



**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](http://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 14<sup>th</sup> 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   ...

mark as unread



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

Sat 8/3/2013 5:46 PM

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