

**FACULTY SENATE MEETING
JANUARY 15, 2012 – 3:30 PM – THE FERGUSON FORUM**

APPROVED MINUTES

ABSENT WITHOUT ALTERNATE: Carmen Mayer-Robin, Tim Murphy, Seth Panitch, Ion Stancu, Emily Wittman, Joe Calamusa, Joanne Hale, Lenka Nolan, Dwight Hooper, Meredith Bagley, Reuben Cook, Wesley Church.

ABSENT WITH ALTERNATE: Bob Brooks/Doug Cook.

GUESTS: John McGowan, Vice Provost of Information Technology & CIO; Cresandra Smothers, Dialog; Andy Maddox, Professional Staff Assembly.

Roll call and quorum check by Faculty Senate secretary Rona Donahoe.

The minutes of the December 11, 2012 Faculty Senate meeting were approved with corrections.

President's Report – (*Steve Miller*) President Miller as the Faculty Senate President was included in UA President Bonner's official party attending the BCS Championship game. Moving toward a smoke-free campus was discussed during the trip and progress was made.

The Student Government Association will launch a student smoke-free campus survey. President Miller will meet with the SGA representative on Friday to monitor the issue.

Three faculty members will serve on the Alumni Student Award Selection Committee meeting on January 25th at 11:00 A.M. at Alumni Hall. They are Donna Meester, Theater and Dance; Ann Graves, Nursing, and Priscilla Davis, Communicative Disorders.

The communication/notification process to faculty members concerning position appointments and elections such as the Mediation Committee and volunteering to serve must be clarified. This will be discussed in the next meeting with the Provost. The Faculty and Senate Governance Committee will send an email to the entire faculty announcing those elected and those not elected for the Faculty Participation in the Selection of Deans and Chairs, Merger and Discontinuance Committee and the Mediation Committee. The document will include an appreciation statement to those willing to participate and serve.

The search committees for UA's Vice President and the Vice President of Research should be finalized and circulated this week.

Secretary's Report – (*Rona Donahoe*) Secretary Donahoe has contacted the OIRA office requesting the number of faculty in each academic division to determine the apportionment of senators per school/college. This information should be forthcoming this week. The apportionment data will be sent to the deans and chairs for approval before each college/school holds senator elections.

President Miller introduced John McGowan, Vice Provost of Information Technology and CIO, to give the senators a technology update and address the role and input of faculty. When McGowan came to campus five years ago, technology was not functioning properly. There was

an Information Technology Committee set up as an advisory committee to non-functional organizations. The continuance of this committee was questioned and it was recommended for the committee to remain in existence at that time. There is a Technology Learning Committee in place today with a variety of faculty from all areas of the university. The Technology Research Advisory Committee (TRAC) has been created. One of the sub-committees of this organization is the Simulation Visualization Technology Group (SVTG) representing the areas of medicine, arts & sciences, nursing, geology, engineering and geography. A lot of research areas are dependent on technological infrastructure such as Internet II. The Information Technology Associates Committee (ITAC) is a group of information technology affiliates representing each college and division of the university. Forming a Student Government Association Information Technology Committee will hopefully happen this spring. The Governance Committee representing the governance structure of the university is presently being formed. The Executive Committee is composed of President Bonner, UA Vice President and John McGowan. Below this committee is the Steering Committee composed of academic community members, deans and associate deans. Directors in some of the major departments have representation on this committee. All these organizations are advisory and the system has been formed to address transparency and faculty input. There is more work required to improve the wireless network on campus. McGowan is dependent on faculty reporting to him any technology situations needing assistance. Electronic device saturation is certainly a problem on campus and elsewhere. Newer technology is constantly being reviewed. Members can come through their colleges and chairs as the committees are more formalized. McGowan will be going to different departments and schools to talk about using Internet II. There will be more emphasis placed acquiring grant money for the development of technology on campus.

The Faculty Senate is a major conduit for information to flow from the administration to the faculty. Faculty Senate representation is very important. President Miller has invited Ivon Foster-McGowan, Assistant to the Provost for Special Projects, to address the Faculty Senate at the February 19 meeting concerning the format for faculty input on these newly formed committees.

Student Affairs – (*Melodie Carter & Donna Meester*) Additional donations for gift cards for needy students have been received.

Research & Service – (*Ed Stephenson & Ion Stancu*) Changes that will be made will be two levels of post doctoral fellows – post-doctoral level one and post-doctoral level two with level one not paying into the retirement system and level two paying into the retirement system through their grant. The change in the timing of the post-doc raises is not clear. The IACUC and IRB compliance issues are being addressed with no conclusions at this time.

Legislative Agenda – (*Margaret Garner*) An amendment changing the age of majority to eighteen should be introduced in the Legislature in February. Higher Ed Day will be February 28 in Montgomery.

Information Technology – (*Carolyn Cassidy & Jason Battles*) The Information Technology Committee will meet on February 5 at 3:30 P.M. with Karl Aldag, Center for Instructional Technology Executive Director; John McGowan, OIT; and Marilyn Staffo, FRC Director; for an update on their activities. Anyone can attend this meeting. The IT Committee will be looking at the universal federal mandate to have technology disability accessible. The Faculty Resource Center talked about technology assistance for faculty such as web site security but nothing has

been mentioned recently about those benefits. The IT Committee will follow up on this issue. John McGowan wants to meet with this committee three times this semester. Hopefully two of those meetings can be scheduled before spring break and one after the break.

Financial Affairs – (*Robert McLeod & Reuben Cook*) No report.

Faculty Life – (*Carmen Mayer-Robin & Wesley Church*) Tricia McElroy will be the new co-chair replacing Carmen Mayer-Robin.

Cori Perdue, Work Life Center Director, came to the Faculty Senate Steering Committee meeting to share information about developing projects. Some of these projects include sick child in-home care, elder care and lactation facilities. Cori Perdue will speak to the Faculty Senate at the February 19th meeting. The Faculty Life Committee wrote a letter dated November 30, 2012, to Associate Vice President Charlotte Harris, Office of Human Resources and to Interim Provost Joe Benson, Office of Academic Affairs with copies addressed to UA President Judy Bonner, Vice President for Financial Affairs Lynda Gilbert, and UA Faculty Senate President Steve Miller, expressing support for the Work Life Center and commending Cori Perdue for an excellent job implementing many valuable programs. No response has been received. Charlotte Harris will also attend the February Faculty Senate meeting and this issue will be discussed in the next Steering Committee meeting with Interim Provost Joe Benson.

This committee wishes to continue pursuit of the parental leave policy.

The closing of the campus post office was questioned and information will be sought as to any developments on re-opening the post office.

Faculty Senate Governance – (*Charlotte Herrin & Dwight Hooper*) The Faculty and Senate Governance Committee sent out a request for nominations for Ombudsperson to replace Keith Woodbury whose term is ending in March. No nominations have been received at this time. The nominee should be from Engineering or Business, tenured, a full professor or associate professor with seven years of full-time service at UA. Refer to the other criteria to be met to qualify as a nominee.

The suggestion was made for a rotation system for faculty members wishing to serve only one year. The Faculty Senate has no input on how the colleges/divisions conduct their senator election and would be handled within their own election system.

Academic Affairs – (*John Vincent & Liza Wilson*) The Academic Affairs Committee will meet on February 5 at 3:30 P.M. in the Chemistry Conference Room. Ideas and input are still being sought for the 50th anniversary of the “Stand in the School House Door”. Some very good ideas have been submitted. Compiling and sharing those suggestions will be in the near future.

The Faculty Handbook has been received and the committee will be working on it through the spring.

The Academic Affairs Committee has collaborated with the Core Curriculum Oversight Committee with the approval of some new policies particularly concerning temporary designation for courses. Dr. Benson will be addressing the group concerning academic affairs.

Reports from Other Committees –

The IRB must receive a timely report concerning the expiration of classes, an extension of research or proper closing out of a proposal or there will be a suspension of IRB privileges.

Everyone that had not had a flu shot was encouraged to get one.

Meeting adjourned 4:45 P.M.