

**FACULTY SENATE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
JULY 11, 2006 – 3:00 pm – 206F Shelby Hall**

APPROVED MINUTES

ATTENDING: John Vincent, Karen Steckol, Karen Burgess, Carolyn Cassady, Margaret Garner, Martin Evans, Jenice “Dee” Goldston, Steve Shepard, Shane Street

GUESTS: Cresandra Smothers, Dialog; Keith Woodbury

The minutes of the June 13, 2006 Faculty Senate Steering Committee meeting were approved.

An update on the Research Advisory Committee by Keith Woodbury opened the meeting. Following the discussion and suggestions of last month’s Steering Committee meeting pertaining to the duties and responsibilities of the **Research Advisory Committee**, the following edited document was presented for approval of the Steering Committee:

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DUTIES: Advise the administration on matters of policy pertaining to research, both internal and external, and provide the Office of Research and the Office for Sponsored Programs faculty input concerning policies and procedures that govern administration of externally funded research.

COMPOSITION: This committee shall consist of 17 voting members: 3 representatives from Arts & Sciences (one each from science/mathematics, arts/humanities and social/behavioral sciences), 3 representatives from diverse departments in Engineering, one representative from each of the remaining colleges/schools (Commerce and Business Administration, Communication and Information Sciences, Community Health Sciences, Continuing Studies, Education, Human Environmental Sciences, Law, Libraries, Nursing and Social Work); and a Faculty Senate Representative. These members shall serve staggered non-succeeding three-year terms. The following shall serve as liaison members: the Associate Vice President for Research, the Director of the Office for Sponsored Programs, the Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs/Dean of the Graduate School and a representative from the Office of University Counsel.

The divisional representatives of the research faculty will be recommended to the President by the Division Heads.

REPORTING CHANNEL: The Vice President for Research

MEMBERS/TERMS:

	Term Expires
1. A & S Representative #1	2007
2. A & S Representative #2	2008
3. A & S Representative #3	2009
4. Engineering Representative #1	2007
5. Engineering Representative #2	2008
6. Engineering Representative #3	2009

7. C & B A	2007
8. C & I S	2008
9. C C H S	2009
10. Continuing Studies	2007
11. Education	2008
12. H E S	2009
13. Law	2007
14. Libraries	2008
15. Nursing	2009
16. Social Work	2008
17. Faculty Senate Representative	2007

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

RESEARCH GRANTS COMMITTEE

DUTIES: Provide advice to the Vice President for Research on the use of University funds available for individual faculty research, with specific responsibility for policy relating to the application and grants award process. The committee will receive and evaluate grant applications, make recommendations concerning RGC grant awards, and administer such grants and any intellectual property associated with them.

COMPOSITION: The Research Grants Committee will include three subcommittees: Physical and Biological Sciences, Mathematics and Engineering; Social and Behavioral Sciences; and Arts and Humanities. Faculty from the ranks of professor or associate professor and, in special circumstances, assistant professor are appointed by the Provost/Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs to serve three-year terms. The Provost/Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs appoints a committee chairperson from the faculty group and chairpersons for the three area sub--committees. The committee chair and the subcommittee chairpersons will serve as a steering committee. Provision is made for the following representation:

Area A: Physical and Biological Sciences, Mathematics and Engineering

Arts and Sciences – 4
 Engineering – 3
 Human Environmental Sciences – 1
 Education – 1
 College of Community Health Sciences – 1

Area B: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Arts and Sciences – 2
 Commerce and Business Administration – 2
 Education – 2
 Communication – 1
 Human Environmental Sciences – 1
 Community Health Sciences – 1
 Nursing – 1
 Social Work – 1

Area C: Arts and Humanities

Arts and Sciences – 5

Law – 1

Communication – 1

In addition, the Library will have one member. The subcommittee appointment will vary, depending on the representative.

A Faculty Senate Representative will be included in the membership.

The following shall serve as liaisons: The Vice President for Research; the Assistant Academic Vice President and Dean of the Graduate School; the Director of Sponsored Programs; a representative from the Office of University Counsel.

Reporting Channel: The Provost/Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

The spirit and suggestions of the Steering Committee from last month's meeting were incorporated into the edited document. Those concerns were the composition, size and duties of the committee, and fair representation from each college to advise the Vice President of Research and other members of administration. The Research Advisory Committee is a faculty committee. The last five years of sponsored research dollar averages were 46% of sponsored research is done by engineering, 44% by Arts and Sciences, 3% by C&BA, 2% by CHS and 1% by Education. Every other college had some sponsored research in the previous five years. These figures are monetarily based giving Engineering and Arts and Sciences 90% of total sponsored research. Discussion included adding one additional member to the committee, staggering term limits, decision-making input by each college, committee member selection, and sub-committee or steering committee division within the committee. The goal is to have this committee in place and operational by August. It was suggested to have one of the Faculty Senate Research and Service Committee co-chairs as the Faculty Senate representative. Language will be added that a committee member cannot succeed themselves at the end of their term. The consensus of the Steering Committee is to stagger committee terms, include representation from each college, and to add two representatives from Engineering.

President's Report – (John Vincent)

On Saturday during summer school final exams, the **Office of Disability Services** was not open. The Provost corrected this situation.

The **Graduate Dean search** is nearing completion. The process is moving forward to have this position filled by August. Hank Lazer will be the Vice President for Creative Campus and other miscellaneous duties. Interviews are going forward to fill the position left vacant.

The **Board of Trustees** approved all building proposals and the proposal for campus buses. Bus routes and new roads were discussed. The University of Alabama will be connected to the main **fiber-optic internet** loop of the United States with band width increase over a million-fold. Through the efforts of Priscilla Hancock, this has been approved with costs being dramatically reduced.

The **Animal Care Facility** has been removed from the building plans for Shelby II. It will remain in its present location.

New Business –

The **University Club** is under new management. Upcoming events, food service and membership fees were discussed.

Margaret Garner reported that following a review of two separate programs, participation in **AlcoholEdu**, an online population alcohol education and prevention initiative course, will be required for all entering freshman students. Over 500 universities have adopted this program and it is NIAA endorsed. On July 22, 2006, parents of incoming freshmen will be notified that this program will be available to them. It is a two part program available through a computer with internet access and audio. AlcoholEdu surveys conducted across the country revealed that during the summer following high school graduation, drinking remained at an even rate. Following the first six weeks in college, the proportionate rate of those with drinking problems increased. There was a 25% drop in the proportion of students claiming to be abstainers. In 2004, there were 1400 preventable alcoholic deaths, and 1700 in 2005 and the prediction is 1900 in 2006. One-half million assaults and 700,000 assault/rapes were alcohol related. There will be programming to reinforce what the students learn about behavior, health and safety.

A notice has been received from the **University Book Store** requesting faculty members turn in book orders on time. This issue will be given to the Academic Affairs Committee.

The walking and bike paths being installed on campus will be discussed in the next meeting with the Provost.

Meeting adjourned 5:00 PM