

**FACULTY SENATE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING  
JULY 12, 2011 – 3:00 p.m. - #2002 Shelby Hall**

**APPROVED MINUTES**

**ATTENDING:** Clark Midkiff, Deidre Leaver-Dunn, Marcia Barrett, John Vincent, Rona Donahoe, Wesley Church, Robert McLeod, Carolyn Cassady, Brad Hodges, Ed Stephenson, Melondie Carter, Seth Panitch

**ABSENT:** Jeanette Vandermeer, DoVeanna Minor, Karen Steckol, Russell McCutcheon, Lowell Baker, Katrina Ramonell, Margaret Garner, Ion Stancu

**GUESTS:** Cresandra Smothers, Dialog

Roll call and quorum check.

The Faculty Senate Steering Committee minutes of June 14, 2011 were approved.

**President's Report** – (*Clark Midkiff*) The beginning discussion of the Faculty Senate Steering Committee meeting concerned **campus parking and hang tags**. There seems to be a lack of information regarding parking fee amounts, hang tag and parking decal availability. Parking fee revenue disbursement was also discussed. Adding to the serious lack of parking on campus is state and off-campus vehicles parking in faculty/staff spaces. Parking Services must generate its own revenue for construction, maintenance and parking deck construction. The Steering Committee's response to the Provost's email is to distribute parking information to faculty and staff at the earliest possible date.

Faculty responsibilities employed on a **contract** basis following the termination of that contract was an issue discussed. Points included responsibilities of giving final exams, completing grades and working past the contract period.

Compensation for Assessment Officers is handled and varies by each college/department.

**Vice President's Report** – (*Deidre Leaver-Dunn*) Vice President Leaver-Dunn sent an email to the Provost expressing appreciation of the general direction of the Maternity Leave Document. One issue of concern is the discriminatory adoption policy statement favoring female faculty members. There will be a follow-up on this issue.

**Secretary's Report** – (*Jeanette VanderMeer*) Not present.

**Academic Affairs** – (*Marcia Barrett & John Vincent*) Terminated and/or departing faculty member's access to their email accounts is being addressed by this committee. The norm is for the institution to have a time frame for the faculty member's access to the account. This will be discussed with the Academic Affairs Committee in the fall for a recommendation. The policy at the bottom of the Bama Mail web page states, "Use of this system is limited to authorized personnel for University purposes only. All activity on this system is subject to inspection to insure compliance with this policy."

Recommendation of an internal policy of choosing a professor to advance for the SEC competition is underway. Discussion included criteria and selection process for awards.

**Faculty Life** – (*Wesley Church & Lowell Baker*) No report.

**Financial Affairs** – (*Katrina Ramonell & Robert McLeod*) No report.

**Information Technology** – (*Carolyn Cassady & Brad Hodges*) The issue of extending computer helpdesk hours and assistance continues to be addressed by this committee. President Midkiff suggested John McGowan, Vice President of Information Technology, attend a meeting of the Faculty Senate Steering Committee and Provost sometime in the fall. Some departments have had computer difficulties with some software, internet connections and response from the Helpdesk. Student class attendance registered by electronic card swipe seems to be considered costly by the University. Slow wireless access speed could be caused by the shape of the room and overload. This could be corrected by turning the device off and on to access the closest point.

**Research & Service** – (*Ed Stephenson & Ion Stancu*) The “Report on the Move of the Environmental Health and Safety Department - Addendum” was distributed to Steering Committee members. There continues to be confusion concerning the relocation of this department, available square footage and space, impact on ongoing research projects and funding, impact on health and safety guidelines and whether construction or renovation will be needed. President Midkiff will request Vice Presidents Benson and Gilbert or their representatives be invited to the next Steering Committee meeting with the Provost. Further discussion included the point that several University committees should have been involved in the plans for the relocation of EHS.

**Faculty & Senate Governance** – (*Rona Donahoe & Russell McCutcheon*) Dee Goldston of the College of Education has been elected Ombudsperson.

**Student Affairs** – (*Melondie Carter & Seth Panitch*) The Student Affairs Committee did not have a report. Discussion concerned the sorority house construction projects and vehicle access and parking affected by those projects.

The Student Government Association, fraternities and sororities stepped up to aid the tornado victims with over 400 students working in an emergency situation in the Tuscaloosa community. Greek organizations raised over \$180,000 and served over 37,000 meals. James Fowler was the co-chair of this effort. They are to be commended.

Meeting adjourned 4:50 P.M.