

FACULTY SENATE
Virtual Meeting by Zoom
April 13, 2021 4:00 PM CST/5:00 PM EST
Monthly Meeting

Attendance: 80 (senators, administrators, faculty, and guests)

Senators attending: Reed, Jiang, Wilson, Venturin, Smith, Orucevic, Cooper, Murray, E. Park, Lancaster, F. Park, Davenport, Cory, Donaldson, Clark, Zhang, Lackey, Doettl, Little, Pourmotabbed, Steinberg, McCarthy, Mandal, Quesenberry, Herr, McClinton, Dragatsis, Jean, Bieber, Erickson, Harvey, Li, Jancelewicz, Meekins, Clark, Jasmin, Hevener, Derefinko, Spivey, Philip, Pishko, Zeng, White-Means, Hartig, Abhyankar, Choby, Moss, McCoy, Morris, Mancini, Davix, Zite, Pledger, Ishrat, Richey, Zachary.

Meeting called to order at 4:02 pm cst/5:24 pm est

Meeting Minutes:

Floor opened for discussion of the March 9, 2021 meeting minutes. Following no discussion, a motion for acceptance of the minutes was made by Dr. Cooper, and seconded by Dr. Donaldson. Minutes passed with 95% (42) “yes”, 0% (0) “no”, and 5% (2) “abstain.”

Speaker: Anthony Ferrara:

- The fiscal year of 2021-2022 looks promising for UTHSC, and the UT system in general.
 - 4% Salary Increase – The legislative will mostly likely approve the 4% increase to start July 1. Will be getting guidance from BOT and/or the president regarding how it will be distributed. Most likely will cover market adjustments, merit increases, and a cost of living increase. This is an evolving situation, so final details are still being developed.
 - One-time payment – In June, faculty will get a one-time payment. This payment will be a one-time 2% increase of one’s current salary.
 - Operational Funds – The operational fund have been reinstated for the 2021-2022 academic year. Additionally, THEC has recommended an increase for subsequent years, which looks like it will be approved.
 - Infrastructure Funding – Funding has initial approval finish renovating the Nash Building. Additionally, funding to complete the police headquarters has been approved (i.e., old University of Memphis Speech Building).
 - GME Bill – The GME Bill will most likely pass. This will provide additional primary care residency spots for UTHSC students. Specifically, UTHSC will get 2/3rds of the proposed funding in the bill.
 - Several questions:
 - Question regarding would the 4% salary increase also impact Post-Docs? Regardless of funding source, if the post-docs are employees

prior to the July 1 date, then they would be included. Concerns raised over increases impacting overall grant management.

- Question raised if post-docs would be eligible for the 2% increase effective in June? Because it is pre-July, post docs not eligible for this increase.

Thanked the senate for their time, and Mr. Ferrara signed off at 4:18 cst.

Senate Elections:

- Departments are being notified of needed elections. Dr. Pourmotabbed is overseeing the elections. If senators have questions, please reach out to the Faculty Senate Officers.
- Each college should be arranging and completing their FSEC elections for the 2021-2022 academic year.

Faculty Senate Awards:

- Senators interested in nominating someone for a Senate Award or Certificate, please submit names
 - Awards & Certificates include: Administrator of the Year; Senator of the Year; Certificate of Appreciation; Presidential Citation
 - A request for nominations will be distributed following the meeting
- Memorials or Retirements – please notify the FSEC if you have any retirements or memorials.

Committee Updates:

- *Handbook* –
 - Several bylaws have been submitted to the FSEC for discussion. It is anticipated that at the May 11th meeting those bylaws will be ready to Senate discussion and a vote.
 - Working with Dr. Russell and Frank Lancaster to finalize the termination chapter. Will provide updates as they come.
- *Educational Affairs Committee* – Will be meeting on April 14th at 3:00 cst. All are welcome to attend the meeting.
- *Non-tenure Track Committee* – Will be meeting on April 14th at 4:00 cst. All are welcome to attend.
- *Faculty Affairs Committee* – Will be meeting on Thursday, April 15th. Will provide an update at the May meeting.
- *Research* – No new update at this time.

New Business:

- TUFs Meeting – Dr. Donaldson reported on the recent TUFs meeting.
 - Discussion/updates:
 - Concerns were raised regarding differences between UTHSC and other UT campus – as UTHSC is the only 12 month faculty campus.
 - Sports betting has been approved and is impacting sporting teams at UTK, UTC, UTM.

- Recent workload survey results were discussed. The survey was tilted toward faculty with 9 month faculty appointments. There was a discussion regarding concerns about copyright/ownership of course material placed on Blackboard/Canvas.
- The next TUFS meeting will be on June 5th.

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New Announcements:

- *Upcoming Faculty Senate Meetings:*
 - *May 11, 2021 at 4:00 pm cst/5:00 pm est.*
 - *June 8, 2021 at 4:00 pm cst/5:00 pm est.*

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 4:37 pm cst/5:37 pm est.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jillian McCarthy Maeder, PhD, CCC-SLP
Faculty Senate Secretary