

# FACULTY SENATE

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

## FACULTY SENATE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

February 8, 2005 – 3:00 pm – 101F Student Services Building

### APPROVED MINUTES

**ATTENDING:** John Mason, Mathew Winston, John Vincent, Marcia Barrett, Wolfgang Bertsch, Robert Moore, Nick Stinnett, Tatiana Takiropoulou-Summers, Margaret Garner, Bob Sigler

**GUESTS:** Marlin Caddell, Crimson White; Saori Hasegawa, Public Affairs Journalism class.

The minutes of the January 11, 2005 Faculty Senate Steering Committee meeting were approved.

Mathew Winston will obtain from Rona Donahue the CUC committee reports from last year to be placed in the Senate record.

John Vincent addressed the issue of **Appendix H** stating that the Faculty Senate approved the document from the Council of Deans with the exception of retaining the end of one sentence and one short paragraph. John Vincent, Marcia Barrett, Dean of Libraries, University council and Dean Dahl will meet to discuss Appendix H. It was suggested to seek advice from a member of the Law School faculty. One issue requested to be retained was coverage for graduate students when they are teaching which only has to do with copyrights pertaining to any materials they create. Appendix H is being brought back to the Faculty Senate for the third time in approximately two and one-half years. The Provost was asked about the status of Appendix H. The inquiry was referred to Dean Dahl. Dean Dahl was contacted by email requesting an update and no response was given. The Academic Affairs committee reviewed Appendix H at their last meeting and found nothing that they disagreed with and felt the language in the document was clear.

The COIA statement, a 21 page document, titled "**Academic Integrity in Intercollegiate Athletics: Principles, Rules and Best Practices**" was the next issue considered. Most of this document contains suggested practices for universities. There are three suggested changes with a possible fourth change in NCAA rules. Previously the Faculty Senate Steering Committee agreed with the document in principle, sent it to the full Senate voting to empower the Steering Committee to vote the document up or down and to suggest amendments. Mathew Winston, the Faculty Senate Vice President, has been empowered to vote using his best judgment. The issue at this point is for the Steering Committee to accept, abstain, reject or offer amendments to the document. There are 45 Faculty Senates that are members of this coalition with The University of Alabama being the first. This is the first time academic faculty members who are elected representatives have had a voice regarding academics in intercollegiate athletics and the coalition has used that voice. The NCAA administration reviewed the document and their suggestions had nothing to do with the rules but pertained to "best practices". There were 28 Division 1-A representatives present at the January meeting of COIA with the document being adopted with the exception of one school abstaining and one school opposing. The opposing school was not represented by a Faculty Senate member. The most important issue is that the document is to be approved in principle. Not everything in the document could possibly be agreed to but there are issues in the document that ideally could be put into practice in the next ten years. The next step if the document is approved is the document will be sent to Myles Brand at the NCAA. The one troubling issue for some is that there has not been enough time given to process the document through the proper institutional channels. Discussion included the duties of committees and input from those committees concerning this document. The difficulty of approving a document with a

large number of schools involved was expressed. Amendments for the document must be submitted by February 13 with the final vote being the end of February. One University standing committee, the Academics and Athletics Committee, stated that a matter of this importance requires more time for review and input and suggested the Senate abstain from voting. The Academic Affairs Committee agreed with the Academic and Athletics Committee that the Faculty Senate should abstain. Representatives from the Athletic Department wanted to look at the three important sections and come back with suggestions on the impact it would have on intercollegiate athletics. Significant problems can be easily communicated to the President of the NCAA and others recommending changes. Following further discussion, Bob Moore made a motion with a second by Nick Stinnett to request from COIA an extension of time of voting until March 31. If the extension is not granted, Mathew Winston will be empowered to vote using his best judgment. There were two "nay" votes with the motion being approved by the majority of the Faculty Senate Steering Committee members.

The next item to be considered was the procedure for replacing Salli Davis as **Ombudsperson**. Salli is resigning at the end of this year. According to the by-laws the two remaining ombudspersons would select the replacement. She has not resigned as ombudsperson at this time. An ombudsperson elected at this time would not be eligible for the 2006-09 term.

It was asked if a backup member should be elected for **CUC** in the event someone vacates a position before the end of the term. The Senate would elect the replacement. The sense of the Steering Committee is to do nothing unless a vacancy occurs.

A senator asked Nick Stinnett to bring up the issue of **term limits for senators**. One reason against term limits is that some schools have great difficulty having enough people to serve as senators. The Faculty Senate does not and has not instructed schools on the method they use to elect senators. Also it is critical to have institutional memory that the senators serving long terms provide the Senate. The Steering Committee decided to take no action on this matter.

John Mason asked the sense of the Steering Committee concerning sending a letter to Alabama members of U. S. Senate and House of Representatives regarding possible termination of the **Perkins Loan Program** including comments on the impact it would have on college students in Alabama. Opinions were expressed that it is too early to act on this since there will be changes made to the proposed Federal budget and that a strong stand be taken if the situation warrants such action in the future.

It was requested that personal political opinions be kept out of list serve discussions since it is not appropriate.

Handouts distributed included the response from Dr. Witt concerning the health care resolutions passed by the Faculty Senate. Dr. Lynda Gilbert has been asked to advise Dr. Witt of the financial implications of the proposals. Dr. Margaret Ingram King, Vice President for Student Affairs, sent a letter to John Mason regarding the details of the process, policies, changes and commitments now in place for scheduling a performer or program on campus.

A copy of the **Annual Capital Development Plan**, FY 2004-2005, The University of Alabama Education and General Projects was given to each Steering Committee member. The cost of the Law School addition will be \$13 ½ million dollars with \$474,000 of that sum spent on renewal. The projected annual Operating and Maintenance costs will be \$364,958. An overview of deferred maintenance was included. Lloyd Hall will have a \$14 million dollar renovation. A suggestion was made that a portion of Lloyd Hall be turned into game-day condos. This would be a money-generating project for academics. The non-1920's portion would be bulldozed with the original building being preserved. This will be passed along to the Provost. A good question was raised about how the money might be spent.

A list of **Parking Comparisons between SEC Schools** was handed out. The University of Alabama's parking fees are ranked in the middle of twelve SEC institutions.

The Wellness Program is now co-chaired by Grant Savage and Jeanette Vandermeer and was convened this past Monday.

There was a discussion about the status of the search for the Vice President of Finance. John Mason will check on the status of this search.

**Secretary** – (*John Vincent*) No report.

**Faculty Life** – (*Wythe Holt & Nick Stinnett*) This committee is working on a project in conjunction with the Benefits Committee. The issue is child-care for faculty and staff and would be considered in the context as a desirable benefit in hiring and retaining new faculty and staff. It was suggested that these committees contact Sally Edwards of HES for insight to guide this recommendation. The issue is connected to the Faculty Life survey listing childcare as a top priority. The approach of the committees would be for the University to subsidize childcare in the light of lower salaries offered by the University. It was suggested to have a ballpark figure for the University to pay stated in the resolution. The discussion included the advantage of having childcare on campus. It was also suggested to tie the request into intern experience for students, to contact Institutional Research asking for data concerning any SUG school offering subsidized childcare and how many children would be involved. The subsidy could be based on salaries as a sliding scale.

Everyone was encouraged to evaluate their Deans and to encourage their colleagues to respond. This data will be given to the deans exclusively this year. A Thursday Arts & Sciences faculty meeting has been called by Judy Bonner to address the issue of reviewing the A&S Dean and A&S programs.

**Research & Service** - (*Clark Midkiff & Tatiana Tsakiropoulou-Summers*) The meeting with Marianne Woods was postponed due to illness. The meeting will be held next Monday.

**Financial Affairs** – (*Wolfgang Bertsch & Karen Steckol*) Vice Presidents have cancelled the last two meetings with this committee. Hopefully, the information requested will be forthcoming.

**Faculty & Senate Governance** – (*Robert Moore & Jerry Weaver*) - The nominations for **Ombudsperson** are still open. The two nominations are Walt Robbins of C&BA and Gary Warren of Engineering.

**Student Affairs** – (*Caryl Cooper & Priscilla Davis*) No report.

It was announced that **Gordon Stone** will speak to the Faculty Senate at the February 15 meeting at the Ferguson Forum. Deans and Vice Presidents will be invited.

There was discussion of the **Plus/Minus issue**

**Legislative Agenda** – (*Margaret Garner*) The Legislative Breakfast will be held February 18 at the Four Points Hotel with Dr. Mack Portera as speaker. More details will be known about the budget at that time. March 3 is Higher Education Day in Montgomery with transportation and lunch provided. It was suggested to post these on the next Faculty Senate agenda with either a HEP application attached or the web site listed. It was suggested that the Crimson White include an announcement about the Job Fair for students on Higher Ed Day.

Meeting adjourned 5:00 PM

# **COIA Statement on Academic Integrity in Intercollegiate Athletics: Principles, Rules, and Best Practices**

## **Summary of Suggested NCAA Rules or ByLaws**

(Other proposals are best-practice guidelines for schools to consider and adapt according to local needs and judgments, or general calls for action on the part of Division IA schools.)

### **Admissions**

None – Only "best practice guidelines" recommended

### **Scholarships**

**2.1** Athletics scholarships shall be awarded on a year-by-year basis with the presumption that they will be renewed for five years, or until graduation, whichever comes first; renewal shall be subject to students' maintenance of good academic standing, conformity with campus codes for student behavior, and adherence to team rules. If a student graduates in fewer than five years an institution may renew the scholarship if the student has athletic eligibility remaining. Institutions shall establish criteria and a mechanism for revoking a scholarship. The final authority for revoking a scholarship shall rest with the chief academic officer. A student awarded an athletics scholarship who is no longer participating in athletics will be counted against the NCAA maximum number of awards for that sport, unless the scholarship is revoked.

Until this policy is adopted as an NCAA bylaw, the Coalition recommends it as a best practice, to be considered and adopted by local campus faculty governance bodies.

### **Curricular Integrity**

**3.1** Campuses shall collect data on athlete enrollments and grades by course section, including indication of course GPAs, for each individual sport, and shall convey that information to the campus Faculty Governance Body, ensuring that the anonymity of individual students is protected to the degree provided by law. Where no campus Faculty Governance Body exists, the information shall be conveyed to the Campus Athletics Board.

Until this policy may be adopted as an NCAA bylaw, the COIA recommends it as a best practice, to be considered and adapted by local campus faculty governance.

### **Time Commitment, Missed Class Time, and Scheduling of Competitions**

The NCAA permits schools to divide seasons into two distinct segments in sports other than football and basketball; this option may be restricted to a split of training seasons, but may also involve intercollegiate competitions. In some sports, this has led to the establishment of "non-traditional playing seasons." Engagement in both traditional and non-traditional seasons means athletes may experience no school terms free of the pressures of intercollegiate competitions, and for students who need a "breather" to focus on academics, this can be a difficult problem that outweighs any possible benefits a split season may offer. Therefore:

**4.3.2** NCAA bylaw 17.1.2 should be amended so that the option now provided to sports other than football and basketball to schedule non-contiguous competition seasons in multiple parts of the academic year is eliminated.

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Academic calendars differ among schools and it is difficult to generalize about what periods of time may be more important academically than others. However, it is unquestionable that periods of final exams are critical and athletes should not be required to participate in competitions during final exam periods. Ultimately, competition calendars are primarily developed at the conference level and approved by institutions. The Coalition recommends that the following rule be adopted at the highest level of application possible: either at the institutional and conference levels, or as an NCAA bylaw:

4.3.6 An institution shall not schedule athletics competitions during final exam periods on that school's campus; conferences shall develop their schedules to accommodate the final exam calendars of all member institutions.

**Policies Concerning the Office of Academic Advising for Athletes (OAAA)**

None – Only "best practice guidelines" recommended

**NCAA Administration's Review of COIA Document  
and Suggested Amendments**

**(1/28/2005 e-mail from Bob Eno of COIA)**

The NCAA administration has reviewed the AID [Academic Integrity Document], and suggested two minor amendments, which the Steering Committee believes can be accepted as non-controversial.

A) The first is to 1.4 [suggested *best practice* guideline], which reads:

1.4 Campuses should develop means to track and share with the faculty governance body the academic performance of scholarship athletes who enroll through special admissions, to permit better understanding of how successfully the campus supports the academic needs of these students and what costs to the campus this may involve. Faculty governance bodies should also be provided with data concerning the academic progress of all athletes, allowing them to assess the range of admissions qualifications appropriate to athletes.

Here, the suggestion is simply to add to the final sentence language we already use in a comparable location, 3.2: ", adhering in all cases to the requirements of FERPA protections".

B) The second concerns 4.3.1 [suggested *best practice* guideline], which reads:

4.3.1 The NCAA should commission FAR-led groups to review the present NCAA limits on regular season length, in order to determine the number of competitions necessary to accomplish the basic goals of each sport. NCAA limits on regular season competitions should be adjusted to match these recommendations. Adjustments that are warranted on academic grounds must be made regardless of the financial implications; if it is found that the season schedule of a revenue sport, such as basketball, is creating challenges to academic success too demanding for athletes realistically to meet, its length must be reduced.

The NCAA has, in fact, already commissioned such reviews, by sport, and the first of these (on

baseball), has already made recommendations concerning shortening the season. Although the groups involve FARs, they are not FAR-led. The NCAA administration suggested we indicate awareness of the ongoing process, and questioned whether we truly wanted to call for a different process by maintaining the "FAR-led" criterion. In light of these points, the Steering Committee suggests the following revision of the first clause:

"The NCAA should continue to review the present limits on regular season length . . . "

These changes seem minor and non-controversial enough that rather than requiring a formal vote, we simply ask whether there is any objection to making these changes. If there is none, we will simply make the changes in the final document without the necessity of a vote.