

**FACULTY SENATE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
DECEMBER 12, 2006 – 3:00 PM – 206F SHELBY HALL**

APPROVED MINUTES

ATTENDING: John Vincent, Karen Steckol, Clark Midkiff, Carolyn Cassady, Margaret Garner, Martin Evans, Dee Goldston, John Mason, Steve Shepard, Shane Street, Jeanette Vandermeer, Mathew Winston

GUESTS: Cresandra Smothers, Dialog

The minutes of the Faculty Senate Steering Committee meeting held November 14, 2006 were approved.

President's Report – (*John Vincent*) Questions concerning securing responder identity to the **Chair Evaluation Survey** have been posed. John Vincent has asked Judy Stock, the chairperson of the **Evaluation Committee**, to email a paragraph to him stating exactly what information the Deans and Chairs will receive. The **United Way** goal was met and exceeded this year. The amount raised was \$278,800 with the goal set at \$215,000. A smoking policy resolution was received from the Professional Staff Assembly. The resolution basically supported the **smoking policy resolution** passed by the Faculty Senate except no specific smoking boundaries set outside entrances to University buildings were suggested. Allen Wilcoxon has notified the Senate that he will be unable to finish his term as the senator from Education. Madeleine Gregg will fill his position until the end of his term. An election will be held to fill the alternate position left vacant by Madeleine Gregg. A copy of the **SGA mid-term report** was passed around. The new location for the **Faculty Senate office** has not been determined. The **Survey for Faculty at The University of Alabama** draft was presented for discussion. Some corrections were noted along with points made about gathering information, academics and athletics should be included, length of the survey and the elimination of non-pertinent questions. The long range transportation plan, faculty salaries, and the addition of a section surveying satisfaction/non-satisfaction/no opinion with administrative offices were some aspects of the survey discussed. There was good response when the faculty survey was conducted five years ago. Conducting the survey now is timely and will give a comparison to the data collected five years ago.

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

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

Academic Affairs – (*Marcia Barrett & Martin Evans*) Appendix F of the Faculty Senate Constitution has been revised. There is confusion about the **Faculty Handbook**. No one is clear about what the Faculty Handbook is at this time. There are two versions, one in Word and one in HTML. The Faculty Senate web page and the University web page links to Faculty Senate bylaws deliver different versions. The same version should be in Word and HTML. The corrected and up-to-date version will be posted. There is not a

correct hard copy available. The changes to Appendix B are up-to-date online. The most up-to-date copy will be posted on the Faculty Senate web page both in Word and PDF. Pagination should start over with each section to avoid incorrect page numbers and an incorrect index. The Academic Affairs Committee is working on revising Appendix A of the Faculty Handbook. One proposed revision is to have a review of Deans every five years. There is difficulty in moving this revision forward. Composing another Faculty Senate resolution was discussed. The general sense of the Academic Affairs Committee is that some instrument is needed. The final decision is that John Vincent will bring these opinions in addition to SUG institutional review information to the Provost..

Faculty Life – (*Steve Shepard & Lowell Baker*) No report.

Financial Affairs – (*David Arnold & Jeanette Vandermeer*) Dr. Lynda Gilbert and Reba Essary made a very informative **budget presentation** on December 5. A copy of the Power Point presentation was handed out.

Research & Service – (*Shane Street & Clark Midkiff*) No report.

Faculty & Senate Governance – (*John Mason & Douglas Lightfoot*) There is a lack of nominees for the **Merger Discontinuance of Academic Units Committee** and the **Mediation Committee**. An email will be sent to the entire Faculty Senate asking for more nominees. It was suggested to contact those nominated but not elected last year. The election will be held at the Faculty Senate December meeting.

Student Affairs – (*Carolyn Cassady & Karen Burgess*) This committee will meet with the Office of Student Affairs on Thursday, December 14 to discuss issues. A meeting was held with Dr. Margaret King two weeks ago. More **faculty involvement** in student organizations and methods to correct this were discussed. **Stadium seating** will be addressed by a newly hired administrator after the first of the year. The SGA administration has proposed a **student/faculty week** with several events to be held. The Office of Student Affairs will assist in setting up the activities for the week. The SGA would also like to have a signing on the Quad of a resolution requesting faculty members choose less expensive **text books**.

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

The discussion returned to the Survey for Faculty at The University of Alabama. Various corrections were noted. Comments and suggestions should be forwarded to John Vincent within the next two days.

The Faculty Senate Steering Committee moved into Executive Session.

Meeting adjourned 5:45 PM.