

FACULTY SENATE MEETING
JANUARY 16, 2007 – 3:30 PM – 150 SHELBY HALL

APPROVED MINUTES

Roll call and quorum check – (Karen Steckol in place of Clark Midkiff)

ABSENT WITHOUT ALTERNATE: Kari Frederickson, Shane Street, Karen Burgess, Annabel Stephens, Jeff Weddle, Sharon Nichols, Madeleine Gregg, David Arnold, Clark Midkiff, Linda Enders, Deidre Leaver-Dunn, Marcia Barrett, Barbara Chandler

ABSENT WITH ALTERNATE: Brian Bishop/Priscilla Davis; Micki Kacmar/Bill Motes; Gary Hoover/Walt Enders; Lee Pike/Lisa Yuro

GUESTS: Susan Caples, Office of Student Affairs; Adam Jones, Tuscaloosa News

The minutes from the December 19, 2006 Faculty Senate meeting were approved with one correction.

Susan Caples from the Office of Student Affairs began the meeting with information regarding funds available to faculty for **entertainment of students**. The amount of \$65.00 is available per semester. The restriction of available funding for entertainment in the faculty member's home has been lifted. The funds can now be used to entertain in a restaurant. Application forms are available online and must be submitted two weeks in advance. There is a great need for **faculty advisors** for student organizations. There are 250 registered student organizations. Funding is available for faculty advisors.

President's Report – (John Vincent) The Faculty Senate President, John Vincent, was contacted extensively by CBS, NBC, AP, various newspapers and received emails concerning the hiring of the **new football coach**, Nick Saban. There is no longer a **grace period** to change a grade once it has been entered into the new Banner system. A faculty member must fill out a form to change a grade. It has been requested of the Provost to change this situation. Faculty learning to use web assign with grace period access to **change grades** and Banner software adaptation with additional charges for any changes were options discussed. **Post tenure review** has been put in place at Auburn University despite the eight to one negative vote of their Faculty Senate. The University of Alabama has post tenure review. The faculty members are evaluated by their Deans with the Provost reviewing those evaluations. Students also review faculty members every semester that they teach.

Vice President's Report – (Karen Steckol) No report.

Secretary's Report – (Clark Midkiff) No report.

Academic Affairs – (Marcia Barrett & Martin Evans) The Dean's review and the Faculty Handbook are issues this committee continues to address.

Faculty Life – (*Steve Shepard & Lowell Baker*) The committee co-chairs asked for a short meeting following today's Faculty Senate meeting to discuss the Family Friendly Campus issue.

Financial Affairs – (*David Arnold & Jeanette Vandermeer*) No report.

Research & Service – (*Shane Street & Clark Midkiff*) – The matter of **Intellectual Properties** was discussed in a meeting with the Provost. There will be three additional faculty positions on the Intellectual Properties Committee. The committee will be composed of seven members with three of those being faculty members. The request for an outside-the-University committee member was reiterated.

Faculty & Senate Governance – (*John Mason & Douglas Lightfoot*) It is the responsibility of the Faculty Senate to recommend **CUC members** to President Witt. Three faculty members have terms expiring August 15. The committee preference forms have been emailed to the faculty. Anyone with interest in serving as a CUC committee member should indicate such on the preference form. Notification of **Faculty Senate elections** will be sent to the Deans. President John Vincent will write a letter requesting timely action for those elections. Election results were so late last year that Faculty Senate by-laws were violated.

Student Affairs – (*Carolyn Cassady & Karen Burgess*) **Student/faculty week** will be February 26 through March 2. There will be a joint Student Senate/Faculty Senate meeting on Tuesday, February 27 from 5:00-7:00 PM at the Law School with a reception following the meeting. The students are very interested in the price of textbooks issue. The Senate discussed further options to reduce the costs of books. A resolution proclaiming Student/Faculty Week will be presented at the next Faculty Senate meeting. Some SGA proposals included a student appreciation day, a faculty appreciation day, a student/faculty appreciation day and a formal resolution signing on the Quad. Any suggestions regarding planning details of those events are welcomed.

Legislative Agenda – (*Margaret Garner*) No report.

Report of University Committees –

The Awards Committee noted that the nominations for outstanding faculty are very low. The Athletics Committee will meet Wednesday to receive more information concerning stadium and coliseum seating.

Old Business – There was further discussion of the hiring of the new football coach and his salary. The University of Alabama athletics program breaks even financially. It is not subsidized from the academic side of the institution. A winning football program benefits the University. The economic impact for the Tuscaloosa area is over one million dollars per home game. Dr. Witt and the Board of Trustees are committed to the academic side as seen through the salary pools over the past three years.

Meeting adjourned 4:15 PM

