

**Faculty Senate Minutes DRAFT**  
**Southwest Tennessee Community College**  
**Conducted Via Microsoft Teams**  
**Tuesday, February 8, 2022, 3:00 PM**

1. Call to order and roll

Bill Summons called the meeting to order at 3:00. Doug Branch took the roll call.

William Summons (20-22) **President**

Division Senators, Humanities, Social Sciences, and Mathematics

Doug Branch (21-23) **Secretary**

Ed Reid (20-22)

Melissa Reyna (21-23)

Annie Sultana (20-22)

MaLinda Wade (21-23)

Division Senators, Business and Technologies

Timothy Harrison (21-23)

Derrick Wheatley (20-22)

Division Senators, Health and Natural Sciences

Shilpa Desai (20-22) **Treasurer**

Joyce Johnson (20-22) **Vice-President** Absent

Rachel “Shelley” Trigg (21-23)

Department Senators

Megan Murphy (20-22) Allied Health

Kimberly Taylor (21-23) Business and Legal Studies

Tad Lauritzen Wright (21-23) Communications, Graphic and Fine Arts

Rosalyn McGhee (21-23) Education, Criminal Justice, and Human Services

Stewart White (20-22) Engineering Technologies

Emily Ford (21-23) Languages and Literature

Darrick Slaughter (20-22) Natural Sciences

Cetrea Jimerson (20-22) Nursing Absent

Frank Daniels (21-23) Mathematics, **Parliamentarian** (No longer with the college)

Latorya Parker (21-23) Technologies Absent

Shannon Little (21-23) Social and Behavioral Sciences

2. The reading and approval of the November, 2021 minutes

The body approved the minutes from the November, 2021 faculty senate meeting.

### 3. Reports from senate officers and senate committees

#### A. Doug Branch: Report on regular SEC meeting with Kendricks Hooker, VPAA, Sindy Abadie, Special Assistant to VPAA

Doug reported on that February 1 meeting. Here are a few of the main points given to the SEC by Dr. Hooker:

Enrollment numbers, as of Day 14 into the semester but before reinstatement, are not encouraging. Headcount is down 2.5% from last year, FTE down 7.8%. More worrisome are enrollment numbers from Spring 2020, pre-pandemic. Headcount is down 26%, and FTE is down 30% (approximately). Obviously, the budgetary impact is serious. We have a 10.3 million dollar shortfall.

The college has many unfilled positions, but we are focusing on filling those that have to do directly with teaching and learning.

We can expect the academic master plan to be distributed soon.

Hooker described a recent trip he had taken to Valencia College in Florida, during which he studied their workforce development programs. These programs, which are short in duration, involve students studying for about eight hours daily and spending some of that time working in business and industry, learning and building relationships. Much of the research and funding dollars for these programs come from businesses. Hooker wants Southwest to consider fostering similar programs. He mentioned also that we will be working with Ford Corporation when they open a new automotive plant in the area.

We want to do more to make classes more convenient for students, including offering more SWIFT and FLEX classes. We will also be enhancing prior learning assessment and offering technical certificates in more areas. We will be aggressively marketing our new Aviation and Funeral Services programs.

We have a lot of space on our campuses, as we are offering so many hybrid and online classes. Our goal is to create math labs, writing labs, and reading labs, to be staffed by faculty. This might involve faculty release time or office hour time being used to staff such labs, one goal of which is to support students in academic probation.

A discussion ensued about whether, with more workforce development programs, we would be competing with the technology colleges. Hooker assured us that we would not compete but work collaboratively.

We discussed upcoming renovations to the performing arts center and the allied health building.

Hooker also emphasized his wish to see, as soon as possible, the report from the faculty senate ad hoc committee charged with making recommendations concerning the Teaching Academy.

B. Joyce Johnson: Report from ad hoc committee charged with making recommendations concerning the Teaching Academy

Although Joyce was not present, we discussed the report, which Bill Summons had seen. He noted concern that some of the report, at the time unpublished, had been leaked, and that some people at the college were worried that the committee was conducting a “witch hunt.” Bill thought that the report, in the form in which he saw it, did not appear to be the kind of document that would create particular offense among people involved in the Teaching Academy. Bill also noted that members of the administration had expressed consternation that the committee’s survey, from which the committee collected data, had not been approved by the office of Institutional Effectiveness. Discussion ensued, too, about whether or not members of committees such as this are indeed expected not to disclose their deliberations and findings. Bill hopes that the report will be disseminated to the senate before the next senate meeting.

4. Old Business

5. New Business

Bill reminded us that senate elections were coming up, and Bill announced his intention not to run for another term as president. He noted that Joyce would be distributing information for people wishing to run for the senate. He asked for volunteers to help with the elections, and Shannon Little, Kimberly Taylor, Shelley Trigg, and Annie Sultana agreed to assist.

A short discussion ensued about whether our remaining meetings should be online or in person. It was decided that the March meeting would take place online and that the April meeting would be in person.

We were reminded that David Rosenthal, Deputy CIO, Information Services, would be speaking to the senate in March.

6. Adjournment

Bill Summons adjourned the meeting at 3:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Doug Branch  
Faculty Senate Secretary

