

**FACULTY SENATE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING  
MARCH 9, 2010 – 3:30 PM – 2002 SHELBY HALL**

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES**

**ATTENDING:** Karen Steckol, Clark Midkiff, Jeanette VanderMeer, Lowell Baker, Marcia Barrett, Melondie Carter, Carolyn Cassady, Rona Donahoe, Margaret Garner, Jim Hall, Steven Hobbs, Deidre Leaver-Dunn, Michael Martone, Katrina Ramonell, Ed Stephenson, Harold Stowell

**ABSENT:** John Vincent, Marci Daugherty, Ray White

**GUESTS:** Linda Hill, Dialog

Roll call and quorum check by Secretary Jeanette VanderMeer.

The Faculty Senate Steering Committee meeting minutes of February 9, 2010 were approved.

**President's Report** – (*Karen Steckol*) The **Core Curriculum Committee** is reviewing the core courses based on the **syllabi** designed by this committee. Ed Stephenson as a member of the Core Curriculum Committee stated the committee is in the process of reviewing current core courses and have not dealt with the syllabus issue. There are several conflicting versions circulating causing confusion regarding requirements and standards. Academic freedom, SACS compliance, mandated guidelines and contract language are specific syllabus concerns. President Steckol requested that the university design an official syllabus document and it be brought forward for faculty input. There is no concern with following a template, just that there needs to be one official syllabi that is in concert with the faculty handbook.

Dr. Mark Nelson will be invited to attend the Faculty Senate meeting on April 20 to clarify and answer questions concerning this issue.

The Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee should review the syllabus information as stated in the Faculty Handbook.

The Athletic Ticket Office has allotted more **faculty tickets** for the 2010 football season. Discussion included the number and location of those tickets. Ticket distribution will be based on years of service.

**Vice President's Report** – (*Clark Midkiff*) The 2009 Football National Championship trophy is on display at the Mal Moore Football Facility.

Vice President Midkiff will be participating in teaching leadership skills to professional staff groups and requested two volunteers to serve as panelists on March 31. The goal is to help professional staff members appreciate the life of a faculty member.

**Secretary's Report** – (*Jeanette VanderMeer*) No report.

**Academic Affairs** – (*Marcia Barrett & John Vincent*) A draft titled “**Resolution on the Philosophy for the Baccalaureate Degree of a UA Graduate**” was presented. The proposed resolution includes philosophical underpinnings of the University’s baccalaureate programs and learning goals subject to faculty approval. Assessment of goals once stated is a concern of the committee. The process of such a document, framing language and broad and vague statements in the document were included in the discussion. The Steering Committee consensus was to return the document to committee to make it less goal oriented and more philosophical.

**Faculty Life** – (*Deidre Leaver-Dunn & Lowell Baker*) The Faculty Life Committee will meet after spring break. The committee will continue to follow up on **meal allotments** for faculty travel (\$45.00 per day). The use of gift funds by departments to cover the option of serving alcohol to visitors is also an issue. A report will be given at the next Steering Committee meeting.

**Financial Affairs** – (*Katrina Ramonell & Steven Hobbs*) No report.

**Information Technology** – (*Ray White & Jim Hall*) **Classroom technical support** after 5:00 P.M. will be added to the April 20<sup>th</sup> Faculty Senate agenda.

**Research & Service** – (*Ed Stephenson & Harold Stowell*) No report.

**Faculty & Senate Governance** – (*Marci Daugherty & Michael Martone*) The following are candidates for the **April 20<sup>th</sup> election** – Karen Steckol, President; Clark Midkiff, Vice President; Jeanette VanderMeer, Secretary. Nominations will be taken from the floor.

**Student Affairs** – (*Melondie Carter & Carolyn Cassady*) This committee will be meeting Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Legislative Agenda** – (*Margaret Garner*) **Higher Education Day** held in Montgomery, Alabama on March 4<sup>th</sup> was successful with an estimated 2500-2800 attending. The University of Alabama had approximately 100 students in attendance. The activities were very impressive. The Stars retreat offers advocacy and active citizenship training for students with faculty, staff and alumni invited. March 26<sup>th</sup> is the tentative date for the **Legislative Breakfast** with everyone encouraged to attend.

Forty years ago a conference was established by Dr. Karen Steckol and another graduate student at The University of Memphis titled “The Mid-South Conference on Communicative Disorders”. The conference invited Dr. Steckol back for the fortieth anniversary and named the Keynote Address in her honor.

Meeting adjourned 4:50 P.M.