

Faculty Senate Minutes

October 7, 2002

Pat Brown, Faculty Senate President, led the second meeting of the Faculty Senate in Room H-236, Oak Ridge campus.

In attendance were:

<u>Math Science</u>	<u>Humanities</u>	<u>Health Science & Nursing</u>
Pat Bailey	Peggy Hilliard	Patricia Crotty
Jeff Sexton	Bryan Wilkerson	Sally Licata
Jim Condon	Wanda Manning	Marty Young
Arthur Lee	Maria Barriga	
Pam Siergiej		

<u>Business & Technology</u>	<u>Social Science</u>	<u>Library</u>
George Meghabghab	Don Lanza	Robert Benson
Gloria Drake	Scott Teeter	
Sam Ruple	Jim Doyle	

Officers

Pat Brown, President
Robert Alfonso, Vice President
Betty Glenn, Secretary
Richard Baskin, Parliamentarian
Delorise Barnes, Sub-Council Representative

Old Business

1. Approval of Minutes for last meeting:

The minutes for the September 7, 2002 meeting were approved without discussion.

2. Equity and Across the Board Raise:

Pat Brown mentioned Bill Fuqua's email that went out earlier this month regarding the next installment for equity settlement. She talked with Mr. Fuqua and voiced Senators' concerns about across-the-board pay raises affecting the equity settlements. He answered that each time there is an installment for equity, they re-evaluate the formulas, adjusting for any changes that faculty might have experienced -- such as more education, other raises, etc. -- during the time since the last payment.

He also told Pat there would be a two percent across-the-board raise in January for certain, and very probably another one percent. This three percent raise would not count toward equity.

3. Emeritus Faculty:

As promised last month, Pat Brown talked with Pat Land about concerns faculty had regarding the Emeritus Policy. Although Pat Land is leaving in a few weeks, she promised that her replacement would no doubt address these concerns.

There were three faculty recommended for Emeritus status: Irving Glover, Ben Howard, and Mabre Holder. They would probably be honored during in-service.

4. Senate Constitution Contradictions:

Pat Land said there must be a senator from each division plus the Faculty Senate president. A motion was carried to correct the Senate Constitution, Page 4, Line 17, to read *"Appoints four Senators to serve as representatives to the Academic and Curriculum Council. The Senate president also serves; thus, a total of five serve from the Senate. Each academic division should be represented."*

Marty Young, Health Science, volunteered to serve as the new representative.

5. Grade Inflation:

Pat Brown talked to Pat Land, who referred her to Karen Brunner, who said that a study had been conducted that listed grades per major. Pat Brown and Karen will look at it together and determine if they can reach any conclusions about grade inflation. If not, they will request a study that more directly addresses this issue.

The Senators discussed how it might be possible that more students are graduating with honors than in the past. Along with other possibilities, some reasons might include:

- Students may now repeat a class, keeping the second grade rather than averaging the two grades as was done in the past. Some Senators thought RSCC had always kept the second grade.
- The drop date has been changed to an earlier date

6. Scholarship and Financial Aid Students Having to Wait Weeks Before Purchasing Books:

Pat Brown discussed this issue with Pat Land, and Pat L. said that Financial Aid was no longer withholding loan checks. The reason students might not have been awarded their Financial Aid check was because they had not applied in time.

New Business

7. Academic and Curriculum Council Report:

The Academic and Curriculum Council met last week and voted to give Respiratory Therapy a year to work on their program before coming up for review.

The Council also agreed with Business and Technology division's request to drop the Office Administration program as a separate program and add it as an option to the Business Management program.

For more information, see the ACC folder on the Roane State website.

8. Web For Employees Service:

Several Senators voiced concerns about the security of the Web for Employees (WFE) service, which lists employees' personal information, and Web for Faculty (WFF), which is the vehicle for submitting grades and last date of attendance information. In addition to the security issue, Pat Bailey said "TBR and RSCC policies require that hard copies of grades be on file with the faculty signature." The electronic WFF may be in violation of this requirement.

Pat Brown talked with Shirley Boyle, who is in charge of this service, about the security concerns and Shirley said the WFE is not actually on the Web; thus no one can access it. Because almost no one was happy with this explanation, the Senate agreed to invite Ms. Boyles and whoever is in charge of WFF to the next meeting to address this issue.

9. Tennessee Board of Regents Philosophy of General Education:

After much discussion, the Faculty Senate agreed to write a general response that addresses some of concerns with the TBR Gen Ed mandate and submit it to the General Education Committee, who would compile this with the responses from the Division Heads and create the official Roane State response.

The Senates response concerns:

- **The 60-hour limit:** Almost no current program is 60 hours and those programs that require accreditation cannot meet this requirement. Recommend more hours.
- **41 GenEd hours within the two-year schools curriculum:** Math and Science degrees require courses in sequence; thus, students taking 41 hours of general education courses in Freshman and Sophomore years will not be able to take the math and science course they will need to meet the prerequisites for their major's Junior and Senior year courses. Recommend allowing students to take the 41 hours over the whole four years, not just the first two.

Robert Alfonso agreed to write the Faculty Senate response.

10. Status Vice President for Academic and Student Services:

Last week, Pat Land announced her resignation effective November 1. Her position works with the Faculty Senate; therefore, Pat Brown, F.S. officers, and any other senators who wish to attend, will attempt to meet with Dr. McCamey to discuss concerns faculty senate has about hiring a replacement.

These concerns are:

- F.S. would like for the new Vice President to have an academic background.
- F.S. would strongly advise that Dr. McCamey appoint someone as soon as possible. As one Senator put it, "We need leaders -- no shared positions, no interims."

Pat Brown would advise Senators when Dr. McCamey is available for this meeting.

11. Schedule November Meeting:

The next two meetings will be:

- November 4, 2002, 3:30, Harriman
- December 2, 2002, 3:30, Oak Ridge

Meeting was adjourned.

Betty Glenn, Secretary