

FACULTY SENATE MEETING
November 20, 2007 – 3:30 PM – 150 SHELBY HALL

APPROVED MINUTES

ABSENT WITH ALTERNATE: Laura Hebert/Brad Hodges; Steven Hobbs/Steve Emens; Norm Stein/Steve Emens; Ellen Csikai/Joanne Terrell

ABSENT WITHOUT ALTERNATE: Priscilla Davis, Brian Evans, Shane Street, Tatiana Tsakiropoulou-Summers, Chase Wrenn, Giles D’Sousa, Jerry Weaver, Karen Burgess, Margaret Garner, Joe Phelps, Lisa Scherff, David Arnold, Viola Acoff, Linda Enders, Lee Pike, Melondie Carter

GUEST: Rosalind Moore, Director of Graduate Student Services, Honors, and Awards, Office of the Dean of Students

Roll call and quorum check by Faculty Senate Secretary Clark Midkiff.

The minutes from the October 16, 2007 Faculty Senate meeting were approved.

Rosalind Moore, Director of Graduate Student Services, Honors, and Awards, Office of the Dean of Students gave a presentation of the University’s Premier awards. Ms. Moore advocated greater participation in nominating candidates for the University’s Premier Awards. These awards include the William P. Bloom Scholarship Award for a junior who has improved relations among disparate groups; the John Fraser Ramsey Award for a junior who has demonstrated a versatility of gifts and attainments; the Morris Lehman Mayer Award that recognizes one graduating senior and one member of the teaching faculty who exemplify integrity, selfless service, and leadership; the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award that honors one male and one female graduating student and one non-student associated with the University for excellence of character and service to humanity; and the Catherine Johnson Randall Award that recognizes the most outstanding graduating senior based on GPA, rigor of course of study, and extraordinary scholarly or creative endeavor. Ms. Moore encouraged faculty to encourage students to apply for these awards and to nominate their colleagues. She left for pick up a set of nomination forms and brochures describing the awards. Karen Steckol commented that she has served on the awards committee for three years and that the quality of non-student award applications was very poor two years ago, but better last year. She hopes that even better prepared non-student applications are submitted this year. The due date for Premier Award Applications is January 16, 2008.

President’s Report – (*John Vincent*) Discontent was expressed that the SGA representative to the Faculty Senate was once again absent from the meeting. Men’s basketball head coach Mark Gottfried sent a thank you letter and seemed truly thankful to receive the Senate’s letter commending Coach Gottfried for the greatly improved

graduation rate of his players. The SGA sent a letter of thanks for the Steering Committee attending the joint meeting with executive members of the SGA, correctly identifying the meeting as part of SGA's campaign to change laws related to textbook marketing and purchase. At the last Board of Trustees meeting, President Witt gave a very brief presentation with considerably less new information than in years past because of newly imposed presentation time limits. There were no surprises at the BOT meeting. The SGA president and John Vincent also spoke at the BOT meeting. It was also announced at the BOT meeting that UA is planning to develop its property on the Strip at the southwest corner of the intersection of Campus Drive and University Boulevard. UA is seeking development ideas— e.g., commercial retail, hotel, etc. John Vincent expressed his concern about the lack of emphasis of the UA System to UA's graduate programs. John Vincent noted that the names suggested to him for appointment to the Graduate School study task force were sent to Provost Bonner for her consideration. The nominations sent to the Provost represented a good variety of colleges and departments on campus. Graduate School Dean David Francko has studied some of the issues about which members of the Steering Committee had complained to the Provost and agreed there were misinterpretations of the rules by the Graduate School. Dean Francko welcomed the formation of the task force to study Graduate School issues.

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

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

Academic Affairs – (*Marcia Barrett & Rona Donahue*) Rona Donahoe announced that the committee would meet on December 4 in 254 Rose.

Faculty Life – (*Lowell Baker & Deidre Leaver-Dunn*) Deidre Leaver-Dunn said that Faculty Life will have a joint meeting with the Financial Affairs Committee on December 9. The issue of whether UA should adopt Mental Health EDU for faculty, staff and RAs was raised. Mental Health EDU is an on-line training program intended to develop better identification of distressed and troubled students. The recommendation was to provide this training primarily to student workers and staff that work closely with students rather than to all faculty and staff.

Financial Affairs – (*David Arnold & Jeanette Vandermeer*) Vice Chancellor for Financial Affairs Lynda Gilbert made the UA budget presentation at the November 6 meeting in Bidgood. John Vincent noted that he had emailed the PowerPoint slides from this presentation to all Senators.

Research & Service – (*Shane Street & Ed Stephenson*) No report.

Faculty & Senate Governance – (*John Mason & Roy Maize*) John Mason asked the Senators if there were any nominations for the offices that need to be filled. One member for the **University Merger or Discontinuance of Academic Units Committee** and two members to the **University Mediation Committee** need to be elected in December. Faculty Senate members may not be nominated to the Merger or Discontinuance of

Academic Units Committee. Nominations can be made at the December Faculty Senate meeting when elections will be held.

Student Affairs – (*Carolyn Cassady & Melondie Carter*) On October 22, the committee met with Darrell Hargreaves, who is Coordinator of Intramural Sports at the Student Recreation Center, and Porter Reeves, a member of the Student Government Association, to discuss student football ticket distributions. Porter had extensive information on student tickets; 14,985 of 92,000 stadium seats were student seats, and 16,472 students got tickets (some split tickets good for only half of the games). SGA has passed a resolution requesting only that one ticket be allowed per student for away games. The “away” university determines the number of tickets UA receives, and parity is maintained, e.g., LSU gives us 7000 tickets and we give them 7000. The subject of students going to ticketless entry was discussed (not applicable to any other ticket holders). The ticket will be credited electronically to a student’s ACT Card Sunday before a game. A website will allow students to give the ticket away to another student or to someone else on campus with an ACT Card. This ticketless entry undertaking is a joint venture between the ACT Card Office and the Athletic Department’s Ticket Office. SGA will be on the lookout for people using someone else’s ACT card (as a means of selling to off campus buyers). There will be strict observation of ACT cards to detect misuse and a program to educate students not to abuse their ACT cards. There will also be a ticket bank so that a student can give up his/her ticket one time and get another ticket for a later game for which they do not have a ticket. The Marching Band has been a big loophole (members received extra tickets) that will be closed. The issue of block seating was also discussed. Five organizations lost seats because of ice throwing at the Georgia game and behavior has been much better at later games. It was also learned that UA made a film with Wesley Britt (*Crimson Pride*) selling the idea of respectful fan behavior. A new plan is being discussed for block seating. Darrell Hargreaves is working on new guidelines scheduled to be ready by the end of November and promises to allow the Senate to review the plan. The new administration in Student Affairs seems to be actually confronting this issue. There was a big response up and down the Athletic Department and Student Affairs. Some from SGA want the Senate to meet with Mal Moore to discuss more tickets for students. John Vincent says that it is highly unlikely that the student allocation will increase and likely that there will be more split tickets. There will also be reduced demand for student tickets because they will not be able to sell their tickets to off-campus buyers under the ticketless entry plan. There was some concern expressed from the Senate floor that maybe the University was being too restrictive on students with this new plan, but it was pointed out that the new policy would actually allow more students to attend the games. This is because student demand will be somewhat reduced if it becomes difficult to market tickets to off-campus buyers. John Vincent commented that the ice-throwing incident at the Georgia game had the beneficial effect of moving the issue of student block seating from low to high priority with the Administration.

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

University Committee Reports –

John Vincent expressed concern about the timeliness of the ad-hoc committee responsible for the evaluation of deans and chairs. He volunteered to contact Judy Stock to encourage the completion of the report of last year's chair survey data and the initiation of the dean survey for this year.

John Vincent noted that because of the leadership of recently appointed chair Lowell Baker the Faculty Participation in the Selection of Deans and Departmental Chairpersons and in the Evaluation of Academic Programs Committee has shown greatly increased activity and that a new plan for the evaluation of deans and chairs is proceeding forward with the approval of the deans. Lowell Baker reported on the Committee's recent meeting where it was agreed that an instrument would be prepared and circulated every other year for evaluation of deans and department chairs (chairs and deans in alternate years). In the fifth year a question will be added asking whether the dean/chair should be retained. The option for an early review of deans and chairs now in the Faculty Handbook will be retained. The committee is now looking for a survey instrument that is not too burdensome and does not have an unreasonable number of questions. Marcia Barrett asked if the committee is all in agreement with the points made so far, and Lowell Baker said the entire committee is in agreement. Rona Donahoe said that she had attended a recent A&S chairs meeting and that no problems arose during a discussion of the new evaluation for chairs. She said one chair had hoped the results would be distributed to all faculty, but Lowell Baker stated that the results would only go to the person evaluated and their supervisor. John Vincent pointed out that this information will become part of a chair or dean's personnel file, thus it must be kept confidential. Marcia Barrett asked if the results of the five-year retention question would be announced to the college faculty. Lowell Baker said the detailed results would not be distributed, but that the "sense" of the results would be communicated. Karen Steckol noted that the review process needs to be conducted with sensitivity so as not to reveal the identity of faculty making comments. This is a likely problem for small departments or colleges. John Vincent commented that the proposal affords faculty the opportunity to provide regular feedback and that deans and chairs do not have to work five years before they are evaluated by a set of criteria made up after the fact. John Vincent said there is nothing we can do if the administration chooses to ignore negative results. Lowell Baker pointed out that the committee is still looking for a good instrument.

John Vincent said that the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee was briefed on the textbook issue. UA has gotten itself in trouble by confusing "textbooks" and "equipment," e.g., "clickers." Athletes have assumed using textbook funds to purchase obvious class-required equipment such as clickers is OK, but the NCAA does not allow this. UA has not done a good job of tracking this since the switch to Banner largely automated the process. The NCAA has essentially decided that this is an unintentional institutional problem, not an athlete problem.

New Business – The question of when the Chief Information Officer search will close was asked. John Vincent said he would check into the status of the search.

Old Business – Janis Edwards noted that last spring it was suggested that UA needed to review its safety and security policies in the wake of the Virginia Tech tragedy. John Vincent noted that the University has spent a lot of effort on how to distribute information on campus incidents/issues quickly.

Meeting adjourned 4:55 PM.