

Roane State Community College
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Faculty Senate
December 5, 2014
2:00 PM

Location of Meeting:

O'Brien Building, Room 101
176 Patton Lane
Harriman, TN 37748

Present at Meeting:

Kathy Arcangeli	Rosemary Bird
Gary Genna	Elizabeth Lewis
George Meghabghab	Ralph Monday
Ollie Nolan	Sue Sain
William Schramm	Marcia Shloush
Pam Siergiej	Saundra Stiles
Sarah Thomason	Matt Waters
W. R. West	Pat Wurth

Guests:

Dr. Chris Whaley, President

The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate of Roane State Community College was called to order at 2:00 PM on December 5, 2014, in the O'Brien Building by President, George Meghabghab.

I. Established Quorum at 3:00 pm

II. Review of November 14, 2014 Minutes

Minutes were approved as amended.

III. Updates from President Whaley

Dr. Whaley:

- Reported on the results of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) Appropriations Distribution Recommendations Handout. RSCC budget has had a decline for the last five Fall Semesters and RSCC saw a decline in enrollment of 4-6% for each of these years. This loss is mainly in the category of the adult students (ages 21-24). The new Enrollment committee is addressing this issue by investigating ideas for marketing classes for adults. This would include changing the packaging, delivery methods of classes, and possibility of initiating more 2+2 programs. Dr. Whaley met with the Chancellor at UTK to determine the viability of starting 2+2 program with UT.
- Reported on the Funding Formula; as you know we were to receive \$600,000 for our stellar performance last year. This money was taken from other institutions; however, the state did not have the appropriation process in place so we did not receive this money. This year we stand to lose money because of our great performance last year. The Governor has asked all other departments to plan to give 4-5% of their budgets to higher education. Our traditional student enrollment is stable.
- Reported that the budget is so tight that a payment cannot be made on the salary equity plan. We have 12 frozen positions three of which are faculty positions.

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- Discussed Tennessee Promise and Tennessee Achieves. These two programs bridge the gap in scholarship and lottery funding for students. Tennessee Achieves continues to have the mentor program for students. This year the forms completed by high school seniors indicate that 2,200 to 2,300 students want to come to RSCC with the new free college program. Dr. Whaley feels that actually we are probably looking at 800 to 900 coming. One necessity is making it clear that this new program does not cover books, lab fees, etc.
- Explained about the dual enrollment funding. Previously the lottery funded the expense at the same rate for both junior and senior year (\$300/\$300). The new procedure will be junior year \$500/\$500 and senior year \$200/0. Students could previously borrow against the Hope scholarship; however, the change will not allow dual enrollment students to borrow money until their junior year.
- Indicated that the Middle College Students were on campus and doing well.
- Is so proud of the “Under the Sea” Program. It is a great marketing and promotional tool.
- Explained that they are in negotiations with local businesses to offer a Financial Services Degree. He wants to investigate other options that could focus on customer care, instrument technology, etc.

IV. Update from George Meghabghab regarding THEC funding

President Meghabghab provided us with a handout from THEC on the Appropriations Distribution. Your Faculty Senator has a copy of this handout.

V. Update from George Meghabghab, Chair of Syllabus Subcommittee

Dr. Meghabghab provided us with the statement on sexual harassment that was submitted to Odell Fearn for initial approval by RSCC’s lawyer. Faculty Senators have issues with line 4 and 6 regarding gender. Dr. Meghabghab is working to make sure that the final draft is ready before May 2015.

VI. Update on Security updates from George Meghabghab

- Camera project is almost complete so we are very excited about the increase in personal protection enhancements especially at ORBC.
- The new Police Office(s) in both buildings are up and running.
- We have of course added additional Security coverage during the day at ORBC with a Security Officer working an overlap shift during the weekdays. This gives us double coverage there especially when an officer is off campus such as a bank run, investigation etc. There are two fulltime Certified Police Officers assigned to ORBC. Edward is currently the PIC for Police/Security.
- We have had one reported event of Meth being introduced to one of our larger campuses and that is currently being investigated.
- Officers will again be re-training in weapons control very shortly to keep their proficiency levels high.
- We will be placing covert cameras in the Goff Bldg in common areas to avoid any theft.

VII. TBR Sub-Council Report by Pam Siergiej

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- The TBR is instituting a new process that the Chancellor will meet with each institution to keep abreast of the financial and budgetary issues at the institutions. Faculty from each institution is allowed to attend these meetings.
- TBR had stated that 9th and 10th graders would be excluded from the dual enrollment process. They have since changed the process to include them once again.
- TBR creating a policy that will allow additional three credit hours to include the COLS course in GenEd. There was a thought that the dual enrollment students may not need the COLS course. TBR wants to allow each college to set their own requirements.
- TBR is addressing the Adjunct salary. This salary increase will be from \$645 to \$745. It will start January 2015; however not all salaries will increase. It will begin with the A&P classes.

VIII. Tabled Proposed Policy on “hiring and recruiting” by William Schramm

Due to time constraints this item was tabled until the January 2015 agenda.

IX. Old Items Tabled to next meeting

- a. Melinda Hillman will be the guest speaker to discuss issues relating to the Goff Building.

X. Adjourned

XI. Submitted for approval by Ollie Nolan, Secretary