

**FACULTY SENATE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 11, 2013 – 3:00 P.M. – 213 AIME**

APPROVED MINUTES

ATTENDING: Steve Miller, Rona Donahoe, Steve Burch, Ed Stephenson, Joanne Hale, Amy Taylor, Carol Duffy, Jeannine Lawrence, Melondie Carter, Charlotte Herrin, John Vincent, Sierra Turner, Reuben Cook, Rainer Schad.

ABSENT: Donna Meester, Clark Midkiff, Margaret Garner.

GUESTS: Kathy Butler, Dialog.

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

Faculty Senate Steering Committee minutes of May 14, 2013 were approved with one correction.

President's Report – (*Steve Miller*) President Bonner hosted a luncheon at the President's Mansion for the Faculty Senate Steering Committee and UA Deans. It was well attended and enjoyed by all.

President Miller expressed appreciation for the flowers sent to his family for his mother's funeral.

An announcement concerning a new Provost and Vice President for Research should be made in the very near future.

President Miller will be meeting with representatives from Transportation Services and Campus Master Plan Committee concerning communication and faculty input regarding policy-making decisions.

Secretary's Report – (*Rona Donahoe*) Dates and locations of Faculty Senate meetings and events have been posted on the Faculty Senate web site.

Research & Service – The Research and Service Committee will follow closely the Vice President for Research selection.

Information Technology – (*Mangala Krishnamurthy & Clark Midkiff*) President Miller will be meeting with John McGowan to determine the status/progress of IT issues. Miller also suggested a faculty meeting with IT officials to address critical IT situations. Conducting a survey of IT performance was also suggested. The University Information Technology Committee had met only one time this past year until complaints were made. The UA IT committee called a meeting within two days of the complaint.

Faculty Life – (*Carol Duffy & Jeannine Lawrence*) The Faculty Life Committee continues to work on a smoke-free campus, parental leave and day care issues. Locating a day care service for new faculty is a problem. Support should be continued for Cori Perdue, Work Life Manager. Other issues are a limited number of day care facilities, very long waiting lists and establishing a

facility. One suggestion was providing day care for a limited time for new faculty. UA could also partner, such as an external contract, with an established day care facility.

The SGA smoke-free survey has been received. The SGA averaged the number of responses (3,000 students) received for three questions (“We need more designated smoking areas on campus”; “I support a smoke-free campus”; “The current policies are fine.”) Rona Donahoe divided the response to each question by the total to get an accurate percentage which resulted in a 72% of students favoring a smoke-free campus.

The tenure clock policy has been posted on the Provost’s web site but has not been inserted into the Faculty Handbook. The Handbook revision copies have not been received and President Miller will check on the distribution progress.

Student Affairs – (*Melonie Carter & Joanne Hale*) The Student Affairs Committee will be meeting with SGA representatives at the beginning of the fall semester to determine the most important issues for students and how the Student Affairs Committee can work with the SGA to address those issues.

The Student Affairs Committee is very interested in the smoke-free campus policy.

The committee will pursue the Alabama Reach gift card program and to be able to contribute online. It was suggested for that information to be available on the Faculty Senate website.

Faculty could and should encourage students to run for SGA offices and encourage the Faculty Senate SGA representative to attend the Faculty Senate meetings.

Faculty & Senate Governance – (*Charlotte Herrin & Amy Taylor*) An Ombudsperson position is open and an announcement requesting nominees will be made at the beginning of the fall semester by President Miller. The nominee must come from the Business/Engineering colleges.

The Mediation Committee chair has retired and the Faculty Senate will need to elect a replacement.

Academic Affairs – (*John Vincent & Sierra Turner*) Continuing issues for the Academic Affairs Committee are classroom design input, clinical faculty and Faculty Handbook revisions. Mark Nelson made a presentation to the Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee and satisfactorily explained the pre-existing circumstances surrounding the Humanities 197 course.

Financial Affairs – (*Reuben Cook & Rainer Schad*) The Teachers Retirement System has an election in the near future for a higher education representative and another position will be open next year. It was suggested to pursue someone from UA to run for the position.

The Financial Affairs Committee has not met over the summer. UA reporting channels were discussed. It was suggested for the committee to meet on a regular basis with Lynda Gilbert, Vice President for Financial Affairs and have a composed list of questions forwarded to her to address during the meetings.

It was suggested the construction pages from the Board of Trustees report be scanned and forwarded to the Faculty Senate to create awareness of campus construction projects. The amount of money being spent on campus construction projects was discussed.

Reports from Other Committees –

Concern was expressed about the timing of a CUC staffing meeting and the lateness of any CUC activity.

The Faculty Senate Steering Committee will meet with the Provost on June 27 at 3:00 PM in OAA Conference Room.

Meeting adjourned 4:05 P.M.