

FACULTY SENATE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
February 11, 2014 – 3:00 P.M. – Room 111 Aime

APPROVED MINUTES

ATTENDING: Donna Meester, Rona Donahoe, Mangala Krishnamurthy, Clark Midkiff, Margaret Garner, Rainer Schad, John Vincent, Melondie Carter, Charlotte Herrin, Ed Stephenson, Reuben Cook, Pat Paramelee, Steve Burch.

ABSENT: Steve Miller, Joanne Hale, Carol Duffy, Jeannine Lawrence.

GUESTS: Dan Wolfe, Campus Planner & Designer; Norm Baldwin, Faculty Senate Diversity Task Force Chair; Cresandra Smothers, Dialog; Mark Hammontree, Crimson White News Editor; Dr. Javonda Williams, Social Work.

Roll call and quorum check by Faculty Senate Secretary Rona Donahoe.

The Faculty Senate Steering Committee meeting minutes of January 14, 2014 were approved with one correction.

Dan Wolfe, UA Campus Planner & Designer, began the presentation with a history and background review of the **campus master plan** beginning in 1830. William Nichols from England designed the original plan when Tuscaloosa was the capital of Alabama. The KPS Group from Birmingham, Alabama developed the 2007 master plan winning several awards for the design. The plan guided UA through unprecedented rapid growth. In 2010 UA purchased the Bryce property consisting of 168 acres. The master plan breaks down into three major categories – the value system, facilities and access. Distinctive features of UA’s campus are the twenty acre Quad in the center of campus, the consistent architectural appearance of buildings and the trees and greenery. Peter Bryce Park will be located on the Bryce property and will almost equal the size of the Quad at the center of campus. Mr. Wolfe gave a review of the buildings on the Bryce property including the construction of the Performing Arts and Reception Center. UA’s Board of Trustees requires a new or revised campus master plan every five years. This was done in 2012 for UA and the Bryce property. First impressions are important when entering campus and have been enhanced by signage, lighting and landscaping. There are over 20,000 parking spaces on campus and a new parking deck will be constructed with approximately 800 spaces next to Barnwell Hall. Other issues discussed were bike lanes, transit system, walkways, forest areas and construction of new sorority and fraternity houses. A tree survey has been conducted identifying the variety, health and age of trees on campus. Mr. Wolfe will send a link to those survey results. A Campus Design Guide is available.

Faculty Senate Task Force for Excellence in Equity, Inclusion and Citizenship committee chair, Norm Baldwin, presented the first draft of a report “Working as a University to Help Shape a Model of Excellence for Student Government Elections”. The report cites potential areas for student election reform including broad cultural change, coercion prevention, voting privacy, campaign regulations, election code violation penalties and enforcement, Capstone Creed inclusion and voting locations. The committee’s comprehensive efforts recommend developing model campus citizens through leadership development and personal development programs. Further discussion included the specific voting process, campaign spending limits, and specific penalties for violating the voting process. The consensus of the Steering Committee

is to advance the draft to the full Senate as an informational item with the consent of the Diversity Task Committee.

Charlotte Herrin and Javonda Williams of Social Work presented a revised “**Global Citizenship Designation Proposal**”. This proposal was presented to the Steering Committee in the January meeting and this is the modified document after reviewing suggestions and feedback. The University has a list of 430 courses entitled “guide to courses with diversity and multicultural content” but does not provide a clear method to place a multicultural content course in the curriculum and it does not outline common learning outcomes that should be accomplished by students who complete the courses. Something is needed in the general core to define these courses and to identify the criteria used to measure student’s knowledge of social and behavioral sciences, history or global citizenship. The purpose of the proposal is to be able to count the number of students taking these specific courses and to measure learning outcomes. The Academic Affairs Committee in the January 7th Steering Committee meeting suggested adding a requirement to the social behavioral science courses by adding a multicultural component. Following further discussion and suggestions the Academic Affairs Committee agreed to work with Charlotte Herrin and Javonda Williams to capture the essence of their goal with refinement of the document to advance the proposal to the Faculty Senate.

Vice President’s Report – (*Donna Meester*) No report.

Secretary’s Report – (*Rona Donahoe*) The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment report deleted one senate seat from Education and added one senate seat to C&BA and Nursing. One seat was allocated to Continuing Studies last year but was not filled. This would be a total of 70 senators. Letters to the Deans have been sent along with each senator’s attendance record to conduct elections by March 21 and report results by April 4th.

Academic Affairs – (*John Vincent & Patricia Parmelee*) The Academic Affairs Committee submitted a copy of their **Faculty Handbook** comments consisting of punctuation, typographical and language corrections. There is concern about the omission of clinical faculty to the handbook and the Council of Deans is in the process of considering that issue. The standard teaching load has been defined and is not in compliance with the Faculty Handbook.

The committee presented a “**Naming of Emeritus Faculty Resolution**” to recommend a policy for emeritus faculty status be constructed by the Board of Trustees. The resolution requests a faculty voice for naming of emeritus faculty in their department. There are no guidelines or policies in place. The Steering Committee voted to forward the resolution to the full Senate.

Information Technology – (*Mangala Krishnamurthy & Clark Midkiff*) The Information Technology Committee met with John McGowan, Vice Provost for Information Technology; Ivon Foster, Assistant for Academic Technology; Patty Benton, Office of Information Technology; Marilyn Staffo, Faculty Resource Center; and Cathy Rainey, IT Financial Director. The drop box is available and instruction in the use of this program will be forthcoming. It can be found at MyBama/Tech Tab. OIT sent out a survey for audio visual use in classrooms. There continues to be various problems with email service. Any complaints or issues should be forwarded to the Information Technology Committee.

Legislative Agenda – (*Margaret Garner*) Higher Education Day will be Thursday, February 27th in Montgomery, Alabama. The advertising and public relations course 433 undergraduate research students will be sending a survey. Everyone was encouraged to fill out the survey.

Financial Affairs – (*Rainer Schad & Reuben Cook*) The Financial Affairs Committee continues to discuss the issuance of parking permits based on employee salaries.

Student Affairs – (*Melondie Carter & Joanne Hale*) The Faculty Senate Student Affairs Committee met with the Student Affairs Counsel. The app allowing students to have access to scholarship information is moving forward. Faculty Senate and committee functions and activities were discussed along with a mutual exchange of ideas for the future.

Alabama Reach receipts for the gift card program can be claimed on income tax without a receipt if the donation was less than \$150. Email statements will be sent to donors.

Faculty & Senate Governance – (*Charlotte Herrin & Amy Taylor*) There are several nominees for the Mediation Committee and the election will be held at the Faculty Senate meeting on February 18th. There are no nominees for Ombudsperson. There are three nominees for Faculty Senate officers and are incumbents.

Research & Service – (*Ed Stephenson & Steve Burch*) The Research & Service Committee met with Carl Pinkert, Vice President for Research. Topics discussed were research goals, research stimulation programs, Research Advisory Committee, cluster hire proposals, workshops and networking, central list of resources and equipment, software promotion and IRB regulatory processes. Vice President Pinkert will speak at the Faculty Senate meeting next week on Tuesday, February 18th. There was discussion of establishing more enforcement power for the Health and Safety Committee.

Faculty Life – Committee chairs were not present. Jennifer Shoaff was elected to replace Jeannine Lawrence as co-chair of this committee.

The sub-committee of the Faculty & Staff Benefits Committee titled the Child Care Committee has developed a childcare and elder care survey. The survey has been approved and will be distributed to the entire faculty.

Dan Wolfe, Campus Master Plan, would like to come back to the Steering Committee for a presentation concerning the new academic building.

It was suggested not to have too many presentations at Steering Committee or Faculty Senate meetings.

The Steering Committee discussed the administration's response to the cancellations and delays posted due to inclement weather. This has a direct impact on class schedules. Decisions concerning weather delays/cancellations should be made about 6:00 AM of the affected day. Weather monitoring is not an exact science and decisions should be made considering the safety of students, faculty and staff.

The gas leak near Shelby Hall was not addressed in the safest manner possible. Construction caused a leak in a four inch gas pipe. There was confusion as to the proper

department/jurisdiction to handle the dangerous issue. The public address system was not used and people remained in the building that should have evacuated. This critical situation will be discussed in the meeting with the Provost on February 27th.

Meeting adjourned 5:25 P.M.

***Naming of Emeritus Faculty Resolution**

Whereas department faculty provide opinions in the hiring of faculty in their department and the tenure and promotion process for faculty in their department, and

Whereas department faculty do not have a voice in the process for naming of emeritus faculty in their department despite emeritus faculty utilizing departmental resources,

Whereas the Board Manual of the Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama System, while possessing guidelines for designating holders of Academic Chairs and Professorships, possesses no guidelines for the designating of emeritus faculty,

Be it resolved, the faculty senate requests that department faculty be included formally in the process to develop recommendations for emeritus faculty status for presentation to the Board of Trustees.

The faculty senate also requests that a University policy for developing recommendations for emeritus faculty status for presentation to the Board of Trustees be developed. The faculty senate also respectfully requests that guidelines for the designating of emeritus faculty be constructed by the Board of Trustees.

To be sent to provost Joe Benson, President Judy Bonner, and Chancellor Robert Witt