

**Faculty Senate Business Meeting**  
September 28, 2020

**Submitted by K. Craven**

**Members Present:**

Stephanie Adams, Douglas Airhart, Dan Allcott, Michael Allen, Jeremy Blair, Troy Brachey, Chris Brown, Debra Bryant, Wei Tsun Chang, Kris Craven, Dennis Duncan, Mary Lou Fornehed, Steven Frye, David Hajdik, Tammy Howard, Janet Isbell, Brian Jones, Christy Killman, Nancy Kolodziej, Matt Langford, Susan Laningham, David Larimore, Emily Lee, Chad Luke, Lori Maxwell, Jennifer Meadows, Mark Melichar, Holly Mills, Lachelle Norris, Linda Null, Dtkcp QøEqppqt. Joseph Ojo, Sally Pardue, Richard Rand, Jeff Roberts, Mike Rogers, Lee Ann Shipley, Troy Smith, Sandra Smith-Andrews, Barry Stein, Holly Stretz, Lenly Weathers, Robert Wilbanks, Zac Wilcox, Kimberly Winkle, Russ Witcher, Jeannette Wolak

**Members Absent:**

Yun Ding, Ann Manginelli, Mary Matthews, Anthony Paradis, Daniel Swartling

**Invited Speaker:** Provost Lori Bruce

**1. Call to Order**

Senate President Holly Stretz called the meeting to order at 3:36 p.m.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Senator Rand made a motion to approve the agenda. Senator Allen seconded. The motion carried.

**3. Approval of Minutes from August 31, 2020 Business Meeting and Notes from September 14, 2020 Meeting with the President**

Senator Andrews-Smith made a motion to approve the minutes and the notes. Senator Fornehed seconded. There was some brief discussion pertaining to changes to the notes from the meeting with President Oldham. President Stretz requested that the approval of the notes be tabled for further consideration. The vote to approve the minutes from the Business meeting passed.

**4. - Bruce**

A PowerPoint presentation was given with explanation from Provost Bruce. This included results from 2 surveys given by the CITL. Students and faculty were surveyed separately and the results from both were presented. The general impression is that despite concerns that the students are confused with many diverse modalities of course delivery and struggling with keeping track of their schedule, the majority appear to be satisfied. As for the faculty, the Provost hears that there is a diverse set of opinions about the current status, with many faculty members expressing no preference on a number of the topics.

Question: When will we know about decisions regarding the spring semester?

Answer: The goal is to have a framework developed sometime in October so that we can build the spring schedule by November 1, in time for registration. There is still more learning from this semester and things will need some tweaking at the department level.

Question: In the numbers presented, where were the no response answers included?

Answer: They were not included. The percentages only included those who gave a specific response to the question.

Question: Is it time to start mixing the modes in order to change the learning? This may look very different from the current implementation. We have to consider the faculty accommodations. We know

## 5. Draft Resolution on Faculty Compensation

An ad hoc committee formed last spring is looking into the current strategy of merit based compensation. In general faculty are not pleased with merit based pay raises. The committee has met twice and prepared a draft Faculty Senate Resolution on Faculty Compensation. The committee asked Senators to take the draft resolution to their departments and colleges for feedback.

### Comments:

There were some minor editorial suggestions given. It was suggested that the Resolution include wording regarding the national rankings that the administration likes to promote. Senator Wolak indicated that they are interested in including a support page and this could be incorporated there. There is concern that the timing of passing the Resolution is also a concern. We need to get appropriate feedback, but the Board of Trustees considers this in December, so it needs to be on the agenda. May also want to consider the intention of the Tennessee State Legislature in regards to the funds.

## 6.

The Board of Trustees: Meets tomorrow.

Academic Council: At the last meeting the Academic Council discussed the Library Procedures Policy, Policy 260. She introduced an issue that will be coming soon ó calendar changes for 2021/2022 academic year. The semesters have been extended and that is causing a lack in a break between terms. President Stretz indicated that Provost Bruce is concerned. The question was asked if this is a 1-time thing or a persiste