

# Roane State Community College

## Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Faculty Senate

April 22, 2016

2:00pm

### Location of Meeting:

Harriman – O-101, 2:00pm

### Present at Meeting:

Brad Fox – President

Mike Farmer – Vice

President

Saundra Stiles –

Secretary

Pam Siergiej – TBR

Representative

Jill Denton

Stacie Bradshaw

John Brown

Elizabeth Lewis

Brenda Luggie

Jason Fishel

Brooke Lakin

Teresa Lucas

Fran Kinnunen

Rosemary Bird

Michelle Jones

Jala Daniel

Nikki Newberry

Bill West

Ralph Monday

George Meghabghab

### I. Quorum was established

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

III. **Election of Officers** – George Meghabghab and Fran Kinnunen have been asked to lead the election process. George asks for nominees for each office. 2015 Officers have agreed to run again for a second term. The nominees for each office are: President – Brad Fox, Vice President – Mike Farmer, Secretary – Saundra Stiles, and TBR Faculty Sub Council Rep – Pam Siergiej. Nominees leave room for discussion and voting. Nominees return and votes are taken out of the room to be counted. George gives results, simple majority rules. All nominees are voted in the office for which they were nominated.

IV. **President's Report – Brad Fox** – Brad says his report is short this month because we are awaiting an update from our guest, VP Ward. She will be reviewing many items he would normally have included in his report. One item to mention, the legislation to allow guns on campus for faculty and staff is moving forward and awaiting the Governor's signature.

V. **Update from VP Dr. Diane Ward – Accessibility:** There is a timeline to work on the top 30 courses system wide. Dr. Ward says accessibility is not something that will occur quickly, it is a process that we are working on. Moving forward we should strive for more accessibility in all of our courses. She says faculty should not remove videos, links, etc. from courses if they are not accessible. Rather, we should work on making things accessible, and as we add new

information to our courses, faculty should strive to make new information accessible. The first big initiative is syllabi accessibility. CTAT is doing trainings on how to make the syllabi accessible. The goal is for all syllabi in Fall 2016 to be accessible. She asked that faculty who have interactions with adjuncts speak with them about ensuring their syllabi are accessible and attending the available trainings. There is also an accessibility committee and Brad suggested a faculty sub-committee to have input on issues related to faculty and courses. **Salary Update:** There are many moving parts and “what ifs” when it comes to salary. TBR may approve a tuition increase, enrollment up or down will affect the overall budget, and TBR may also approve an additional salary pool of 1%. Dr. Ward said the bottom line is that RSCC will do whatever is possible to work on salary equity and make a payment on the salary plan.

**Overview of Academic Year 2015-2016:** Many exciting things happened this academic year. The co-requisite models were used. There is data available and it looks promising. RSCC hired and trained 6 success coaches, positions 7 and 8 will be filled this fall. All incoming freshman who declare a major will be assigned a success coach. Those who are seeking a technical certificate will be paired with the faculty advisor for that certificate. There will be success tracking, hopefully beginning fall 2016. There will be a “help” button beside student names in Banner, and eventually in Momentum. If a student is having trouble in class, the faculty can get help for them. By clicking the button beside that student’s name, it will notify their success coach, who will then reach out to the student. If the student is not assigned a success coach, the notification will go to Jamie Stringer who will reach out and get the student the help they need. There is a committee called the First 24 Committee made up of several people from all areas of campus. This committee will be working on how to transition students from success coaches to their faculty advisors. **Middle College** - First class (20 students) is graduating this year. They have been successful, several have received awards (Diversity, Chemistry, and Engineering). Two students will graduate with a 4.0, 15 have a 3.0 or better. Fall 2016 will be adding Middle College students from Campbell and Morgan (they will join the Roane County group), as well as freshman classes in Anderson and Roane counties.

**Graduation** – Fall 2016 – 282 students graduated, Spring 2016 – 796 intents filed, Spring 2015 – 606 students graduated. **Awards Night** – A new tradition of students recognizing faculty who were important to them. 71 pins were handed out this year. **Workload** – There have been several conversations about workload, Dr. Ward said she would like FS to create a committee to develop a guideline on how workload can be determined. A faculty member asked: “What will you be discussing specifically?” Dr. Ward said how workload is assigned by disciplines. She said the goal is for it to be fair and equitable for both students and faculty.

**Facilities** – In the spring Dr. Ward asked each division to report any issues related to facilities that needed to be repaired. They have started at the Roane County campus and are updating and repairing things (new tile floors, blinds replaced, water temperature fixed). Dr. Ward is trying to get new clocks installed in all classrooms by Fall 2016. Someone asked when the roof was being replaced in Oak Ridge, and the answer is sometime this fall probably. Also, the parking area in Oak Ridge that has been an issue for faculty is being addressed by placing

removable fencing to keep people from parking there. A faculty member asked about the salary plan and that it does not affect adjuncts. Dr. Ward said they would like to be able to increase adjunct pay, but the first priority is making a payment on the existing salary plan. Once that is paid on, they would like to focus on making adjunct pay rates more competitive.

~~IV.VI.~~ **New Business** – No New Business

~~V.VII.~~ **Meeting adjourned**