

**FACULTY SENATE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 11, 2014 – 3:00 P.M. – ROOM 213 AIME**

APPROVED MINUTES

ATTENDING: Steve Miller, Donna Meester, Rona Donahoe, Mangala Krishnamurthy, Clark Midkiff, Margaret Garner, Rainer Schad, John Vincent, Charlotte Herrin, Ed Stephenson, Pat Parmelee, Steve Burch, Joanne Hale, Carol Duffy, Jennifer Shoaff, Amy Taylor, Bob Riter.

ABSENT: Reuben Cook, Melondie Carter.

GUESTS: Cresandra Smothers, Dialog.

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

The Faculty Senate Steering committee meeting minutes of February 11, 2014 were approved with one correction.

President's Report – (*Steve Miller*) President Miller met with Provost Joe Benson and reported an enrollment increase, development of the new classroom building and satisfactory progress by the new Vice President for Research.

The Faculty Senate Task Force for Excellence in Equity, Inclusion and Citizenship Committee report brought forth no complaints with the exception of the timing limiting implementation of recommended policies and procedures due to the beginning of campus elections. The Elections Board moved quickly to include items that could be accommodated within the timeframe. The responsibility of the Faculty Senate will be to monitor and keep the issue at the forefront as a top priority with every organization involved. A suggestion was made to evaluate the task force at the conclusion of their assignment to determine if this should be a permanent committee.

John McGowan, Vice Provost for Information Technology, will speak at the Faculty Senate meeting in April.

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

Secretary's Report – (*Rona Donahoe*) The election for senators for 2014-15 is ongoing with new senators beginning their term at the Faculty Senate meeting in April.

Faculty & Senate Governance – (*Charlotte Herrin & Amy Taylor*) The Faculty Senate officer election process will be addressed at the March meeting. Ombudsperson nominations are needed. President Miller will send emails to the Deans encouraging nominations for this position.

Research & Service – (*Ed Stephenson & Steve Burch*) Steve Burch sits on a research and grant committee and has been given rubrics for evaluating from Dr. Carl Pinkert's office. Groups that have used this will be contacted to determine if there are any glitches and if it is workable.

The research compliance issues continue with the IACUC committee being told the investigator had to be the person supplying the money for the project. This was reversed in the next meeting

causing frustration and extra time used to try to determine what procedure should be followed. There is a pre-review committee that looks at the protocols and comes up with a list of changes then letters are sent to the PI's. Issues agreed to are changed by the Research Compliance team. The request was made to pass the letters among the committee members to make certain the information is accurate. This request was not granted. It was suggested to discuss this with Dr. Carl Pinkert, Vice President for Research, and report back to the Steering Committee.

Faculty Life – (*Carol Duffy & Jennifer Shoaff*) No report.

Academic Affairs – (*John Vincent & Patricia Parmelee*) Some of the committee members complained about the online training required by UA. The committee continues to wait on the Faculty Handbook revisions. The “Naming of Emeritus Faculty Resolution” has been submitted to Provost Benson and President Bonner.

The “Faculty Participation in Selection of Deans & Department Chairs & Evaluation of Academic Programs Committee” has been asked to give its opinion whether Deans and Chairs should continue to be evaluated when they leave UA. Opinions differed – if it is certain they are leaving the evaluation would not be necessary but if by some development they remained at UA the evaluation should be done – other committee members believed evaluations should be done on everybody.

There was a press release from the Graduate School titled “One Hundred Ways to Appreciate Your Graduate Student” including suggestions such as a massage, manicure, pedicure, hug, and other inappropriate suggestions. The release was to all UA faculty and staff. President Miller will check on this.

Information Technology – (*Mangala Krishnamurthy & Clark Midkiff*) John McGowan, Vice Provost for Information Technology, will address the Faculty Senate meeting on April 15th. There continues to be email, UA box, Windows XP and other technology problems. A request for informational handouts for senators in the April meeting will be forwarded to McGowan. There were also questions about the status of the UA Information Technology University Standing Committee.

Legislative Agenda – (*Margaret Garner*) Attendance for Higher Education Day in Montgomery was approximately 2,500 with approximately 150 from UA. Bill Jones, UA Government Liaison, has retired and was honored with the Alumni Leadership Award. The SGA under the leadership of their president, Parker Graham, will host a “Capital at the Capstone” program on Sunday, March 16th for the students that attended Higher Education Day and several legislators will attend to particularly address student's issues. The campaign to enhance Higher Education membership has been postponed until next fall. HEP membership is low and is the only advocacy voice for higher education in the state. Membership benefits such as \$2 million liability insurance and vision discounts are among many other discounts offered.

Financial Affairs – (*Rainer Schad & Reuben Cook*) The Financial Affairs Committee will be meeting with Dr. Lynda Gilbert.

Student Affairs – (*Joanne Hale & Melondie Carter*) A review concerning the app for student scholarship information will be presented at next week's March 18th Faculty Senate meeting.

Other Committee Reports –

Faculty Staff Benefits – There were 2,600 responses to the Child/Elder Care survey. The Staff survey was sent two days before the results were due.

The Shelby Engineering & Science Quad will be dedicated on Friday, March 14th.

Meeting adjourned 4:20 P.M.