Tennessee Tech Faculty Senate
January 25, 2021 @ 3:35 P.M.
Virtual Zoom Meeting
Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Approve Agenda
3. Approve of Minutes and Notes
4. Nominating Committee for BOT Faculty Representative (Pardue)
5. Faculty Senate President update
6. Invited talk on Diversity Champions (Owens)
7. Invited talk on Institutional Research Dashboard (Friedrich)
8. Review of After Action Report
9. Textbook Policies and Procedures (Sean Alley, Genevieve Patterson, Sharon Huo, Kerri Demeri, Sharon Holderman)
10. Old Business
11. Other Such Matters

Suggestion box questions, 12-2-2020

question - With this being such a strange and unusually stressful semester, has Senate advocated that IDEA evaluations not be required of faculty for fall 2020 or spring 2021?

question - Has Senate given any assessment or thought to the Instructor/Tenure-Track ratio on campus? Seems to be a trend now for approvals to be given to hire more Instructors versus Tenure-Track faculty. Is there any concern if this is a continuing trend that the strength of the faculty on campus will be diminished due to lesser numbers of Tenure-Track faculty?

question - I am kindly requesting that Faculty Senate look into Tech's org chart, particularly Planning and Finance and the various units that fall under the direction of Dr. Stinson. This organizational structure has evolved under President Oldham's tenure with more and more responsibility being shifted to Dr. Stinson. It appears that with this structure there is consequential conflict of interest with ITS, Auxiliaries, Compliance, Facilities, and HR reporting to Planning and Finance. Every unit on campus, especially the academic units, have experienced numerous obstacles to carrying out the primary purpose of Tech--to educate students--as a result of this organizational structure. I am hopeful that the collective wisdom and efforts of the faculty senators can help to influence President Oldham's thinking on this distribution of power, and more equitably shift responsibilities.