

FACULTY SENATE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 21, 2010 – Room 1026 Capstone College of Nursing – 3:30 PM

APPROVED MINUTES

ABSENT WITHOUT ALTERNATE – Priscilla Davis, Jim Hall, James Hamilton, Rasma Lazda, Mindy Nancarrow, Karen Steckol, Todd DeZoort, Lew Silver, Dwight Hooper, Brent Hardin, Susan Burkett, Brad Hodges, Deidre Leaver-Dunn, Steven Hobbs

ABSENT WITH ALTERNATE – Carolyn Cassady/Harold Stowell, Jeanette VanderMeer/JoAnn Oliver

GUESTS: Cresandra Smothers, Dialog; Jill Beville, Professional Staff Assembly

The minutes of the August 24, 2010 Faculty Senate meeting were approved with corrections.

Vice President's Report – (*Clark Midkiff*) President Karen Steckol is absent due to illness. Everyone was asked to remember her in their thoughts and prayers.

A number of faculty members and others expressed discontent with the location of their **football tickets**. Elevators located at Gate 24 provide faculty and staff access to the upper deck. These are also used for access to The Zone and skyboxes. Elevators are also located on the east side at Gate 6 and on the west side at Gate 43 providing access to the upper deck.

Secretary's Report – (*Jeanette VanderMeer*) Melondie Carter replacing Jeanette VanderMeer had no report.

Academic Affairs – (*John Vincent & Marcia Barrett*) The Academic Affairs Committee will meet on Tuesday, October 5th in the Conference Room of the Special Collections Library. The committee will review the AAUP policy regarding acquisition of **tenure for teaching faculty**. The committee requests a status update on the UA Graduate Philosophy statement passed last year.

Faculty Life – (*Lowell Baker & Deidre Leaver-Dunn*) No report.

Financial Affairs – (*Katrina Ramonell & Steve Hobbs*) No report. This committee should pursue a meeting with Financial Affairs Vice President Lynda Gilbert.

Information Technology – (*Ray White & Jim Hall*) No report. This committee has not yet met.

Research & Service – (*Ed Stephenson & Brian Gordon*) The Research & Service Committee met in September. Joe Benson, Vice President for Research, was scheduled to meet with the committee but had to reschedule. The establishment of an ad hoc

committee has been requested to review the newly revised **patent policy** modified at the direction of the Board of Trustees. Formerly the policy included graduate research assistants. The revised policy includes undergraduates participating in regular educational activities going through the same process followed by faculty members.

Faculty & Senate Governance – (*Rona Donahoe & Steve Emens*) The Faculty & Senate Governance Committee has been in the process of obtaining nominees from the College of Engineering and/or the College of Business Administration for the vacant **Ombudsperson** position. The two nominees at this time are Keith Woodbury and Steve Ritchie of Engineering. There were no nominees from the floor. The election will be a campus-wide faculty vote.

Student Affairs – (*Melondie Carter & Seth Panitch*) The Student Affairs Committee will have SGA representatives attend their next meeting to review any student issues requiring assistance from this committee. Mark Nelson, Vice President for Student Affairs, will meet with the Student Affairs Committee in October. Students expressed a need for **healthier food choices** in vending machines on campus. This issue is under review by the university. Reminders and emails have been and will be sent to the SGA representative responsible for attending the Faculty Senate meetings.

Legislative Agenda – (*Margaret Garner*) Margaret Garner will be speaking to the Professional Staff Assembly at their January meeting concerning **Higher Education Partnership** membership. Margaret is willing to speak to any department wishing to have more information about membership in this advocacy group. April 7th, 2011 is Higher Education Day in Montgomery, Alabama.

Reports from Other Committees

The **Director of the University Press**, Daniel Ross, is retiring. Hank Lazer will be the interim director.

The **Faculty Staff Benefits Committee** met Thursday, September 16th. The open enrollment deadline for Blue Cross Blue Shield health, vision, dental and flexible spending accounts has been delayed to October 15 through November 15.

The **Textbook Committee** is in the process of planning their first meeting. The textbook rental program has made good progress.

The **Office of Student Health** has seven teams available for faculty and staff assistance. One of the teams specifically addresses mental health, depression and suicide. In collaboration with the Counseling Center the mental health liaison for every academic division will receive newsletters containing updated information and tips for dealing with these very important issues. This newsletter should be launched within the next three weeks. The percentage of freshmen feeling overwhelmed, medication usage, the nation wide increased demand for mental health services by students, consideration of individual class workloads for students and prevention methods were discussed.

Everyone was encouraged to participate in the Crimson Couch 5k walk-run event on Sunday afternoon, November 13. There are 700 enrolled at this time. Twenty-five percent of faculty members do not exercise at all.

Meeting adjourned 4:10 PM.