

**FACULTY SENATE MEETING  
APRIL 17, 2012 – 3:30 PM – FERGUSON FORUM**

**APPROVED MINUTES**

**ABSENT WITHOUT ALTERNATE:** Wayne Urban, Lenka Nolan, Sheila Black.

**ABSENT WITH ALTERNATE:** John Vincent/Andreas Piepke; Joe Calamusa/Gorman Houston; Jay Robbins/Brad Hodges.

**GUESTS:** Cresandra Smothers, Dialog; Wayne Grayson, Tuscaloosa News.

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

The minutes of the March 20, 2012 Faculty Senate meeting were approved.

President Miller presented Past President Clark Midkiff with his engraved gavel used during his term as Faculty Senate President and a captain's chair. Past President Midkiff then presented President Steve Miller with a new gavel for presiding during his term as President of the Faculty Senate.

**President's Report** – (*Steve Miller*) President Miller opened the meeting with remarks concerning the new location of the Faculty Senate meetings, a reading of "Mockingbirds" by Mary Oliver, opportunities and changes to come, his availability and willingness to listen and communicate with senators, faculty and administration.

President Miller met with Vice Provost of Information Technology, John McGowan, to discuss the centralization of Information Technology committees and technology problems experienced by faculty members and others.

The Faculty Senate voted to suspend the rules in order to elect a Vice President. The Vice President voted in at the last meeting was not elected as a senator but as an alternate. Since a Faculty Senate officer must be a full senator a new election for the Vice President position was held. The two candidates were Seth Panitch, Associate Professor of Theater and Dance, and John Vincent, Professor of Chemistry.

Seth Panitch addressed the Faculty Senate stating he has been a member of the Faculty Senate for six years and has been co-chair of the Student Affairs committee. A desire for the Faculty Senate to be more vocal on a range of topics and to be the ethical center of the University community was part of his motivation to serve as a Faculty Senate officer. Although the tone of this discourse comes from the officers of the Senate, the content of that discourse comes from the body of the Senate itself. His belief is that the true function of a Senate officer is to distill that voice and to insure that voice is heard by the administration, by the student body and by the community at large.

John Vincent's statement was read in his absence by Faculty and Senate Governance committee member, Charlotte Herrin. He stated his motivation came from the outstanding qualifications of the Faculty Senate's elected officers, Steve Miller and Rona Donahoe. He has been on the Faculty Senate for fifteen years serving as President, Vice President, Secretary, and co-chair of Academic Affairs committee. He stated the Faculty Senate's voice is extremely crucial to the

mission and success of the University. Accomplished during his service was the beginning of hiring University Vice Presidents via a search. Prior to that time hiring was done by appointment not by a search. The review of deans and chairs was improved to allow faculty annual input on the performance of these administrators other than the outdated review every five years. Through continued pressure of the Senate the University's non-discrimination notice was changed to its current inclusive language. Maternity leave guidelines were improved during his service. Appreciation was expressed for the Senate's consideration of him as a candidate for the position of Vice President.

Paper ballots were distributed and counted electing Seth Panitch as Faculty Senate Vice President.

The nominee for Faculty Senate parliamentarian, DoVeanna Fulton Minor, Chair, Department of Women's Studies, was elected by acclamation.

**Secretary's Report** – (*Rona Donahoe*) The Faculty Senate Standing Committees were approved by the Faculty Senate. (*attached*) The Faculty Senate University Standing Committee representatives were approved. Senators were assigned to two new committees - Environmental Stewardship Committee and Technology and Learning Committee. (*attached*) An interactive calendar is now available on the Faculty Senate web page for postings such as locations and times of committee meetings.

Tom Wilson, Associate Dean for Library Technology, was introduced to give the Faculty Senate an update on E-science. Libraries, the College of Arts & Sciences and College of Engineering came together to participate in a developmental activity initiative sponsored by the Association of Research Libraries and the Digital Library Federation to explore more closely what e-science means in the context of an environment where data management plans are required as a part of a research/grant proposal. Many disciplines are moving to deal more directly with either using or generating large amounts of data. This seems to be an issue that is worth investigating to determine what services are available on campus and what are the needs on campus. Highlights are the faculty would like a centralized approach to resources and services on campus; identification of the proper person to approach with technology problems and a definition of information technology governance on campus.

Dr. Rebecca Kelly, Director of Health Promotion and Wellness, stated the purpose of the Health Promotion and Wellness program is to insure the health and wellness of faculty members and their families. A survey will be sent to faculty for input concerning what this program can do to fill their needs. This office provides health screenings, development of individual health plans and identification of health goals. There are health clubs with the healthiest people in the Crimson Club where normal health standards are maintained. The next category is Gold with 70% membership. Silver and bronze memberships are those with health risk factors. Monetary benefits will be offered next year. On site screenings are available.

Margaret Garner, Legislative Agenda Committee, has pursued and will continue to pursue and report to the Faculty Senate any progress made concerning the age of majority issue and has discussed this with Provost Bonner, Joe Benson and Bill Jones. In 1975 the age of majority was reduced from 21 to 19.

The proposal is:

“Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the age of majority for the purposes of giving informed consent to research projects on college or university campuses that have been approved by the respective college or university’s institutional review board shall be 18 years of age”.

The sense of the Faculty Senate Steering Committee and some senators felt a response should come from The University of Alabama Faculty Senate concerning HB56 immigration legislation. A resolution was drafted, revised and modified. A revision was suggested for the fourth “whereas” in the resolution and the “whereas” clause was changed to read “whereas this legislation has negatively impacted current and may negatively impact future members of the University community”. Situations and direct effects of this law on UA campus, faculty, Alabama citizens and others were circulated. Discussion included repealing the law, percentage of support of Alabama citizens, effect on the Legislature, legal and moral objections to the law and ongoing HB56 revisions in Montgomery. Following a call to question the following resolution was submitted to the Faculty Senate for a vote.

**“Whereas,** the Beason-Hammon Alabama Taxpayer and Citizen Protection Act, commonly known as HB 56, is recognized as the most extensive and punitive anti-immigration bill in the United States; and

**Whereas,** components of this legislation diminish the human dignity of all it is intended to impact; and

**Whereas,** the spirit of certain aspects of this legislation opposes the mission of higher education to promote the democratic values of tolerance, equality and liberty; and

**Whereas,** this legislation has negatively impacted current and may negatively impact future members of the University community;

**Therefore, be it RESOLVED,** that the Faculty Senate of The University of Alabama supports the changes to HB56 recently proposed by HB 658; and

**Let it be further RESOLVED,** that the Faculty Senate of The University of Alabama encourages the Alabama State Legislature to make additional revisions to HB 56 to remove/revise those aspects of this legislation which have had negative, unintended consequences on international visitors and Alabama residents; and finally,

**Let it be known** that the Faculty Senate of The University of Alabama stands ready to provide advice and assistance to the Alabama Legislature as it works to improve HB 56”.

The University of Alabama Faculty Senate voted 41 in favor, 15 opposed, 0 abstentions to pass the immigration resolution as amended.

The committees went into separate groups to elect co-chairs reporting the results of their election to Secretary Rona Donahoe.

5:00 P.M. meeting adjourned.

## FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEES 2012-13

### ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

\*Marcia Barrett  
Margaret Garner  
Paul Horwitz  
Mangala Krishnamurthy  
Aaron Kuntz  
Russ McCutcheon  
Carol Bishop Mills  
Paul Puzinauskas  
Steve Thoma  
\*John Vincent  
Liza Wilson  
Tom Zeiler

### FACULTY LIFE

Stacy Alley  
Steve Burch  
\*Wesley Church  
Carol Duffy  
Dan Fonseca  
Trisha McElroy  
\*Carmen Mayer-Robin

### FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Sheila Black  
John Blitz  
Joe Calamusa  
\*Reuben Cook  
Priscilla Davis  
Todd DeZoort  
\*Robert McLeod  
Tim Murphy  
Kagendo Mutua  
Cliff Robb

### RESEARCH & SERVICE

Ian Brown  
Andrea Cevasco  
Ann Graves  
Phil Harris  
Clark Midkiff  
\*Ion Stancu  
\*Ed Stephenson

### FACULTY & SENATE GOVERNANCE

Meredith Bagley  
Steve Emens  
\*Charlotte Herrin  
\*Dwight Hooper  
Wayne Urban  
Emily Wittman

### STUDENT AFFAIRS

Ed Back  
Robert Brooks  
\*Melondie Carter  
Joanne Hale  
\*Donna Meester  
Osiris Molina  
Seth Panitch

### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

\*Jason Battles  
\*Carolyn Cassady  
Shuhui Li  
Lenka Nolan  
Jennifer Purvis  
Fred Whiting

April 18, 2012

\*Co-chairs

## UNIVERSITY Committee Representatives 2012-2013

<b>UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE</b>	<b>SENATE REPRESENTATIVE</b>
Academics & Athletics	Todd DeZoort
Awards	Ed Back
Institutional Biosafety Research	Ed Stephenson
Campus Master Plan	Marcia Barrett
Campus Security & Safety	Tom Zeiler
Coalition for Diversity & Inclusiveness	Stacy Alley
Committee on University Committees	Melodie Carter
Conflict of Interest Policy	Steve Emens
<a href="#">Environmental Stewardship</a>	<b>Ian Brown</b>
Equal Opportunity	Priscilla Davis
Faculty and Staff Benefits	Rona Donahoe
Faculty <a href="#">Leadership Review</a>	John Vincent
Graduate Council	Aaron Kuntz
Committee on Rhodes, Truman, Fulbright, and Marshall Scholarships	Carmen Mayer-Robin
Health and Safety	Bob McLeod
Human Relations Council	Donna Meester
Information Technology	Carolyn Cassady
Institutional Animal Care and Use	Russell McCutcheon
Institutional Review for Human Subjects	Carol Bishop Mills (non-medical) Ann Graves (Medical)
Intercollegiate Athletics	<b>Seth Panitch</b>
Interim Program Coordination	Tricia McElroy
International Education	Mangala Krishnamurthy
Legislative Agenda	Margaret Garner
Libraries	Steve Burch
Media Planning Board	Paul Horwitz
Parking and Traffic Regulations	<b>Seth Panitch</b>
Research Advisory	Phillip Harris
<a href="#">Research Grants</a>	Daniel Fonseca
Staff Development	Wesley Church

Student and Campus Life	Liza Wilson
Student Health	Dwight Hooper
Teacher Education Council	Wayne Urban
<a href="#">Technology and Learning</a>	Kagendo Mutua
Undergraduate Programs & Services	Osiris Molina
<a href="#">University Assessment Council</a>	Steve Thoma
University Recreation	Andrea Cevalasco

4-14-12