

CORRECTED MINUTES

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

December 10, 1996

Ferguson Forum

3:30 p.m.

High Points:

- [Service Document progress reported](#)
- [Commencement discussed with Provost](#)
- [Resources & Priorities spends year-end money on library](#)
- [Changes to Senate Constitution & Bylaws discussed](#)
- [Senate passes recommended changes to the Faculty Handbook](#)

Members absent and not represented by an alternate: Larry Clayton, Robert Sigler, Selwyn Hollingsworth, Subhabrata Chakraborti, Ray Carroll, William Gonzenbach, Keith Woodbury, Stuart Bell, Carol Drolen.

The minutes for [November 1996](#) were approved, with the following modifications:

- Page 2, paragraph on the Student Affairs, 2nd sentence should read: "[University] Counsel stated that the University provides comprehensive liability when faculty is within bounds of the job, but this coverage would not apply if the adviser was acting criminally, and might not apply if acting negligently."
- Page 3, third paragraph, 3rd sentence should read: "The interviews will begin before Thanksgiving and end before the Christmas holidays."
- Page 3, 5th paragraph, 1st sentence should read: "Harvey Kline reported that the Library committee was informed of the Senate Research and Service Committee's meeting with Barrett, and they were pleased with the proposed resolution on library support."
- Page 4, last paragraph, a new 2nd sentence should be inserted: "The motion to suspend the rules passed."

President's Report

Senate President Amy Ward reported that the Service document was forwarded to Sorensen and Barrett. Margaret Garner and the Research and Service Committee will look into how to incorporate these principles into the Faculty Handbook.

Ward recounted the development of the changes the Steering Committee is recommending to the Faculty Handbook. Most of these changes were deleted from the draft presented by the revision committee to former Provost Taaffe. The Senate officers and Wythe Holt, who served on the revision committee, subsequently discussed the deletions with new Provost Nancy Barrett. The current recommendations were formulated from the notes of those meetings.

The Steering Committee also discussed issues related to commencement with Dr. Barrett. Barrett indicated that she wants input from faculty on this issue. All agreed to forward changes in commencement scheduling to the Senate

Planning and Operations Committee.

The Resources & Priorities Committee met to discuss about \$90,000 in year-end money that was not already earmarked. The recommendation, which coincided with the Graduate Council's recommendation, was to spend the money on library resources, consistent with the recent Faculty Senate resolution.

Ward also noted that President Sorensen would be addressing the Senate at the January 21 meeting.

Reports from Senate Committees

Academic Affairs had no report.

The **Financial Affairs** committee will meet on January 7, and is collecting information on faculty salaries.

Don Desmet reported that the **Planning & Operations** Committee met two weeks ago and is considering changes in the Senate Bylaws and Constitution proposed by the Senate Operations Committee. They are also looking at changes in the commencement schedule and summer school schedule.

Research & Service had no report, as did the **Student Affairs** Committee.

Co-chair Wythe Holt reported that the **Senate Operations** Committee is working on proposed changes to the Senate Bylaws and Constitution.

Holt also reported that **Senate Operations** members are making up part of a joint committee with Joe Benson and members of the Committee on Committees to examine a proposed streamlining of the University's committee structure. The desire is to reduce and consolidate the committee structure, and to link the Senate committee structure to the University committee structure in a more meaningful and efficient way.

Legislative Agenda chair Scott Bridges reported that President Sorensen has met twice with Governor James, and has also met one on one with over 50 state legislators. The SGA is also becoming involved with legislative issues. Bridges listed several dates for specific actions that need energetic and enthusiastic participation from faculty. Bridges emphasized that faculty and other interested parties need to be ready to write, call and even go to Montgomery to press our cause. Bridges noted that Alabama is the only state in the Southeast to get a budget cut. Most other states in the area have had increases recently. For further information, see the Governmental Relations web site at "<http://www.ua.edu/govrel.html>." The page can be found by following the "Governmental Relations" link from the main University page.

Reports from Senators in University Committees

Rona Donahoe reported on the CIO search. Candidate Priscilla Hancock is currently on campus for interviews. Donahoe urged senators to attend the 'Faculty Forum' for each of the candidates. Their resumes and itineraries are posted on the University's web site.

Old Business

The Senate took up the recommendations on the Faculty Handbook from the November meeting. The proposed recommendations were:

1. [To be added to page 13, Chapter 1, part V, just before A. Committees and Task Forces] "The President ensures faculty participation in the selection and performance reviews of vice presidents, and directors who report to the President, by appointing faculty members to each search or review committee. Additional faculty participation is provided by including a member selected by the Faculty Senate on each such Committee. Similarly, Vice Presidents solicit and consider views of faculty members in the selection of and in performance reviews of

- associate and assistant vice presidents and directors who report to them, and they appoint faculty members, including a member selected by the Faculty Senate, to any search or review committee for such officers."
2. [Addition to Page 15, Item C, line 41] "The Faculty Senate appoints one person to membership on each appropriate University Standing Committee. In addition, the Faculty Senate provides a member for each search committee for a University President, Vice President, Assistant or Associate Vice President, and Director who reports to a President or a Vice President."
 3. [To be added to page 15, Chapter I, Part V, C., to be a 4th paragraph] "The President of the Faculty Senate can request to meet with the Council of Deans (decided by the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs) or to meet with the Vice Presidents (decided by the President) on specific occasions to discuss issues that are of mutual importance to the Faculty Senate and these groups and with the intent to streamline processes of input on these issues to the Provost/President."
 4. [To be added to page 33, Chapter 2, Part VI as the last paragraph] "The material in the dossier submitted by the candidate shall be returned at the end of the review process."
 5. [To be added as the first paragraph of the new Part II of Appendix A, page 93] "Vice Presidents & Directors and the programs for which they are responsible shall be reviewed through a regular schedule of evaluations that includes appropriate faculty participation. The review of each administrator shall be based in part upon the performance and effectiveness of all offices and officers reporting to that administrator."
 6. [To be added to page 93, in the new Part II of Appendix A, 2nd paragraph] "Normally, any person appointed as Provost/Academic Vice President will be expected to possess credentials commensurate with an appointment at a senior rank and in an appropriate academic discipline."

Since item 2 was being considered when the November meeting adjourned, it was taken up first. It was passed unanimously.

Item 1 was then considered, and it also passed without dissent.

When item 3 was considered, Wythe Holt noted that the handbook committee had originally proposed a much stronger version of this item, which would have given the Senate President knowledge of the Council of Deans agenda. It seems that the Council of Deans was reluctant to allow this, and that Taaffe shared their approach. Holt would prefer the original language, but feels that this compromise is the best we are likely to get. Ward noted that Sorensen and Barrett have verbally agreed that the Senate President should be able to address the Council of Deans when appropriate. The measure passed unanimously.

Item 4 concerned the return of the dossier submitted by a candidate for tenure or promotion. There was some concern on Taaffe's part about the possibility of returning confidential letters with the dossier. This addition addresses that concern while returning the bulk of the dossier. It passed unanimously.

Item 5 reflects the desire that Vice Presidents and high level Directors should be reviewed periodically. The original language suggested that these reviews would be "similar to the reviews of Deans." This language which does not specify a period is seen as a first step. It passed unanimously.

Item 6 also passed without dissent.

There was no **New Business** so the Senate adjourned at 4:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcus Brown, Secretary

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