

Faculty Senate Minutes
Southwest Tennessee Community College
Macon Cove Campus
MA C 171
April 9, 2019

1. Call to Order and Roll

Faculty Senate president Bill Summons called the meeting to order at 3:00.
Secretary Doug Branch called the roll:

William Summons, **President** (18-20)

Division Senators, Humanities, Social Sciences, and Mathematics

Doug Branch (17-19) **Secretary**

Bill Hill (18-20)

Holly Green (18-20)

MaLinda Wade (17-19) Proxy

Candace Washington (17-19)

Division Senators, Business and Technologies

Tim Harrison (18-20)

Thomas Midgley (17-19) Absent

Division Senators, Health and Natural Sciences

Joyce Johnson (18-20),

Delores Thomas-Boland (17-19)

Department Senators

Shilpa Desai (18-20) **Allied Health**

Joanitha Barnes (17-19) **Business and Legal Studies, Treasurer**

Annette Fournet (17-19) **Communications and Fine Arts**

Tiffany Akin (17-19) **Languages and Literature** absent

Matthew Palotti (18-20) **Natural Sciences**

Marilyn Wilbourn (18-20) **Nursing**, absent

Frank Daniels (17-19) **Mathematics, Parliamentarian**

Stewart White (17-19) Technologies
Ed Reid (17-19) Social and Behavioral Science

2. Approval of Minutes

The body approved the minutes from the March, 2019 Faculty Senate meeting. Secretary Doug Branch will ask that those minutes be posted to the website.

3. Special Guest

- A. Jonathan Welden, Director of the Physical Plant. Jonathan Addressed concerns about parking, campus cleanliness, and other items. A new director, Jonathan wished to assure the senate that he wished to change the culture of the physical plant, including better and quicker responses than in the past. He announced that a new communication system would be forthcoming. He also noted the decision to not engage a third, outside party to conduct operations but to continue using employees of the college.

A few improvements in the future: reroofing several buildings on Union Avenue, redoing pedestrian bridges at Union, an upgrade to LED lights on all campuses, a new parking study at Union, the conversion of old tennis courts to a parking lot at Union, the remodeling of several restrooms and the cafeteria at Union and Macon, the gradual installation of filtered water fountains from which water bottles could be easily refilled on all campuses, the development of new space for the funeral services program at Whitehaven, HVAC upgrades on Union and in the Whitehead building on Macon, generator replacement outside Nabors on Macon, industrial renovation at Fulton on Macon, and upgrades of the M building auditorium at Union and Fulton auditorium at Macon.

Jonathan announced as well that the department had filled 11 new positions and will be asking for 15 more next year. He stressed, too, that the new communications system would be much more user friendly than the present one.

4. Reports from Senate Officers and Senate Committees

- A. Matthew Palotti, Vice-President, announced faculty senate election results, welcomed new senators, and presented certificates of thanks to departing and current senators.

New senators, for terms lasting from 2019-2021:

Humanities, Social Sciences, and Mathematics. Doug Branch (re-elected), Thomas King, Melissa Reyna. (Departing senators from that division are Candace Washington and MaLinda Wade.)

Business and Technologies. Kimberly Taylor. (The departing senator from that division is Thomas Midgeley.)

Health and Natural Sciences. Delores Thomas-Boland (re-elected)

Department Senators: Julie Fournier (replacing Tiffany Akin), Languages and Literature; Annette Fournet (re-elected), Communications and Fine Arts; Frank Daniels (re-elected), Mathematics; Darcy Sims (replacing Ed Reid), Social and Behavioral Science. Vicki Armstrong (replacing Joanitha Barnes), Business and Legal Studies. As of yet, a senator for Technologies has not yet been elected.

5. Bill Summons, President and Matthew Palotti reported on the regular SEC meeting with Sindy Abadie, Special Assistant to the Vice-President.
 - A. Both noted that we are behind on the grade appeals system, but that the system would be going online soon, which we hope will be a help.
 - B. Bill and Matthew noted that the SEC had discussed, with Sindy, the faculty evaluation pilot, all agreeing that it has been problematic. Sindy sees that pilot as a starting point that takes the burden off the faculty to prove what they've done and puts it on chairs and others to evaluate faculty. We hope to improve the pilot.
 - C. It was noted that the committee to hire a new vice-president of academic affairs has been meeting, with the goal of having a new person in place by June (a goal Bill thinks we are unlikely to meet).

6. Old Business
 - A. Joyce Johnson moved that next academic year, we have an equal number of faculty senate meetings on the Union and Macon campuses, with the rotation to work "Union / Macon / Union" in the fall and "Macon / Union / Macon" in the spring. The motion carried.

7. New Business
 - A. Matthew Palotti moved that, henceforth, faculty should not be able to see comments made by individual faculty members on the senate-sponsored administrator evaluations. He further moved that the scores administrators received should be seen by faculty but that the

comments should be seen only by other administrators higher in the “chain” than the administrator in question. The motion carried.

- B. Bill Summons conducted the election for faculty senate officers for 2019-2020. The results are as follows: Matthew Palotti, vice-president; Doug Branch, secretary; Joyce Johnson, treasurer; Frank Daniels, parliamentarian.

8. The meeting was adjourned by Bill Summons at 4:45.

Respectfully Submitted,

Doug Branch,

Faculty Senate Secretary

