

Faculty Senate Minutes  
Southwest Tennessee Community College  
Macon Cove Campus  
MA B 153  
September 12, 2017

1. Call to Order and Roll
- A. Faculty Senate president Bill Summons called the meeting to order at 3:00. Secretary Doug Branch called the roll:

William Summons, **Senate President**

Division Senators, Arts and Sciences

Doug Branch (17-19) **Secretary**

Shannon Little (16-18) **Treasurer** (Not attending due to a recent appointment to an administrative position.)

Mahmuda Sultana (16-18)

MaLinda Wade (17-19) Proxy

Jerome Wilson (17-19) Absent

LaDonna Young (16-18) **Vice President** (No longer a member of Faculty Senate due to a recent appointment to an administrative position.)

Division Senators, Career Studies

Charles (Eddie) Baker (16-18) **Parliamentarian**

Delores Boland (17-19) Proxy

Tim Harrison (16-18)

Thomas Midgley (17-19)

Department Senators

Shilpa Desai (16-18) **Allied Health**

Joanitha Barnes (17-19) **Business and Legal Studies**

Annette Fournet (17-19) **Communications and Fine Arts** Absent

Tiffany Akin (17-19) **Languages and Literature**

Rosie Taylor (16-18) **Natural Sciences**

Marilyn Wilbourn (16-18) **Nursing** Absent

Frank Daniels (17-19) **Mathematics**

Leslie Peeples (17-19) **Technologies**

Ed Reid (17-19) **Social and Behavioral Sciences**

- B. Robert Jackson took a picture of present members so that we could post it to the senate website.

## 2. Approval of Minutes

The body approved the minutes from the April, 2017 Faculty Senate meeting. Secretary Doug Branch will ask that those minutes be posted to the senate website.

## 3. Reports from Senate Officers and Senate Committees

- A. We altered the agenda slightly for reasons having to do with time.
- B. Thad Cockrill, chair of Languages and Literature, spoke to the senate, presenting his complaints about the present system for evaluating faculty chairs. Under the current system, all faculty in a chair's department can see both the scores and the comments a chair receives from his or her department.
- C. It was moved, seconded, and approved that the vice-president of the Faculty Senate, administrating the evaluations of chairs, should configure the system such that, in addition to the chair himself or herself, only administrators higher in the line of reporting, such as a chair's dean, should be able to see comments made by faculty members during the chair's evaluation process. The objective, scored parts of the evaluation should still be available for viewing by members of the chair's department.
- D. Bill Summons made announcements and gave updates concerning TBR matters. First, he announced that he is officially a regent for two years. He will be representing all community colleges in the state. He noted other news, too, such as the recent departure of two TBR-affiliated community college presidents and the fact that there are plans to combine Banner into one system for all TBR institutions. Bill also wished to challenge a popular notion that Southwest, in comparison to other Tennessee community colleges, is suffering financially. He was given to understand, after a recent TBR meeting, that, Southwest is indeed in comparatively good financial shape.
- E. Doug Branch told the assembly that he would try once more to get Faculty Senate committee chairs to submit names of current committee members, very few chairs having responded to his initial request. It was generally agreed that the senate may need to make some reevaluation of chairs who did not respond to a second request Doug would make.

F. Eddie Baker spoke on a number of topics. He encouraged faculty who have been promoted recently to make sure their paychecks are correct. He had learned that some faculty's checks were insufficient. Eddie also noted that the SEC had spoken with Chris Ezell about the early college high school program, a topic of concern for many, and that Chris was optimistic about its implementation and potential. He and Dr. Hall believe that Southwest will have more control over the school than the college did the last time there was a high school program on the Union Ave. campus. Eddie also relayed the SEC's conversation with Chris concerning Chris' thoughts about potential growth for in dual enrollment. Other items from the meeting between Chris Ezell and the SEC included the administration's interest in hiring faculty advising fellows to supplement a low number of professional advisors; a plan to possibly advise students not according to their surnames but according to their majors; a plan to look into how faculty can be more helpful with student recruiting; and the faculty's desire that there a full and clear organizational chart with clear contact information.

#### 4. Old Business

- A. Dewey Sykes spoke, wondering if there has been a full discussion and investigation into the recent process for the hiring of new deans, the implementation of which has been a matter of concern to him and others.
- B. Bill Summons read a short letter written by Robert Blaudow, the complaint of which was that in a recent dean search and interview process that the position had been offered to a candidate before the entire interview process had been completed.

#### 5. New Business

- A. Because our current vice-president, LaDonna Young, and treasurer, Shannon Little, will no longer be serving on the senate, we conducted an election for these positions. Eddie Baker was elected vice-president, and Joanitha Barnes was elected treasurer. Eddie's position as parliamentarian now being vacant, we elected Tim Harrison to that position.
- B. We appointed an ad hoc committee, to consist of Eddie Baker and Frank Daniels, to make suggestions about how the Faculty Senate should be reorganized, given the new divisional organization of the college.
- C. We decided to look closely at the constitution and decide how to proceed in the election or appointment of new senators to replace departing senators Shannon Little and LaDonna Young.

6. Adjournment

Bill Summons adjourned the meeting at 4:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Doug Branch

Faculty Senate Secretary



