

Minutes

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

FACULTY SENATE

October 11, 2016

GEB A204

1. Call to order by President Cooper: 4:04 PM
2. Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the September 13th Faculty Senate meeting were approved as distributed by email.
 - a. Vice Chancellor Gonzalez discussed the new open access policy for tenure and promotion. The new policy will allow any faculty member to check the location of their documents (committees, chairs, deans, etc.) as well as the decisions made at any time during the tenure or promotion process.
 - b. Dr. Gonzalez presented a slide showing the number of tenured faculty (362 total; 24%). She will send the link to show breakdown in each college for tenured, tenure-track and non-tenured faculty. UT Knoxville has an electronic tool that might be used for this purpose.
3. Executive Vice Chancellor Brown discussed the new gun carry policy at UTHSC.
 - a. On July 1st the state of Tennessee passed a new gun law that will give some employees the right to carry guns on campus. The new policy places certain limits on that right (must be full time employee, must have a carry permit for TN, must make a formal disclosure to the campus police and fill out a form).
 - b. Employees may not carry a gun on campus in hospitals, dental clinics, or any other patient care areas. They may not carry guns at sports events or in any meeting of a disciplinary nature.
 - c. Consequences of breaking the policy include possible loss of employment or criminal charges. fired or jailed. Need to be sure to follow rules.
 - d. Several questions were asked by faculty members including: i. What about gun carry permits from other states? (TN does not have reciprocity agreements with all contiguous states.) ii. Do permits need to be renewed annually? (No, current TN permits are effective for 4 years.) iii. Guns in automobile trunks in parking lots are not allowed on campus unless you have a valid permit. iv. Can't carry a weapon to tenure meeting or disciplinary student meeting.
 - e. Dr. Brown introduced: Scott Campbell, the new safety and emergency manager. 2. Anthony Berryhill, the new Chief of Police for the UTHSC campus. Sally Badoud, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Communications and Marketing. She is a social media expert who will help in recruiting of students and faculty.
 - f. Policies and personnel information can be found at: <https://www.uthsc.edu/campuspolice/>
4. New business
 - a. Resolution concerning EPPR policy (attached). After Vice President Katie High's presentation last month, many faculty members asked why the senate was not acting to make a statement on the policy. President Cooper presented a resolution (attached) drafted and approved by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. The resolution resolved that the UTHSC Faculty Senate is opposed to the new policy. Motion was made and seconded to accept the resolution. The vote to approve the resolution was 46 in favor, 2 opposed, with one abstention.
 - b. The issue of post-doc payments was discussed in light of new federal guidelines that require either substantial increases in salaries and fringe benefits or a requirement that post-docs must be paid overtime. UTHSC has 96 post-docs, and only a few have salaries high enough to be exempt from overtime pay. The new guidelines will cost about \$14,000 for each post-doc. There might be some temporary help from college deans. There is also a problem that we now pay 8% benefits to post-docs and that will go up to 33%.
 - c. Handbook progress. The handbook committee and the administration have agreed on 4 different policies. One addition to current policies is that when the administration makes a decision, the decision and its explanation is to be written down and passed on to all parties concerned.
 - d. President Cooper reminded everyone that Friday October 14th is the last day for changes in health insurance.

5. The meeting adjourned at 4:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted, George A. Cook, Secretary, UTHSC Faculty Senate

Upcoming meetings:

FSEC meeting with the Chancellor – October 18th, 8:00 AM in Hyman 101

FSEC and Chairs – November 3rd, 8:00 AM in MSB 201

Next Faculty Senate meeting – November 8th, 4:00 PM in GEB A204
