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Members Present – M. Arndt, S. Boyd, J. Brickey, N. Brooks, L. Burriss, W. Canak, L. Clark, L. Craig-Unkefer, M. Deme, L. Dubek, T. Farwell, B. Freeman, J. Gray, C. Harris, M. Hinz, R. Hoffman, T. Jurkanin, P. Kelly, A. Lutz, A. McCullough, K. McNulty, W. Means, A. Nickelson, D. Raffo, J. Reineke, S. Roberts, B. Rushlow, K. Scherzer, C. True, B. Turnage, P. Wall, D. Weatherspoon, M. Weller, P. West-Osterfield, A. Williams,

Members Absent – M. Knight, S. Mangrum, D. Patterson, C. Rosenmuller, C. Stephens, G. Zlotky

Members Excused – J. Belsky, S. Franklin, M. Fleming, K. Mathis, J. McCormick, G. Pisut

Additional Attendees – H. Stallings, S. Estes Lt. Col. J. Miller

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## Agenda

1. Roll call- the meeting was called to order at 4:30 by Prof. Scott Boyd
2. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the August 21, 2013 minutes.
3. Treasurers report
  - Travel: \$400
  - General: \$5000
  - Foundation: \$403.16
4. Year of the Veteran Proposal
  - A proposal was brought before the senate by Dr. Hillary Stallings, Dr. Steve Estes and Lt. Col Joel Miller proposing that the 2014-2015 academic year be designated the “Year of the Veteran.” (The proposal is attached.) Dr. Stallings said that the proposal was to be more intentional and reflective regarding events already on campus. The presenters requested senate support for the proposal. A discussion followed. Questions were asked and suggestions made regarding appropriateness of the designation, focus of designation, duration of the designation, ideas for further outreach and need for more depth in the proposal. A request was made for more time to reflect on and discuss the proposal. Prof. Boyd suggested the discussion continue via email.

Dr. Stallings said that they needed to know the decision by the beginning of October to be able to participate in the Summer Read and Commencement speaker options.

- After much email discussion, on September 18, 2013, Sherry Roberts made the following motion: 'Reject the Proposal that the Faculty Senate Endorse the "Year of the Veteran" proposal as was presented at the Faculty Senate meeting on September 9, 2013.'

- Kevin McNulty seconded the motion.
- An email vote commenced and the motion passed (Faculty Senate rejects the proposal to endorse the 'Year of the Veteran' as was proposed at the Faculty Senate meeting on 9/9/13)-

YEA-	26
NAY-	0
ABSTAIN-	3

#### 5. Update on Enrollment

- 14<sup>th</sup> day was on 09/07/13. Enrollment at that point was down 6% from this time last year. This equates to an approximately \$7 million cut in the budget. There was a discussion regarding hiring positions that have been verbally approved but not given approval to proceed.
- First time freshmen numbers were up 2.2% from this time last year.
- ACT scores of incoming freshmen are higher than last year
- The issue appears to be retention. Graduate enrollment is down 10% from this time last year. A discussion followed regarding possible reasons for decline in graduate students.

#### 6. Adviser Survey

- A survey was issued through IEPR regarding students advising experience. 85% of the respondents said advising was adequate to exceptional. Scores were lower when it came to personal interaction between student and adviser. A discussion followed regarding areas to focus upon for improvement. Questions were raised regarding the wording of some of the survey questions and whether or not the chairs will receive the survey data.

#### 7. Standing Committees

- Prof. Boyd said he will meet with Dr. Canak to move forward on a reexamination of standing committee membership, overlap and process. Dr. Canak will approach senators to assist with the reexamination.

#### 8. Drive to 55 by 2025

- The governor's presentation was on Wednesday. Dr. Michael Arndt attended. Dr. Arndt said that the main talking point regarded aligning post-secondary education with the demands of employers. He said speakers at the event were Jeff Strohl (Director of Research at Georgetown), Anant Agarwal (President of edX), and Randy Boyd (Special Adviser to the Governor for Higher Education). A discussion followed regarding impact, changes to the teaching degree, Tennessee diploma act and take-away points. Prof. Boyd mentioned a September 3, 2013 article in the *Chronicle on Higher Education* regarding MOOCs.

9. Roundtable on Higher Education

- There was an email this morning from the governor's office requesting more information regarding the roundtable. There is the possibility regarding having a live web stream of the event.

10. New Business

- Unofficial Withdrawal Rosters-There was a discussion regarding the reporting process using the unofficial withdrawal rosters. There was a discussion regarding the change to report mid-term grades starting this semester. There was a discussion regarding improvements to the system, such as possible card swipe machines for students.

11. TBR Sub Council Report

- The academic freedom policy has been approved and is at TBR for a vote. Report of the final outcome should be at the next faculty senate

12. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn

Action Items:

1. Prof. Boyd to resume discussion of Year of the Veteran via email.
2. Prof. Boyd to meet with Dr. Canak regarding standing committee.
3. Prof. Boyd to share article from Sept 3, 2013 *Chronicle*.

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia M. Farwell  
2013-2014 Faculty Senate Recording Secretary