

CORRECTED MINUTES
FACULTY SENATE MEETING

August 29, 1995

Palmer Pavilion

3:30 p.m

- **President's Report**
 - [Budget Cuts](#)
 - [Retirement Incentives ??](#)
 - [No Faculty to be Fired as Result of Budget Cuts](#)
 - [HMO Concerns](#)
 - [New Faculty Mentoring Program](#)
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Members absent without representation: Subhabrata Chakraborti, Frank Page, John Evans, Ron Banaszak, Harry Blewitt.

President's Report

Norm Stein began the President's Report by extending compliments to Joe Benson for his two years of exemplary service as Faculty Senate President. He also complimented Leah Lievrouw for her service to the Faculty Senate and the University.

BUDGET CUTS

Stein mentioned several specific issues facing the University at this time. Chief among them are the budget cuts of 7.5% of appropriations. When taken together with money held over from last year's budget and other anticipated savings, this gives us an expected deficit of about \$2.5 million for the coming year.

RETIREMENT INCENTIVES ??

One plan to save money is to offer early retirement incentives. While the guidelines are not yet specified, it is expected that a fairly generous incentive will be offered which may include health insurance continuations and payment of the incentive over a three year period. An enrollment period is expected in late fall or winter.

NO FACULTY TO BE LAID OFF

The various deans of the University have been tasked with proposing cuts, but no one expects faculty to be laid off during these budget cuts.

HMO CONCERNS

Many faculty are concerned about a proposal to include a health maintenance organization (HMO) as a part of a benefit cafeteria plan. While HMOs are generally less expensive, they often have the unintended effect of driving insurance costs up for those not in the HMO. The Senate Financial Affairs committee has been asked to look into this.

The administration is reviewing the role of the Faculty Athletic Representative required by the NCAA. The charges and duties of this position may be changed in the future.

NEW FACULTY MENTORING PROGRAM

Stein also discussed the new faculty Mentoring program which was proposed by Claudia Johnson.

Stein reported that ACCUFP and AAUP is sponsoring a workshop on "How to read a University budget" and faculty are encouraged to attend this workshop at Auburn.

STATE-WIDE CORE CURRICULUM

Continuing the President's Report, Stein discussed the articulation in general studies effort which has resulted from legislation passed two years ago requiring all state colleges and universities to put together a common two year general studies program. The stated goal of this effort is to facilitate students transferring from two year colleges to universities. The second phase of this program will be looking at requirements for specific majors. Faculty with unique requirements should speak to their dean of their concerns.

Stein announced that he had appointed Amy Ward as Faculty Ombudsman. This position has traditionally been held by the Vice President of the Senate.

Stein relayed an announcement from the Supply Store about their service for course packets. Interested faculty may contact the Supply Store for more information.

COMPUTER POLICY

Stein reported progress on a new University Computer Policy. A policy proposed last year has been extensively revised by a new committee. The Senate will review it again and approval is expected this year.

In order to continue to receive funds from several federal agencies, our "Conflict of Interest" rules must be revised by Oct. This issue was referred to Research & Service.

Other Reports

Amy Ward briefed the Senate on the Senate Committees and discussed some of the issues that lie before the Senate this year.

Marcus Brown reviewed the regulations from the Senate Constitution and By-Laws on attendance and use of alternates.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Chuck Hobby was approved as Senate Parliamentarian and given floor privileges on a voice vote.

RESOLUTION RE: NEW FACULTY MENTORING PROGRAM

The Senate discussed the proposed mentoring program and approved the following resolution from the Steering Committee:

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate sponsor a mentoring program for newly hired untenured faculty, patterned upon the President's letter of August 23, 1995 to the Senators, and to begin in the 1995-96 academic year.

The Senate approved standing committee liaison assignments, with the modifications that Marion Paris will be on the Animal Use Committee and Debra Hill could not serve on the Library committee due to possible conflict of interest.

The meeting was adjourned to committees at 4:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Marcus Brown, Secretary

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*These are the **Corrected** Minutes.*

Please send questions or comments to Marcus Brown: mbrown@cs.ua.edu