

# FACULTY SENATE

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

## FACULTY SENATE MEETING

SEPTEMBER 6, 2005 – 3:30 PM – FERGUSON FORUM

### APPROVED MINUTES

**ABSENT WITHOUT ALTERNATE:** Kari Frederickson, Jeff Richetto, Tatiana Tsakiropoulou-Summers, Art Allaway, Karen Burgess, Nick Stinnet, Steven Hobbs, Marcia Barrett

**ABSENT WITH ALTERNATE:** Allen Wilcoxon/John Petrovic, Norm Stein/Noel Amason

**GUESTS:** Cresandra Smothers, Dialog; Susan Lucas, Professional Staff Assembly; Adam Jones, Tuscaloosa News; Kristie Busam, Crimson White

Roll call and quorum check by Secretary Karen Steckol.

The April 19, 2005 Faculty Senate meeting minutes were approved.

**President's Report** – (*Mathew Winston*) The Faculty Senate Steering Committee met twice during the summer. The results of the feedback survey on deans were received. Norm Baldwin was instrumental in the application of the survey of Chairs and Deans. This year the Chair evaluation survey will be conducted with the confidential results going to their Dean or head of their college. The Intellectual Property portion of Appendix H of the Faculty Handbook has been revised several times. Intellectual Property addresses ownership of electronic course material. John Vincent and Marcia Barrett worked diligently on this issue. The Dean of Libraries, Louis Pitschmann, met with the Steering Committee discussing several issues involving the libraries on campus. Another topic of discussion in the Steering Committee was the problems and situations created by the addition of students, particularly in the Honors Program. The Steering Committee followed the actions of the State Legislature regarding PEEHIP. There was a video conference on a campus wellness program conducted by Jeanette Vandermeer. Wesley Church of Social Work has resigned as a senator. Dean Ike Adams has been asked to conduct an election to name a replacement for this position. A Faculty Senate representative is needed for the Equal Opportunity committee. Tonyia Tidline volunteered to fill this position. The Faculty Senate has a voting representative on every University Standing committee. Dr. Susan Lucas is the Faculty Senate representative from the Professional Staff Assembly. A senator to serve as an informal Faculty Senate representative to this organization is needed. It was announced that anyone wishing to serve on the Evaluation of Deans and Chairs committee should notify Professor Norm Baldwin. There are three vacancies on the Faculty Senate roster. The senator vacancies are in Natural Science and Social Science (Arts & Sciences) and Social Work. The Faculty Senate officers are meeting with Tom Wolfe of Arts & Sciences concerning these vacancies. Concern was expressed about diminished appreciation of the administration for faculty service. There should be continued faculty and administration interchange concerning this issue.

**Vice President's Report** – (*John Vincent*) No report.

**Secretary's Report** – (*Karen Steckol*) Karen has spent a great deal of time at the Student Recreation Center with the evacuees of Hurricane Katrina. Her report stated that there are 375 evacuees at the Rec Center. Some have cars and cannot afford gas. It was suggested that gas cards would be very much appreciated. Help is needed with the children. The Speech and Hearing Center is taking some of the younger children on Fridays. Most of the older children have enrolled and are attending school. The community has been incredible with their support. The Red Cross provides breakfast, and the Salvation Army provides lunch and dinner. Clothing has been donated through churches and is available to the evacuees. Little boy and women's large size clothing are needed. The churches have taken the responsibility of the evacuees in the hotels in the city. Bedding, cots and pillows are needed. The University of Alabama football team visited the Recreation Center. They are getting together money for Wal-Mart gift cards for the evacuees. The response of the faculty and students to the needs of the evacuees has been tremendous. There are some college students that will enroll at UA because their colleges have been flooded or closed. There may be a need later for some faculty evacuees who lost text books or research materials in the storm.

A twenty-minute break was taken for the committees to meet and discuss the issues they will be pursuing during the coming year. The committees were to set the dates and times of their meetings. That information should be given to Mathew Winston who will try to attend one meeting of each committee.

**Academic Affairs** – (*John Vincent & Marcia Barrett*) There is no business carried over from last year for this committee with the exception of Appendix H. The Provost has turned over Appendix H to the Council of Deans for their comments.

**Faculty Life** – (*Steve Shepard & Nick Stinnet*) This committee will consider conducting another faculty life survey. The issues of sustained growth, increased number of students, parking, wellness program and maternity benefits will be addressed by this committee.

**Financial Affairs** – (*Jeanette Vandermeer & Jim Hall*) There will be a meeting of this committee with members of the administration to discuss PEEHIP and other issues.

**Research & Service** – (*Clark Midkiff & Jenice "Dee" Goldston*) – This committee will be meeting with Marianne Woods, Associate Vice President for Research. It was suggested that internal and external faculty service be addressed by this committee.

**Faculty & Senate Governance** – (*John Mason & Kim Andrus*) This committee will monitor and insure that faculty and senate elections are conducted on a timely basis. The standards for the election of an ombudsperson were discussed since there seems to be confusion about the process. The election of permanent ombudspersons will be in March. Keith Woodbury has agreed to fill in for the remainder of Salli Davis' term.

**Student Affairs** – (*Priscilla Davis & Karen Burgess*) A meeting with the SGA has been planned by this committee. They will also address the Honors College, the renovation of Foster Auditorium and student insurance benefits.

**Legislative Agenda** – (*Margaret Garner*) A link to the form to become a member of HEP and/or the UA System PAC has been placed on the Faculty Senate web page. More members are needed for faculty and staff to have a strong voice in the State Legislature concerning higher education.

**Old Business** – Jeanette Vandermeer reported that a video conference on the wellness campaign was held. Last year the Faculty Senate passed a resolution requesting that a

wellness program be put in place. Dr. Lynda Gilbert came to the Faculty and Staff Benefits committee requesting their action on this project. A framework and concept for a wellness program was developed by this committee. There are 25 members of this committee with subgroups being formed. There has been a site located for a wellness center with locating a director as the next step to the establishment of this project. Dr. Hunnicut, the president of the Wellness Council of America, kicked off the UA wellness program. Four subgroups are currently working on the components of the UA wellness program. Input from the faculty about service or research issues will be welcomed. The UA Wellness Committee membership includes the Coordinator of the Healthy Campus, Sherrelle Hudson.

John Mason, past president of the Faculty Senate, assisted in beginning the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics. This organization began with individual faculty members. Through John's efforts, it was expanded to include the Faculty Senates of each member institution rather than individual faculty members. This organization's goal is to give faculty members a voice in the academic standards applied to college athletics. The coalition with approximately 50 members first met at NCAA headquarters in May, 2003. The next meeting will be held in the state of Washington in December.

The letters informing faculty members of their committee assignments have not been sent. This is well behind schedule. Mathew Winston will request that those letters be sent out in a timely manner.

Bob Sigler was introduced as Parliamentarian.

Linda Knowles was introduced as the Senate Secretary.

It was asked by a senator if the progress of the IRB would be monitored as many proposals have been in their hands for months.. Ken Wright is the non-medical representative, and Pieter Visscher is the medical representative to this group. They should report back about this at a later time.

Meeting adjourned 4:50 PM