

**FACULTY SENATE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 19, 2006 – 3:30 pm – 150 SHELBY HALL**

APPROVED MINUTES

ABSENT WITHOUT ALTERNATE: Shane Street, Bruce Barrett, Margaret Garner, Aaron Greer, Jeff Weddle, Allen Wilcoxon, Deidre Leaver-Dunn

ABSENT WITH ALTERNATE: Steve Shepard/Kevin Chou; Norm Stein/William Andreen

GUESTS: Adam Jones, Tuscaloosa News; Cresandra Smothers, Dialog

The minutes of the August 22, 2006 Faculty Senate meeting were approved.

President's Report – (*John Vincent*) The Provost invited the Faculty Senate Steering Committee to lunch at Mary Burke Dining Facility as her guests. The section reserved for faculty members only was a pleasant setting with a varied menu. The faculty meal plan is a good value. A University of Alabama student, Beth Dowdy, presented details concerning the **Anti-apathy Campaign** to the Steering Committee. Green arm bands are worn to signify willingness to discuss various concerns and issues. Arm bands and brochures were given out following the Senate meeting. A demonstration of **Astra** was given for the Faculty Senate Steering Committee. Astra is a computer program used for reservations and room utilization information. After entering room size and media requirements, Astra will list the available spaces meeting those specifications. President John Vincent is the Faculty Senate representative on the **NCAA Compliance Committee**. The University of Alabama Athletic program is being reviewed for recertification this year. With a good report, the athletic program should be completely cleared by February, 2007. John Vincent is also Faculty Senate representative on the university's United Way Committee. If there are any questions regarding those committees, please forward them to John. A free copy of the novel, "Kite Runner", was given out; this novel concerns the Afghanistan monarchy and was a gift to Board of Trustee members by UAB. **The UA Board of Trustees** approved the budget. A copy has been given to the co-chairs of the Faculty Senate Financial Affairs Committee. The committee was asked to note the building projects approved by the Board.

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

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

Reports from Senate Committees –

Academic Affairs – (*Marcia Barrett & Martin Evans*) Shared classroom usage will be one of the issues being considered by this committee. Other projects include Appendix A and B of the Faculty Handbook, the Faculty Review of Deans and Chairs process, and textbook availability. Any senator comments or questions should be forwarded to this committee.

Faculty Life – *(Steve Shepard & Lowell Baker)* A review of PEEHIP and the Family Friendly Policy will be conducted by this committee. A recommendation at this time is full disclosure of retirement and insurance benefit information to newly hired University faculty members.

Financial Affairs – *(David Arnold & Jeanette Vandermeer)* Lynda Gilbert, vice President for Financial Affairs and Treasurer and Reba Essary, Associate Vice President for Finance, will make a requested budget presentation on Tuesday, November 7 at 3:00 P.M. in Room 34 Bidgood. The entire Senate is invited to attend.

Research & Service – *(Shane Street & Clark Midkiff)* Complaints concerning **Intellectual Properties** under the Office of Research are currently being reviewed by the Research and Service Committee. The **Public Access Act** which would require federal agencies that fund over \$100 million in annual external research to make electronic manuscripts of peer-reviewed journal articles that stem from their research publicly available on the Internet at no charge. After discussion at the Steering Committee meeting, it was determined there are concerns regarding funding the peer review process and the effects on the publishing industry by the proposed Public Access Act if it were adopted. The Steering Committee did not feel that it had sufficient answers to make a “yes or no” recommendation to the Provost. A review of the proposed Public Access Act by University attorneys will be recommended to the Provost

Faculty & Senate Governance – *(John Mason & Douglas Lightfoot)* A committee meeting will be held Tuesday, October 3 to examine issues involving the upcoming elections both within and without the Senate.

Student Affairs – *(Carolyn Cassady & Karen Burgess)* The Student Affairs Committee is in the process of arranging a meeting with Margaret King, Vice President for Student Affairs, to discuss the political machine influence on campus elections and the removal of the Dean of Student Affairs Office.

New Business – Members of University Standing Committees were urged to report to the Faculty Senate any issue of possible importance to the Faculty Senate. The academic calendar of the University was discussed.

Adjourned 4:00 PM