



T·U·F·S

Tennessee University Faculty Senates

Representing over 10,000 united university faculty at ten state institutions of higher education

www.memphis.edu/tufs

**TUFS MEETING-August 2-4, 2013
MTSU Faculty Senate Chambers (JUB 100)
James Union Building
Murfreesboro, TN**

| Institution | Voting | Additional Delegation |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Austin Peay State University | Chad Brooks | Mercy Cannon |
| East Tennessee State University | Randy Byington | Virginia Foley, Tom Schacht |
| Middle Tennessee State University | Scott Boyd | Michael Arndt, Tricia Farwell, Alfred Lutz, Wendi Watts |
| Tennessee State University | Jane Davis <small>(not Friday night)</small> | |
| Tennessee Technological University | Brian O'Connor | Jeff Roberts |
| University of Memphis | Richard Evans <small>(wife for Friday night)</small> | Tom Banning, Jeff Berman, Reginald Green |
| University of Tennessee-Chattanooga | Deborah McAllister | Lyn Miles |
| University of Tennessee-Knoxville | Steve Thomas | Toby Boulet, David Golden |
| University of Tennessee-Martin | Jeff Rogers <small>(not Friday night)</small> | |
| University of Tennessee-UTHSC | George Cook <small>(not attending)</small> | |

Host:

Scott Boyd

Officers:

H. Lyn Miles, President

Tom Schacht, Past President

Jeff Roberts, President Elect

Tom Banning, Secretary

Guests:

Dr. Sidney McPhee, MTSU President

Heidi Zimmerman, MTSU University Counsel

Senator Jim Tracy, Representing the 14th District

Minutes of the Meeting

Friday, August 2, 2013

1. Welcome

Scott Boyd welcomed the TUFs members to MTSU

2. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Miles 6:00 PM

The meeting was suspended for dinner/discussion and resumed the next morning

3. Invited Guest

MTSU President, Dr. Sidney McPhee hosted the dinner and addressed TUFs members afterwards. His topics covered faculty governance and he challenged the academic institutions to be more efficient. He had a long discussion with TUFs members and the problems facing higher education and the need to affect change by getting the votes out to accomplish political change. The TUFs membership requested support in two areas: the ability to share (exchange) faculty between TBR and UT systems and shared library resources between the two systems

Included in the minutes is a follow-up Email to Dr. McPhee from President Miles.

Saturday, August 3, 2013

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Miles at 9:00 AM

A motion was made to approve the fall 2013 agenda and the spring 2013 meeting minutes by Tom Schact and seconded by Steve Thomas and approved unanimously. Note: there was a problem with the spring 2013 minutes that were handed out for review but the minutes had been corrected in the on-line minutes.

2. Invited Guest

MTSU University Council Heidi Zimmerman spoke to the TUFs members and stressed that the University Council represents the institution. She also spoke of two concerns: sexual harassment and disturbed students and stressed the need for timely documentation and early intervention.

President Miles started the Reports of the Senates by requesting the members minimize reading their reports and stressed that TUFs members instead report on items that need attention or action. The Senate reports can be found in the appendices of the minutes. The Action items will be listed in later portions of the minutes.

The Senate Reports were suspended for the next invited guest.

3. Invited Guest

Senator Jim Tracy, representing the 14th district, spoke to the TUFs members. He also stressed the need to get out and vote to affect change.

The meeting was suspended and resumed following lunch

The Senate reports continued and were completed.

4. New Business

Using the discussions during the Senate reports as well as additional discussions the following action items were listed without any priority so that the TUFs members could then discuss in sequence possible actions. The possible actions for list were many and varied, some of the ideas follow the specific action with a name when volunteered.

1. TUFs image video and external & internal communication
Check AAUP commercial, how about a survey to give to legislators, pro bono effort from redpepper.com (T. Farwell & L. Miles), have all Faculty Senate web pages include a link to TUFs
2. Sending TUFs representatives to Faculty Senate meetings
Proceed (was not accomplished)
3. TUFs legislative report card
No resolution, perhaps check with C. McGinnis
4. Direction of higher education driven by external funding
Encourage faculty to monitor and remember that SACS standards 3.4.10 & 3.4.6 refer to quality and content by faculty (R. Byington)
5. TBR/UT student & faculty exchange program
Great idea, no resolution
6. Role of service in annual evaluation and tenure decisions
ETSU has information (R. Byington)
7. TUFs participation in MTSU initiative: Higher Education Roundtable
Great idea (S. Boyd to get to L. Miles)
8. Publicizing TUFs role in resolution of TSU shared governance issue to Faculty senates
Good idea, T Schacht to produce 3 minute MP4 for distribution
9. Campus website links to Faculty Handbook change approval
Survey needed, contact AAUP?
10. Shared libraries across TBR & UT systems
Great idea, no resolution, what about surrounding states?
11. Reliance on adjuncts for regularly scheduled teaching
No resolution but same SACS references as item #4
12. Reduction of TN higher education funding
No action
13. Faculty compensation
No action
14. TUFs representation on TBR & UT respective Council/Sub-Councils
Discussions, no action
15. Affordable healthcare impact on part-time & adjunct faculty
No action
16. Longer vetting process for presidential searches
Discussions, no action

The meeting was suspended for dinner and resumed the next morning

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Miles at 9:00 AM

From the Saturday discussions it also was noted that, for informational purposes, surveys of the TUFs senates were needed. Since the meeting was drawing to a close the potential list of surveys was listed for the next meeting and it follows.

1. Erosion of faculty control of the curriculum?
2. Length of time policies are reviewed by institution's Counsel?
3. Open source database by Office of Institutional Research?
4. Summer reporting and other responsibilities of 9-month faculty?
5. Inclusion of Senate representative on institution's President Executive Council?
6. Inclusion of Senate representative on Deans and Chairs meetings?
7. How are Faculty Handbook links handled?

2. Selection of date and Location for April 2014 meeting

The primary date was set for March 28-30 and the secondary date was set for March 14-16

No campus volunteered or was selection. President Miles will continue discussion with TSU and UTK as possible sites.

The meeting was adjourned by President Miles at 11:00 AM

Minutes submitted by

Tom Banning (UoM) Secretary

Appendices

President Lyn Miles Email to Dr. Sidney McPhee

Faculty Senate Reports (currently in a separate .pdf file)

TUFS Letter to McPhee

X DELETE ← REPLY ⇐ REPLY ALL → FORWARD ...



Miles, H. Lyn <Lyn-Miles@utc.edu>

Sat 8/3/2013 5:46 PM

mark as unread

To: Thomas Ephraim Banning (tbanning); Roberts, Jeff <jjroberts@tntech.edu>;
Schacht, Tom <schacht@etsu.edu>;

Sidney McPhee, President
Middle Tennessee State University
Murfreesboro, TN

Dear Dr. McPhee:

We want to thank you for your presentation at the August 2-5, 2013 semi-annual meeting of the Tennessee University Faculty Senates (TUFS). We found our candid discussion with you to be extremely helpful and we understand the great confidence that your Faculty Senate has in you. We especially appreciate your willingness to explore two issues:

1. Developing easy mechanisms to exchange faculty among TBR and UT systems
2. Creating a state-wide library system for TBR and UT systems

TUFS looks forward to working with you on these objectives and thank you again for your willingness to share your ideas with us.

Sincerely,

H. Lyn White Miles, Ph.D., President
Tennessee University Faculty Senates