

**Austin Peay State University**  
**Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**Meeting of Thursday, May 4, 2023**  
**Morgan University Center, UC 305 | 3:00 pm**  
**Minutes**

**Call to Order:** Senate President Perry Scanlan

**Recognition of Guests:** Mike Licari, Maria Cronley, Wes Atkinson, Notashia Crenshaw, Marcia Schilling, Rod Mills, Bill Rayburn, Jane Semler

**Roll Call of Senators:** Jane Semler

**Absent senators:** Rachel Bush, Kakali Chakrabarti, Gina Garber, Sam Ligo, Jessica Morris, David Rands, David Snyder

**Approval of Today's Agenda:** Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve today's agenda.

**Approval of Minutes from April 27, 2023 Meeting:** Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes with the correction that Robin Reed was absent from the April 27 meeting.

**Remarks:**

1. Senate President Perry Scanlan (5 minutes) President Scanlan thanked the senators for allowing him to serve. He expressed thanks to all senators for their time in serving on faculty senate this year.
2. University President, Dr. Mike Licari (7 minutes) Dr. Licari wished everyone a good day with the phrase, "May the 4<sup>th</sup> Be with You!" He also congratulated Perry Scanlan on a successful presidency, from one former senate chair to another. Next, he congratulated all faculty on a successful academic year. There are many celebrations going on this week and he and Provost Cronley are dividing the events this year. Tonight is the Wind Ensemble concert at Downtown Commons; President Licari will be there and hopes to see others. THEC will be ruling in a week on the allowable tuition increase. It is

anticipated that the range will be 0-3%, but it could be slightly higher. We have to wait for that to finalize our budget. President Licari will be making an offer to the candidate selected for VPSA. The announcement will be made next week to avoid detracting from commencement tomorrow.

- a. Q: Since faculty and staff are discouraged from having affairs with students, why do we have a VPSA? Laughter ensued.
3. University Provost, Dr. Maria Cronley (7 minutes) The Provost does not have any serious business today. She enjoyed working with all senators and with members of the executive committee this year. Maria presented Perry with a swag backpack in thanks for his service. Rain is predicted tomorrow, but three great ceremonies are scheduled for tomorrow. As we say goodbye to 1000 of our students as they graduate, we have 1350 signed up for summer orientation. Our goal is 1800 by August 1 which is up from last year. Maria expressed her thanks to several members of her staff including Jasmine O'Brien and Tucker Brown.

#### **Old Business:**

1. Budget Task Force Report, Senate Treasurer - James Thompson (Info Item – 5 minutes)  
We are still waiting on the numbers from THEC for the tuition recommendations. This concludes the report.

#### **New Business:**

1. Faculty Senate Resolution #1 (Action Item – 5 minutes) Senator Robin Reed presented the resolution on behalf of former senator Wes Atkinson. Robin thanked the senate for the opportunity to speak on behalf of one of our students. Senator Chester-Fangman

distributed copies of the rebuttal letter written by student Roxanne R. Hallisey in response to remarks made by TN Representative Scott Cepicky on March 8, 2023.

Faculty Senate Resolution #1 reads as follows, "Be it RESOLVED that the APSU Faculty Senate commends the academic integrity, honesty, freedom, and bravery of Roxanne R. Hallisey, candidate for M.S. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling." The following information can provide some context to the reason for the resolution.

<https://www.tennessean.com/story/opinion/contributors/2023/03/14/austin-peay-cultural-competency-goes-beyond-critical-race-theory/70009292007/> Motion to accept was made

and seconded. Senator Young asked if the University responded officially. The answer is no. The resolution was approved unanimously. Q: What happens next? President Scanlan or VP Banerjee can let the student know. Q: Will this be made public?

President Scanlan answered that our minutes are public.

2. Constitution Vote Update – Senate Vice President/President Elect - Soma Banerjee (Info Item – 5 minutes) We are five votes short of the needed 2/3 majority vote. Voting will remain open through next Tuesday. Currently, there are 261 yes votes. Please encourage faculty to vote. It is not a lack of support, but a lack of action.
3. SASI (Student Academic Success Initiative) Awards, Dr. Tasha Ruffin (Info item – 5 minutes) The SASI report follows in Appendix A. The report was displayed in the senate meeting. The committee looked at the number of students impacted relative to the funds requested. There were a few proposals for which the committee gave special consideration. For example, a conference only occurs once every five years. All proposals were great, but the pool of funds was limited. Please keep submitting proposals in future years.

4. Presentation of Awards to 2022-2023 Executive Committee Members, Senate President Perry Scanlan (10 minutes) President Scanlan presented awards to all executive committee members.
  - a. Alex King Provost Council Representative. Alex represented faculty senate on the Provost council when voting on academic policies occurred.
  - b. Mickey Wadia, Member at Large. Mickey has served faculty for many years and has a great deal of knowledge. He helps us understand the history of APSU.
  - c. Bill Rayburn, Parliamentarian. Bill knows a great deal about Robert's Rules. He let us know when we were over time and kept our meetings ending on schedule.
  - d. Gina Garber, Secretary. Faculty Senate Secretary is a very difficult job. Perry mentioned that he could not have accomplished very much without Gina. She is one of the nicest people you have ever met. She cares tremendously for faculty and for faculty senate. She is a giver and her service is very much appreciated. Her minutes are fantastic and it is very difficult for anyone to fill those shoes.
  - e. James Thompson, Treasurer. We do not have a huge budget, but we have funds to help with travel to TUFS and to fill the senate's needs. Perry had not met James until this year and now knows what a wonderful person James is. All financial items were handled well and in a timely manner.
  - f. Elaine Berg, Faculty Trustee. She carries a great deal of wisdom. This is one of the most important elected positions on our board. Elaine does a great job representing all faculty. Her perspective as a library faculty is greatly appreciated.

- g. Kristin Butler, University Curriculum Committee Representative. There are many changes to our curriculum proposed every year. Kristen represented us well and provided leadership and wise counsel to the executive committee.
  - h. Jane Semler – if you all know Jane, Jane is still doing a lot of work for senate. She does the faculty tailgate and many other duties. Perry has leaned on her a lot as the Immediate Past President
  - i. Soma Banerjee, Vice President. Soma offered good advice in a role that is being redefined. It is a difficult position. Soma is ready to step into the role of Senate President. He has the best interests of faculty in his heart.
  - j. Perry Scanlan – Jane Semler presented Perry with the award. It is truly Jane’s honor to present him with the award. They have worked in the same department for the last 14 years. Perry is one of the hardest-working people you will ever meet. He is the first to arrive and, often, the last to leave. Perry will never leave a job unfinished. He is also extremely honest and fair. He has been an excellent leader. As a group, we have done a great job this year!
  - k. Perry emotionally thanked his wife and children for supporting him this year.
5. Election of 2022 –2023 Executive Committee Members, Past President Jane Semler, Nominations Committee Chair (Action item)

Jane Semler posted the current slate. One change, Tasha Ruffin asked for her name to be removed from the ballot as the UCC representative. Jane asked for her committee members (Bing and Notoshia) to join her on the floor. Jane asked for nominations from the floor for VP. It was properly moved and seconded. There were no nominations for VP. Jane asked for nominations from the floor for secretary. It was properly moved and seconded. There were no

nominations for secretary. Jane asked for nominations from the floor for treasurer. It was properly moved and seconded. There were no nominations for treasurer. Jane asked for nominations from the floor for member at large. It was properly moved and seconded. There were no nominations for member at large. Jane asked for nominations from the floor for UCC representative. It was properly moved and seconded. There were no nominations for UCC representative. Jane asked for nominations from the floor for Provost Representative. It was properly moved and seconded. There were no nominations for Provost Council representative. Vice President Osvaldo Di Paolo Harrison and Secretary Mahesh Pallikonda were unopposed and elected by a vote of acclamation.

Jane asked the candidates for treasurer to present a 2-minute stump speech.

Brandon Di Paolo Harrison – a graduate of APSU, has been on faculty for about 6 years. He has a background in health administration. He would like to serve as the treasurer.

Cheryl Lambert – she has been on faculty for 7 years. She serves as department chair and handles budgets. She served as Sp. Ed. Department and oversaw \$500,000 budget.

Jane asked for the guests to exit the room to prepare to take a vote.

Parliamentarian Bill stated to the elections committee that “I am here but I am not a voting senator.”

The elections committee members handed out the ballots and collected them. Afterward, they counted the votes.

Jane asked the candidates for Member at Large to present a 2-minute stump speech.

John Blake - I have been here almost as long as the dirt outside, for almost 30 years. I have been at Ft. Campbell. I have worked on accreditation and want to use some of the experience to support the faculty.

Allen Chaparadza – he has been here 7 years. He is an associate professor. He has watched his students grow and now he feels that he is ready to serve in another capacity. So, he asked when was the last time that someone checked on you. He asked Elaine, when was the last time someone checked on you. Elaine responded and said that I am fortunate that people call to check on me. People chuckled. Allen continued with his speech and said that he is so passionate in checking in on faculty. He stated that administrators come and go.

Jane asked for the guests to exit the room to prepare to take a vote. The elections committee members handed out the ballots and collected them. Afterward, they counted the votes.

Jane asked the candidates for the University Curriculum Committee to present a 2-minute stump speech.

Phillip Elike – he is in his first year at APSU. He has 17 years of prior university experience. He is serving on the curriculum committee in the social work department. He will ask the question of how the change will come in.

Manisha Gupte – she is an assistant professor in biology. She thanked all the senators and President Scanlan. She joined APSU in 2020. She has mentored undergrad and grad student research. She is serving on DEI committee. As an educator, she understands the importance of curriculum. If she is elected, she will carry the faculty input to the curriculum and bring back the concerns back to the senate with accuracy. Jane asked for the guests to exit the room to prepare

to take a vote. The elections committee members handed out the ballots and collected them. Afterward, they counted the votes.

Jane asked the candidates for the Provost Council representative to present a 2-minute stump speech.

Lisa Barron – she has been APSU for 12 years. She serves as associate dean. She has chaired several committees, Academic White, student appeals. It would be her pleasure to serve as the Provost Council representative.

Mickey Wadia – He is not stressed out. On Tuesday, he will be flying out to London. His son is graduating from the aerospace program from MTSU. He has been at APSU for 30 years with a total of 41 years. He has fought for about 6 years to create the anti-bullying policy. He will stand up for marginalized faculty and faculty of color. If he doesn't succeed at the election, he will be okay and he still loves everyone. Jane asked for the guests to exit the room to prepare to take a vote. The elections committee members handed out the ballots and collected them. Afterward, they counted the votes.

Jane read out the following election results:

Treasurer:     Brandon Di Paolo Harrison

Member at Large:     Allen Chaparadza

University Curriculum Committee Representative: Manisha Gupte

Provost Council representative:     Mickey Wadia



President Perry Scanlan – my last order of business is to pass the gavel to Soma Banerjee

**6. Adjourn:**

President Soma Banerjee asked for a motion to adjourn the senate for the summer. The motion was made and properly seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:47 PM.

Appendix A.

## **AY 2023-2024 SASI GRANT PROPOSALS**

| College                              | Project Title  | Amount Requested |
|--------------------------------------|--|------------------|
| 1. Art & Design                      | Native American Pow Wow Field Trip   | 600              |
| 2. Languages & Literature            | 2023 APSU World Film Festival  | 400              |
| 3. Theatre and Dance, Communications | APSU 4th Annual Jackson Alley Film Festival Budget                                 | 600              |
| 4. Art & Design                      | “24 Hours Animation Contest for Students” Budget                                   | 6405             |
| 5. African American Studies          | African American History, Arts and Culture Tour                                    | 360              |
| 6. Language & Literature             | 2024 Nashville Parthenon Field Trip for Classics                                   | 2400             |
| 7. Health & Human Performance        | National Medical Group Management Association Conference in Nashville this October | 704              |

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|---|---|---------|
| 8. Nursing                                | Increasing Student Engagement in Nu Phi   | 800     |
| 9. Health and Human Performance           | Field Trip to the TN Department of Agriculture Labs   | 3650    |
| 10. Health and Human Performance          | Field Trip to Tennessee Department of Agriculture   | 1100    |
| 11. Nursing                               | Enhancing Nursing Students' Learning through Escape Games   | 4200    |
| 12. Health & Human Performance            | Teaching speech language pathologists to use Functional Communication Training, an transdisciplinary intervention | 1605    |
| 13. Political Science & Public Management | Young Women's Leadership Symposium 2024   | 500     |
| 14. Management & Marketing                | Country Music Promotions: Then & Now  | 3000    |
| 15. Teaching & Learning                   | Literacy Escape Room  | 2425.76 |
| 16. Teaching & Learning                   | Equity for All: Empowering Teacher Candidates through Universal Design for Learning Symposium                     | 1200    |
| 17. Educational Specialties               | Cross-Cohort Networking for Doctor of Education Students and Faculty  | 850     |
| 18. Educational Specialties               | Exploring International Education through Meaningful Cross-Cultural Discussions                                   | 2000    |
| 19. Chemistry & Biology                   | Molecule of the Month   | 800     |
| 20. Computer Science and IT, GIS Center   | Hacking at APSU for good  | 1000    |
| 21. Allied Health Sciences                | Tennessee Association of Blood Banks Spring conference  | 2000    |

|                                      |  |                 |
|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------|
| 22. Earth and Environmental Sciences | Increasing Student Engagement and Performance in the Geosciences                   | 1250            |
| 23. Computer Science & IT            | Game On: Video Game Competition for Students and faculty                           | 1600            |
| 24. Biology                          | Getting Exciting About Biology Contests  | 300             |
| 25. Chemistry & Biology              | Pi Day Irrational Run/Walk   | 1440            |
| 26. Chemistry & Biology              | 2023 Fall Chemistry Research Symposium   | 1400            |
| 27. Chemistry & Biology              | Chemistry Boot Camp  | 400             |
| 28. Mathematics & Statistics         | Mathematics & Statistics Industry and Research Seminars                            | 400             |
| 29. Chemistry                        | Creating a Culture for Interdisciplinary Research and Pizza                        | 6074            |
| 30. Chemistry                        | T-Shirt Tie-Dye: Learn about Chemistry Behind Cochineal Tie-dyeing                 | 3000            |
| 31. Earth and Environmental Sciences | Geological Society of America Annual Meeting                                       | 2700            |
| 32. Woodard Library                  | Unlocking Creativity: Thriving as a Creative Thinker in Academic Settings          | 600             |
| 33. Woodard Library & Honors Program | CRITICAL QUESTS: Dungeons and Dragons and Board Game Nights for Community Building | 400             |
|                                      | <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>55663.76</b> |