

**Austin Peay State University**  
**Faculty Senate**  
**Meeting of Thursday, March 28, 2024**  
**Morgan University Center, Room 307 | 3 pm**  
**Minutes**

**Call to Order:** Senate President Soma Banerjee

**Recognition of Guests:** Stephanie Bandel, David Davenport, Iandra Defreitas, President Mike Licari, Provost Maria Cronley, Jamie McCrary, Perry Scanlan, Jane Semler, and LaNeece Williams

**Roll Call of Senators:** Senate Secretary pro tem Brandon Di Paolo Harrison

**Absent Senators:** Lisa Barron, Kristen Butler, Philip Elike, Charles Gonzalez, Matt Hampton, Kathy Heuston, Cheryl Lambert, Gloria Miller, Robin Reed, David Snyder, and Deonte Warren

**Approval of Today's Agenda:** Motion made, seconded, and passed by majority vote

**Approval of Minutes from March 21, 2024 Meeting:** Motion made, seconded, and passed by majority vote

**Remarks:**

1. Senate President Dr. Soma Banerjee (5 minutes): President Banerjee informed senate of upcoming events at APSU and then reminded senate of the need of decorum.
2. Faculty Spotlight Chesley Thigpen (10 minutes): Presented on his research, World War II in North America.
  - a. Moment of Silence
    - i. Professor David Till (Languages & Literature)
    - ii. John Byrd (Engineering Technology)
    - iii. Joy Piggott (Trio Support Services)
    - iv. Anne Glass (Music)
3. Chief of Institutional Culture & Title IX Coordinator, LaNeece Williams (10 minutes): Ms. Williams spoke on the top three things that her office has been involved in this year.
  - 1) Being a part of the change evaluation process implemented by Human Resources.
  - 2) The creation of Infinity and ER groups at APSU. And 3) the Appreciation and Belonging

Hour.

4. Director—Student Disability Resource Center, Jamie McCrary (10 minutes): Jamie introduced Iandra Defreitas, intern in the SDRC. Jamie provided overview of the services provided by the SDRC. He also discussed accessibility.
5. University President, Dr. Mike Licari (10 minutes): He started congratulating all the faculty that were awarded tenure at last week's Board of Trustees meeting. President Licari also talked about last week's Board of Trustees meeting. He discussed the progress of the SACSCOC reaffirmation and the impending sight visit next week. He acknowledged the new student trustee to the Board of Trustees, Campbell Moore. President Licari also discussed the Recruitment Roadshow: Memphis, Huntsville, and Chattanooga.

Q1: How do you select the schools to visit?

A1: Some is based on size, some is prior relationships

Q2: Do you have a number of students recruited from the roadshow?

A2: The yield last year was almost 80% and overall the yield was just over 20%

Q3: Do you think it would be beneficial to have more faculty involved in the roadshow?

A3: I believe that is more important for the faculty to be involved with the on-campus events that are not as high level as the roadshow is.

Q4: Can you tell me what you do at the roadshow?

A4: It depends on what each high school wants. Some want us to only meet with administration and others bring all the juniors and senior to the auditorium to meet with us.

Q5: Can you provide us an update on the compensation study?

A5: (Cronley) explained where we are with the study and she expects to receive recommendations to SLT in the fall

6. University Provost, Dr. Maria Cronley (10 minutes): Maria talked about partnering with a third-party provider to provide on the spot financial aid calculator and APSU will cover and gap. She discussed the important roll FASFA will play in this endeavor. Maria noted that SACSCOC will have its on-site visit 4/8-4/11. She congratulated the 14 faculty members that received tenure approval. She discussed the Board of Trustees being made aware of the termination of the MSM program and other low enrolled programs. Maria also stated the Board of Trustees received an update on the new MBA. She acknowledged the new registrar, Felicia Nagle starts Monday. She was previously deputy registrar at Emory University.

Q1: Is the tuition guarantee only for undergraduates?

A1: Yes, this is only for undergraduates.

Q2: Will we be receiving materials on this initiative?

A2: Yes, the decision was just made this morning so you are hearing first.

7. Scholarly Engagement Librarian, Stephanie Bandel (10 minutes): Stephanie provide a brief biography and explained a new initiative she is spearheading, Woodward Library Free for All. This is a program where faculty can donate used items that are in good condition that students can use.

Q1: Do we bring the items and drop them off at the library?

A1: It is better for you to come to the library and get connected with a donation coordinator to arrange the drop off.

## **New Business**

1. Staff Senate Award Voting, Terri Clark (10 minutes): She conducted the ballot vote for this award. There were three finalists: Steve Sawyer, Whitney Milliken, and Jan Corrothers. The winner by majority vote will be announced at the April 2024 Faculty Senate Meeting.
2. Faculty Trustee, Professor Jane Semler (10 minutes): Jane gave an overview of last week's Board of Trustee meeting. She discussed the audit results, both internal and external results. Director of Projects and Printing Services are now operating at a profit. She stated 68% of our faculty are now tenured. She stated the food pantry will be moving next to the bookstore. Jane went over non-mandatory fees. A housing rate increase was increased by about 2%. Jane went through the financial report from the board meeting.
3. Faculty Senate Nominations Committee, Dr. Perry Scanlan (3 minutes): Perry explained the make-up of the committee. In addition to himself, Terry Crutcher and Mickey Wadia will also serve on the committee. He explained the nomination process and the how the committee will complete their duties relative to the election.
4. Rules Committee, Osvaldo Di Paolo Harrison (5 minutes): Ozzie reminded the senate the changes presented at last week's senate meeting. A motion was made to accepted the changes, duly seconded;

Ozzie asked if there was any opposition to accepting all the updates to the bylaws as one motion.

Hearing no objection, unanimous consent by the faculty senate was noted. Ozzie proceeded to explaining the updates to the bylaws. Discussion followed

Q1: I do not think the provost needs to approve this. I think it can be done by the Faculty Senate President. So, I recommend removing this portion.

A1: (Soma) This is an HR issue and is a one-time thing

Ozzie requested a friendly amendment, "Only faculty on remote work assignment as specified by the Provost's Office or HR may attend faculty senate meetings remotely. Arrangements must be made with the faculty senate executive committee at least one

week prior to the senate meeting.” Senator Brandon Di Paolo Harrison (original motioner) moved to accept the “friendly amendment,” Senator Young (original seconder) seconded accepting the “friendly amendment” and further discussion commenced.

Q3: Last year I accidentally got accepted to 6 different conferences, doing university service, but had I been a senator last year

A3: (Soma) explained how many absences are allowed without losing your senate seat.

Harold Young explained how this portion of the policy came about and framed the circumstances for which this portion of the bylaws is intended.

Jane Semler explained the process of how this came to be and why it is necessary to have this in the bylaws. She explained we do not to make it difficult to attend senate meetings.

Christina Hicks-Goldston asked a question directly to Senator Young as to whether he should just step aside.

Harry explained stated this does not give you an answer, but the process to make the request.

Brandon Di Paolo Harrison called for the question, Harold Young second, discussion ceased, and the vote was taken. The motion to accept the updated bylaws with the inclusion of the “friendly amendment” carried with 31 voting aye (a 2/3 majority), 3 nay votes, and 4 abstentions.

**Adjourn:** Motion made, seconded, and approved by majority vote