clarification of this process is necessary. There was a motion to form a committee to look at the process (nomination process, voting procedure, rubric, overall portfolio requirements and how they are described). This motion was seconded and approved.

- SAP issues – a faculty member wanted to know if anyone is having issues with the SAP process. Several faculty agreed they are having problems with SAP appeals. Faculty would like to know more about the SAP process (appeals and what makes students go on SAP) in order to be more informed and help students. Faculty expressed concern that students and programs are being negatively impacted by SAP appeals being denied. Faculty want to be student advocates, and having students removed from programs due to SAP appeals isn't optimal. One faculty member suggested Senate host a Q&A with someone (ex. from the State of TN Auditors office) on what the regulations are for SAP appeals and approvals. Faculty want to be more informed in order to help students more. One faculty member stated concern that RSCC is being overly harsh in denying Financial Aid to students. Brad asked Saundra Stiles to contact Brenda Rector, Dean of Students, to see if she would be interested in talking with Senate since this is a student issue. She might have insight into whether students are being negatively impacted and how faculty can help.

- Technology

  - Tech Support at ORBC – one faculty member requested tech support be available in Oak Ridge in the evenings. Several faculty expressed having issues with computers, projectors, and software the first week of class. Tech support isn't available in the evenings and faculty had to continue classes without using technology needed for their classes. Additionally, faculty members requested status updates on work orders. When work orders are entered, faculty do not know where they are in completion.

  - Internet connectivity – several faculty members expressed concern with the bandwidth at campuses – specifically ORBC and Knox. Faculty said they frequently get kicked off line in class, or are unable to show something in class due to being unable to have a good connection.

  - Projectors broken – one faculty member brought up a broken projector in a classroom that has been broken for 2 years. They are being told it can't be replaced due to funding. One faculty suggested RSCC needs to look at where and how we are allocating funds. As an institution of higher education, we should have excellent technology available, and if we do not, perhaps we are not using our funds appropriately

- RSCC Guest Login – Faculty expressed issues with using their private iPads/phones and getting kicked off the network. Is there a way to create a login similar to the RSCC Owned that could be utilized for faculty/staff and their personal devices?

VI. **Meeting adjourned**