

Roane State Community College
Faculty Senate Minutes from 15 November 2024
2:00-3:30 PM (ET)
Roane County Campus – Room O-101

ATTENDANCE

OFFICERS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position(s)</u>
Jala Daniel	President
April Insko	Vice President
David Blevins	Parliamentarian & Senator
Krystie Anderson	TBR Faculty Subcouncil Representative & Senator
John Noto	Secretary & Senator

VISITORS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Division</u>
Chloe Conant	Library

SENATORS

Health Sciences

Gabriel McAteer; Montana Nealon; Ricky Terwilliger; Elizabeth Thomas

Humanities

Robert Alfonso; Krystie Anderson; Maggie Bouldin; Brenda Luggie; Jayme Nair

Math and Science

Isabel Benitez-Ramirez; Keenan Golder; Stefanie Holmes; Jillian Miller; John Noto; Pamela Siergie

Social Science, Business, and Education

Stacie Bradshaw; Steven Carriger; Jessica Dalton-Carriger; Sandra Stiles

- I. Established quorum at 2:02 PM.
- II. Approved October 25, 2024, Faculty Senate Minutes
- III. TBR Faculty Sub-Council Update (Krysten Anderson)
 - A. General Education Core Updates: Information, including flyers and details about the new core, will be available starting Spring 2025.

- B. Faculty Emeritus Status: This can now be granted posthumously. There is no statute of limitations, and faculty can challenge a dean's denial of this status.
- C. Policy Streamlining: TBR updated its policy language and procedures to align with a revised style guide.
- D. CTAT "Monday Minutes": Professional development materials intended to begin in September have not yet been distributed.
- E. Degrees of Success Conference: Focused on high-impact teaching practices, with TCAT students included in international education initiatives.
- F. Resource Repositories: Ambassadors are needed for TBR CTL resource repositories, with stipends offered.
- G. CRED Comprehensive Learner Record: A "digital wallet" to showcase student credentials may soon include broader applications beyond TCATs.
- H. Disability Services: A 16% increase in usage was reported; new accessibility guidelines from the U.S. Department of Justice are due by April 2026.
- I. Corequisite Learning Support Classes: TBR is working to improve student success rates.
- J. Competency-Based Advisory Board: Feedback is requested on AI use in higher education. TBR emphasizes ethical and innovative generative AI applications.
- K. Apprenticeship Hour Tracking: A new tracking system for TCAT and college apprenticeships is in development.
- L. Full notes from Krystie Anderson are found in Appendix A.

IV. Vice President's Report – April Insko

A. Faculty and Staff Relief Fund (David Blevins)

1. The policy has been revised to remove "one time in the career" restrictions, allowing multiple instances of assistance if necessary.
2. Assistance is limited to hardship caused by injuries or similar events and does not cover routine financial issues.
3. Payments will be handled through the RS Foundation to avoid tax implications for recipient.
4. Eligibility: Full-time employees (75% or higher), with at least one year of continuous service, and not under disciplinary action or probation.

5. Pending Action: Further language clarifications and funding strategies are being developed.

V. President's Report – Jala Daniel

A. Old Business

1. Academic Festival Feedback

- a. Steering committee discussions emphasized incorporating recruitment activities for high school students alongside program competitions. Program Directors are required to participate directly in Academic Festival competitions. Recruitment will be a secondary emphasis.
- b. Faculty can suggest virtual or pre-festival competition ideas to Tammy Howard.

2. Academic Misconduct Hearing Committee Appointments

- a. Standing committee assignments are being restructured by the administration. Dr. Ward is evaluating all full-time faculty committee assignments, including the Academic Misconduct Hearing Committee.
- b. Written policy requires each full-time faculty member to serve on one or two standing committees. Jala will seek clarification concerning the number of required committee assignments. Clarification is also needed concerning the definition of a “standing committee.”

3. IT informational videos concerning classroom technology

- a. Dr. Ward will speak with IT concerning a video resource that can be created on the RS website to address common classroom technology questions.

4. Student Title IX Compliance

- a. Tamra Oliver and Dr. Ward will consider integrating Title IX training into Momentum for all general education courses and/or ENGL 1010 (based on faculty discussions in the October 25th meeting). Students will receive completion certificates and prompts to finish early in the semester.

B. New Business

1. Approved Policy

- a. PA-01-01: Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action (10/29/24): Updated to align with TBR policies (minor wording changes).

- b. PA-02-03: Programs for Minors on Campus (11/4/2024): Revised for TBR alignment (minor wording changes).

2. Policies in Process

- a. PA-26-01: Faculty Promotion: No significant changes yet; policy is being compared/aligned with TBR standards.
- b. TBR Use of AI Policy 1.08.10.00: Drafting underway, with potential approval between June and August 2025.

3. Received Emails – FS Inbox

- a. Faculty class coverage – Faculty expressed concerns about coverage expectations when a colleague is out sick. Deans must clearly communicate workload adjustments and address compensation where appropriate.

C. Future Items for Consideration'

1. New TBR General Education Core

- a. The Fall 2025 implementation of the new core will require syllabus revisions.
- b. TBR will not mandate specific learning outcomes but expects certain core competencies for each course. Updates will be presented to Faculty Senate in Spring 2025.

VI. Adjourned at 3:20 PM.

Appendix A:
Tbr Faculty Subcouncil Meeting Notes

From Krysten Anderson
25 October 2024

- General Education CORE
 - o Dr. Robert Denn gave an update about CORE, the seven areas that our revised learning outcomes will address.
 - o In Spring of 2025, colleges will be seeing fliers and other promotional information on their campuses, advertising the CORE.
 - o Some colleges are going to have their own “brand” of the CORE. (Example: Roane State could have RaiderCORE.)

- Faculty Emeritus Status
 - o Update on faculty who have been granted Faculty Emeritus status.
 - Roane State’s Dan Hyder was on this list.
 - Emeritus status can be granted posthumously.
 - There is no statute of limitations on when faculty can be granted Emeritus status, and faculty can also challenge their dean’s denial of this status.

- TBR Policy on Policies
 - o This was an informational item today, but during our next meeting, it will be an action item.
 - o Proposed changes to the current policy include the following: requiring that policy revisions use track changes to keep up with what’s been changed and when; changing “procedures” to “guidelines”; and categorizing the Style Guide as an “exhibit” instead of being its own policy about font type, size, etc.

- Center for Teaching and Learning
 - o There’s a dedicated Teams page for staff at each college to stay in touch in-between monthly meetings.
 - o Monday Minute was launched on September 30th of this year. It’s a one-page document that compiles professional development opportunities for faculty and staff. (Check with CTAT about having these forwarded to us, as all community colleges and TCATs are sent these each month.)

- Degrees of Success
 - o This is an upcoming conference that will focus on teaching strategies, including High-Impact Practices (HIPs).
 - o Conference dates: October 29-30, 2025

- International Education
 - o It's hoped that TCATs are going to be included in International Education in the future, as many of Tennessee's businesses have overseas connections.

- Resource Repositories
 - o Reminder to look at these resources on TBR's CTL website. (This is the Center for Teaching and Learning.)
 - o Currently, there's an application open to become a HIP Ambassador.
 - The stipend has increased from \$1,000 to \$1,200 for the year for new ambassadors.
 - Returning ambassadors receive \$2,000 a year.
 - The deadline for this year's application is November 15th.
 - o TBR wants to involve TCATs in HIPs, too.

- TBR CRED
 - o This comprehensive learner record is a digital program that allows students to see all their credentials, then share those with employers through a "wallet."
 - o The name of the company is "1EDTECH."
 - o Once this website is fully set up (all the community colleges' courses are integrated, and TCATs' are currently in the process of being updated), faculty will be encouraged to let students know about it. (More details will be announced later.)

- Disability Services
 - o TBR colleges have seen a 16% increase in 2023-24 for students requesting disability services.
 - o Faculty have been requesting training on topics related to classroom management, as well as resources they can use to assist students.
 - o TBR now has a Director of Accessibility, Amie Nephew.
 - o In April of this year, the U.S. Department of Justice released new regulations for digital accessibility. Academics are still included, of course, but now, all digital content has to be in compliance.

- The deadline for compliance is April of 2026.
 - Each institution has a compliance team that's currently working on an outline for updates and identifying what areas will need to be updated.
- Corequisite Learning Support Courses
 - TBR Policy 2.03.00.02
 - Currently, a group from TBR is meeting with faculty who teach Reading, Writing, and Math support courses.
- AI and Competency-Based Education (CBE)
 - TBR wants to create a CBE Advisory Board, so they can incorporate faculty ideas and feedback on the official policy and how AI is used at the colleges.
 - Students need to use AI as a tool to enhance education, not as a means to cheat.
 - When TBR comes out with a final policy (in July of 2025) about AI usage, the colleges will have to align with this.
 - Their policy is going to focus on generative AI, both open and closed systems. (Example: ChatGPT is generative AI, and it's "open" because anyone has access to it. If a college or business creates their own version of ChatGPT, it would be "closed.")
 - TBR wants ethical use but also innovative use. The Tech Talk Tuesdays address these topics.
 - Businesses and industries are expecting their employees to know how to use AI ethically and effectively.
 - TBR has been leading the way with their discussions of AI:
 - University employees have been attending Tech Talk Tuesdays, as they're interested in how TBR colleges are navigating the use of AI.
 - TBR staff have even presented at international conferences on this topic.
- Apprenticeship Tracking
 - Colleges have to track students' hours and progress for programs they offer that have apprenticeships.
 - TBR has created a website that would allow employers, students, and college faculty to use for apprenticeship tracking.
 - Colleges will be able to opt into this tool. The cost will be \$100 per month instead of \$25,000 a year, which other companies charge.

- Colleges will have their own “instance” of the site, similar to how each college has their own version of D2L, which would allow them to see only their students.