

Minutes of the TBR Faculty Sub-Council

July 11, 2008

<u>Present</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Institution</u>
X	Kay Haralson	APSU
X	Will Benson (for Nathan Garner)	CISCC
X	Karen Siska	CoSCC
X	David Stanislawski	CSTCC
X	William Northcutt	DSCC
X	Stephen Patrick (chair)	ETSU
X	Betty Frost (for John Koons)	JSCC
X	Janice Harder	MSCC
X	Larry Burris	MTSU
X	Howard Doty	NSCC
X	Eric Fish	NSTCC
X	Dave Vinson	PSTCC
X	Jane Asamani	RODP/TSU
X	Bruce Fisher	RSCC
	Clark McKinney	STCC
	Robbie Kendall-Melton, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs	TBR
	Paula Myrick Short, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs	TBR
X	Bob Adams, Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs	TBR
X	Kay Clark, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs	TBR
X	Pamela Knox, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs	TBR
X	Treva Berryman, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs	TBR
X	Randy Schulte, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs	TBR
X	Raylean Henry, Director, ROCE	TBR
X	Sam Comer	TSU
X	Gretta Stanger	TTU
X	Jeffrey Berman	UoM
X	Robert Moon (secretary)	VSCC
X	Janice Donahue	WSCC

Stephen Patrick called the meeting to order at 9:31 AM.

Jennifer Wolkonowski attempted a conference call, receiving no response on the other end of the line.

There will be no opening comments by Dr. Manning at this meeting; the Chancellor is on vacation. Dr. Short is away receiving an award from the Board of Regents. Dr. Kay Clark will facilitate this meeting.

Approval of Minutes from the April 18 Meeting

Members of the Sub-Council were asked to verify the accuracy of the proposed minutes for the previous meeting. Jeffrey Berman (University of Memphis) noted the erroneous mention of "Memphis State University" in descriptions of the Tennessee Faculty Senate Summit as reported during the meeting on April 18. G. Howard Doty moved to approve the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Updates: Business Affairs (Dr. Bob Adams)

Dr. Adams distributed "THEC 2008-09 Reduction Scenario Draft Notes", clarifying that while the notes were titled as "draft", the report was accurate. The legislative session began with the governor's budget and there was no change to base appropriations. At about the same time the governor sent the budget to the legislature in February, state revenues began a sharp decline. The state funding board met to revise revenue estimates, and the governor and legislature set to the task of dramatically revising the budget. Higher education meets with an overall reduction of \$55.8 million dollars, a 4.1% decrease. The distribution of reductions is to be non-uniform, with administrative units taking the average reduction of 4.1%. Other non-formula units (e.g., colleges of medicine, agricultural research, etc.) will take a 2% reduction. Technology centers, more heavily dependent upon state appropriations than other units, will see a 2% reduction. Community colleges will experience a 2.5% reduction, while the university sector will meet with a 5.8% decrease. The second page of the distributed document lists reductions by individual institution.

Longevity pay will continue to be funded, as well as the state's \$50/month 401(k) match.

Roane State asked whether any institutions were planning to circumvent payments at the 1/32 rate for summer courses taught by full-time faculty. Dr. Adams replied that the Board of Regents has been adamant with the presidents that summer pay must be at the 1/32 rate. "No one has the authority to not do that."

Austin Peay inquired regarding the governor's proposed voluntary employee buyout plan. Was this to be a type of post-retirement plan. Dr. Adams replied in the negative, noting that post-retirement offerings were at the discretion of each individual institution.

Updates: RODP (Raylean Henry)

- Desire2Learn completed the software upgrade to version 8.3 throughout the system in May. The upgrade went smoothly with only a few minor glitches slowing server performance. RODP has worked diligently with Desire2Learn to resolve such issues.
- Summer enrollments are up approximately 20% year-over-year, probably due to significantly higher gasoline costs. Enrollments for the Fall semester have increased by approximately 20% since last year.
- There were two summer academies, open to all TBR faculty. As an example, the May session focused on course design and instruction. Additional academies, also to be open to any TBR faculty member, are in planning.

Action Items (Dr. Kay Clark)

There were additional revisions to Guideline A-015, changed last year to indicate that high school students could fulfill deficiencies. Problems encountered focused on foreign languages. Associated with this we eliminated the sixty-hour rule that forgave students admissions requirements if they transferred with sixty or more credit hours. Many community colleges felt that students were taking advantage of the rule, bypassing Associate degrees to go straight to universities. These students were chiefly bypassing foreign language requirements, which imposed upon universities and community colleges the additional task of intensive tracking in order to insure that students had received foreign language instruction. The solution was to avoid re-imposing the sixty-hour rule while preserving the foreign

language emphasis. The current revision states that the burden lies with the student to prove he/she has had foreign language. Community college students are now technically not required to complete foreign language requirements, because these requirements are for the purpose of university admissions. However, community college students without foreign language credit are strongly encouraged to meet these requirements, as failure to do so would bar them from university admission until such deficiencies had been addressed.

Larry Burriss asked if the language requirement stipulated a modern foreign language or allowed for any foreign language. Dr. Clark stated that any foreign language was acceptable.

Howard Doty made a motion that the Sub-Council endorse the revision to Guideline A-015. Janice Harder seconded the motion, which passed without opposition.

Spring 2008 saw the system's first graduates with AST degrees. The area of emphasis included in K-6 education. There were approximately 70 such graduates at the community colleges this spring, the majority of who were at Motlow. More AST graduates are expected for the summer term. As TBR considers the AST program as a good pipeline for producing quality teachers, possible additional areas of emphasis are recommended. These areas are (a) Pre K-3 and (b) Secondary Mathematics.

Following discussion, David Stanislawki expressed concern that not all institutions offer BIOL 1030, which is specifically required in the proposed Pre K-3 curriculum. Dr. Clark noted that some other courses were not offered at all institutions and that these courses would need to be developed. Bruce Fisher proposed deferring Sub-Council endorsement until the next meeting, so that each representative could research what his/her campus is doing and report back to the Sub-Council in October. The vote was delayed (without a motion) until clarification can be sought. A subsequent vote may take place in an electronic format, otherwise waiting until the October meeting.

Regarding the Secondary Mathematics curriculum, some members expressed concern at the inclusion of MATH 2010 (Linear Algebra), given that many community colleges never offer the course. Another potential concern is Differential Equations. Dave Vinson moved to approve the Secondary Mathematics curriculum. Greta Stanger seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Discussion Items (Pamela Knox)

Dr. Knox directed the Sub-Council's attention to a number of previously distributed e-mail attachments highlighting proposed new international education policies and guidelines. Each institution in the system is involved in internationalization at some level. The International Education Committee has been involved in this and has solicited input into some of this. The aforementioned attachments cover "everything from developing international programs, faculty here that want to go internationally, etc." Dr. Knox welcomes further discussion here or via e-mail.

Information Items

Dr. Clark provided a brief update on General Education assessment. The General Education Committee sent a number of questions to the individual campuses, and the campuses are in the process of sending replies. This is in response to the General Education assessment pilots from each institution.

Randy Schulte provided an update on academic audits. This fall, previously audited programs will be asked to provide a synopsis of what has been done in response to their own initiatives and the recommendations made at the time of the audits. There will be no penalty or reward in terms of

performance funding; this process is merely part of the quality improvement process. As we move into the next performance funding cycle (2010-2015), we want to be able to anticipate and offer advice and structure, so that we can continue to augment performance funding scores to maximum possible levels through the academic audit process.

Dr. Clark informed the Sub-Council of developments regarding workload strategies. The TBR embarked on a comprehensive examination of faculty workloads and related issues. The initiative has been divided into three components:

- Work week policy
- Department chair workloads
- Online education

Dr. Clark and Dr. Robbie Melton will be the contacts for issues relating to these three components. There are also issues regarding graduate faculty; Pamela Knox will be the contact on that.

Dr. Treva Berryman updated the Sub-Council on the DSP redesign. On June 7, the third NCAT-assisted workshop was held, bringing in the six teams involved in funded pilots. Robert Moon (VSCC) requested clarification on the scope of implementation after adoption of a particular model. Would implementation of the adopted model be mandatory and system-wide? Dr. Berryman replied in the affirmative.

New Business

Stephen Patrick asked members of the Sub-Council if they would consider moving the scheduled meeting times forward by thirty minutes. The peers would meet at 8:30 instead of 9:00, and the Chancellor would arrive at 9:00 instead of 9:30. All representatives agreed to the proposed change.

The Faculty Sub-Council proceeded with nominations for the positions of Chair (2009 – 2010) and Secretary (2008 – 2009). Howard Doty nominated Karen Siska for Chair. Dave Vinson seconded the motion. Gretta Stanger moved that nominations cease, seconded by Larry Burris. Karen Siska will serve as Chair of the TBR Faculty Sub-Council for 2009 – 2010. For the position of Secretary, Dave Vinson nominated Robert Moon for a second term. Moon declined the nomination. Janice Harder volunteered to serve and was elected by acclamation.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 PM.

Submitted: Robert Moon, TBR Faculty Sub-Council Secretary