

Roane State Community College

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Faculty Senate

April 20, 2018

2:00pm

Location of Meeting:

Harriman, O-101

Present at Meeting:

Senators:

Mike Farmer—President
Elizabeth Weaver
Brad Fox
David Blevins
Sue Sain
Linda Marsh
Fran Kinnunen
Marilyn Mascaro
Jimmy Miller

Pam Siergiej
Kathy Arcangeli
Teresa Lucas
Marcia Shloush
John Brown
Elizabeth Lewis
Pat Wurth
Rosemary Bird

Faculty:

Jala Daniels

Jill Denton

Deborah Miles

Agenda:

- I. Quorum was established
- II. Approval of Minutes—March Faculty Senate meeting minutes approved.
- III. Election of Officers
 - A. President—Mike Farmer vs. David Blevins; Mike Farmer with a majority
 - B. Vice President—Saundra Stiles (uncontested)
 - C. Secretary—Elizabeth Weaver (uncontested)
 - D. TBR Faculty Representative—Stacie Bradshaw (uncontested)
- IV. Benroth Award Update (Saundra Stiles)
 - A. Winner will be announced during Fall Convocation
 - B. Finalists are Jala Daniel, Julie Hall, and Peggy Hilliard
 - C. More than 60% participation in voting for nominations!

V. New Business

A. Middle College

1. Faculty Member brought concerns regarding Middle College [*the following was provided as a handout*]:

- a. Pledge from Dr. Ward that Middle College students would have the same experience as other RSCC students and held to the same standard
- b. Current/past concerns regarding Middle College
 - i. Staffing nightmares created by deans and lead faculty not being able to staff classes in consideration of **all** needs of the division.
 - ii. Some faculty not being “allowed” to teach MC because they are “too hard”
 - iii. Waving of course prerequisites (ACT scores) so that MC students could take college level courses and an instructor receiving additional payment to tutor these students through the course
 - iv. Faculty discretion not allowed in dealing with cheating among MC students
 - v. Request for establishment of a Middle College Advisory Board; it has offered little opportunity for input and not informed of key decisions.
 - vi. Faculty Senate Resolution regarding staffing of Middle College classes (from November 2016 FS meeting—see below)
 - vii. Inequity of offering Cumberland County chemistry class with enrollment preference given to MC students rather than regular RSCC students; RSCC Cumberland County students have been begging for this class for years.
- c. From November 11, 2016 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes:
 - Staffing of Middle College classes – each semester faculty are chosen to teach middle college classes. Sometimes, the staffing of these classes can cause problems in the division related to staffing other courses, scheduling of classes, availability of particular faculty for other courses, etc. The following motion was submitted, seconded, and approved:

Whereas, It is the role of the Faculty Senate to express the collective opinion of the faculty to the administration of the college on any matter of concern to the faculty, and to provide for the administration a significant avenue for the dissemination, discussion, and evaluation of all matters of concern to the faculty; and

Whereas, It is also the role of Faculty Senate to initiate faculty input for the planning and implementation of college programs, policies, and facilities, and to serve as a vehicle for recommendations faculty make to address current college issues, problems ,and institutional goals; and

Whereas, the creation of the Middle College has increased the demand on the resources of the college; and

Whereas, Staffing of classes in multiple divisions for the Middle College have resulted in undue burden on certain faculty members in those divisions; and

Whereas, Academic Deans and Department Chairs are acutely aware of the needs of the faculty under their supervision; therefore

Resolved, that it is the opinion of the faculty at Roane State, in accordance with PA-24- 02, that Academic Deans are experts in their field and are responsible for staffing of the classes in their division.

Resolved, that if there is a specific requirement that a full-time faculty member teach a class, the staffing decision of the Academic Dean should be respected provided that faculty member is qualified to teach the class and is in good standing with the college.

Resolved, that, in particular, Middle College administration should not interfere with the discretion of the Academic Dean in staffing decisions.

d. Questions Raised

1. As faculty, what are our expectations regarding the opportunities and experiences of Middle College students?
2. Do we think that highly qualified, available, and willing full-time faculty should be offered the opportunity to teach Middle College classes before staffing them with adjuncts?
3. Do we think that staffing decisions are best made by the deans in consideration of other needs of the division?
4. Is it important to make all faculty aware of these issues?
5. To what length will we go to assure 100% success in Middle College?
6. How important is academic integrity to us?
7. What can be done?

[end of handout]

- e. Motion (to be voted on in September): **Reaffirm the resolution from November 2016 meeting.**

2. Middle College Advisory Board
 - a. Senate members requested an official statement regarding Middle College from Faculty Senate (see motion below).
 - b. Senate members requested that Mike Farmer nominate Kathy Arcangeli and Jala Daniel be added to the Middle College Advisory Board.
 3. Motion (to be voted on in September): **Whereas Middle College students, faculty, and administrators are eligible for the same privileges as all other Roane State Community College students, faculty, and administrators, they should be governed by the same college-wide policies and responsibilities.**
- B. Faculty Senate member asked, “What is the next step if this, or other issues, continue?”
1. Discussion brought about options for faculty senate to pursue if responses to official requests, proclamations, and/or resolutions are ignored or unsatisfactorily addressed:
 - a. Have an “in-house” survey on college effectiveness
 - b. Have a third-party conduct a survey on college effectiveness
 - c. Reach out to TBR
 - d. Last resort: vote(s) of no confidence
 2. Motion (to be voted on in September): **Faculty Senate will establish a committee to develop a survey to address college effectiveness.**
- C. High School in Roane County
1. If the new high school is near the Harriman campus, overflow parking will be in grassy area in front of O’Brien
 2. Possible pedestrian bridge or tunnel to cross the street safely.
- D. Advising
1. Students transitioned to faculty advisor after 24 hours
 2. If a student is incorrectly transitioned, let Kat Baker know
 3. Faculty: direct questions to ARC
 4. Advise via email, phone, or Momentum if you cannot meet face-to-face
 5. Other issues can be sent to Saundra Stiles so she can take them to the committee.
- VI. Scheduled Votes
- A. Vote from March regarding changes to Benroth process—passed
 - B. Vote on motion: “Faculty Senate proposes that adjunct travel be reevaluated and more accurately compensated.”—passed
 - C. Vote on the following motion: “Recommend to administration that Adjunct Faculty are eligible to receive business cards after two consecutive years teaching or at the dean’s request.”—further postponed

VII. Next meeting: September 2018

VIII. Adjourn