

CORRECTED

MINUTES

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

November 15, 1994

Ferguson Forum

3:30 p.m.

Members absent and not represented by an alternate: Catherine Davies, Sharon Beatty, Ron Banaszak, Marion Paris, David Harrison, Ginny Raymond

The [minutes for October 1994](#) were approved.

President's Report

In addition to the printed report, Joe Benson reported that the Faculty Senate now has a voice mail box. The number is 348-0033. All faculty members are encouraged to leave messages for the Faculty Senate using voice mail.

A draft policy for computer usage was included with the agenda. The faculty is encouraged to read it and share any concerns with the Academic Affairs or Planning & Operations Committees.

The revised version of the policy on merger and discontinuance (dated 11/09/94) has gone to Council of Deans and to the Faculty Senate. The faculty is encouraged to review it and send comments to the Academic Affairs Committee co-chairs.

Reports from Senate Committees

The Academic Affairs Committee discussed the Core Curriculum Goals & Objectives, and will give this further consideration. The Committee is also considering the draft policy on computer usage, and has initial reservations. The Committee has been asked to consider an annual review of teaching effectiveness, especially after tenure has been granted. A resolution concerning Faculty Handbook policy on Textbook selection is included in the agenda.

The Financial Affairs Committee has a resolution to be discussed later in the meeting.

The Planning & Operations Committee discussed their initial response to the draft policy on computer usage. Among other things, the policy as currently worded may forbid any intentional use of a University computer.

The Research & Service Committee met with Bill Findley from the Office of Institutional Research to discuss faculty workloads. There seems to be no general policy for how workloads are assigned or evaluated. The Committee is considering surveying the faculty on this issue.

The Student Affairs Committee has been considering a revised student Honor Code and recruiting and retention.

Senate Operations had no report.

Reports from Senators on University Committees

The University Library Committee met on October 25 and considered the SACS recommendation on the University libraries. They feel that the current response to the SACS recommendation is inadequate. Funding continues to be a problem, with an anticipated cut of \$600,000-700,000 in journals next August. These cuts may be primarily in Science and Engineering, where it is anticipated that the same information will be available via electronic access. The renovation of Gorgas is already under way.

Edith Barnes reported on the Campus Master Plan Advisory Committee as they considered feedback from open meetings regarding problems with traffic on campus and parking, both of which are seen as problems. The Committee received a letter arguing against tearing down the Wesley Center, but there are no plans to destroy the Wesley Center, and any such plans would require consultation with the committee. Ground has been broken for a new Wesley Center. Bids are being taken on the Coleman Coliseum addition and the Ferguson parking deck for action by the Board of Trustees in their December meeting. The University is acquiring land from Bryce hospital which includes eight buildings. These buildings will be leased back to Bryce for the immediate future. Bids on the new Student Services building (sometimes referred to as an expansion of Ferguson) will be taken in May, with Board action expected in June and construction to begin in the summer of 1995. Land on the west end of campus is being leased for commercial use for terms of 40-45 years. The paint shop and hazardous waste area will be moved to a new location. An architect is currently working on River Road Park. The Facilities Office has set up a hotline (348-0532) for ADA related problems.

In a discussion of this report, Chuck Hobby asked why we are building new buildings when an earlier Faculty Senate resolution requested that no new buildings be built without maintenance. It has been estimated that \$3-5 million are needed for regular continuing maintenance. Matt Winston reported that he sits on a committee to plan for the Ferguson expansion, but that the committee has not met for several months. Bill Dooley reported that he had been informed that some art collections will no longer be insured, since new buildings need insurance. Some senators asked why we need more buildings if enrollment is dropping. Edith Barnes responded that there is a demand for centralizing the physical plant and maintenance centers.

Ali Iran-Nejad reported that the International Student and Scholar Services Committee is concerned with the declining enrollment of international students. There was a 20% decline in 1994 and Dr. Sayers is taking a keen interest in this issue. A more detailed analysis is planned.

Matt Winston: Equal Opp. Focus on ADA, recruitment/retention, disabled students, & staff.

Chuck Hobby reported that the Faculty handbook committee will meet soon. They are wrestling with the question of how to define "Service". Any suggestions would be appreciated.

Ruby Morrison reported that the Student Health Committee met and discussed the increasing cost of operations of the Student Health Center in spite of a decline in enrollment. There has been no increase in student health fees for several years. They will be looking for more funds in the near future.

The Resources and Priorities Committee is considering what to do with the \$4.5 million set aside to cover proration.

Old Business:

The Senate approved two faculty members to sit on the Mediation and Grievance Committee: Jerry Weaver and Wythe Holt.

Since Faculty Senate Vice President Leah Lievrouw is taking a visiting professorship for the spring, the Faculty Senate elected a replacement. Any Ward will serve as Vice President until April, when new officers will be elected.

New Business:

The Senate endorsed the selection of Margerite Garner, Joe Hornsby and Daryl Webb to sit on the University Alcohol Beverage Committee.

Atley Jefcoat, presently serving as the Senate's representative to the Cooperative Education Committee had asked to be reassigned to the Admissions & Retention Committee. This post was vacant since the Senator holding that post resigned from the Senate. The Senate approved the reassignment, and asked Catherine Davies (a new Senator replacing one who resigned) to ask as representative to the Cooperative Education Committee.

The Senate considered a resolution from the Academic Affairs Committee:

Whereas it is the sense of the Faculty Senate Academic Affairs committee that the intention of the current section of the Faculty Handbook (Chapter 2, XXIV A.) is to avoid conflict of interest based on personal monetary gain, and because it suggests that faculty cannot use their own material in their courses, (including articles, handouts, syllabi, etc.)

Be it resolved that the text of the second paragraph of Chapter 2, XXIV A. ``Avoiding conflict of interests in textbook selection." which currently reads:

"In cases where a faculty member desires to use textbook(s), laboratory manuals, computer software, or other instructional materials which he or she has authored or from which he or she receives royalties, the faculty member shall submit this recommendation to the textbook selection committee..."

and

"Decisions on selection of textbooks or other materials authored by a faculty member, or from which the faculty member receives royalties, are effective for all semesters beginning in the subsequent 12 months..."

Be modified to read:

"In cases where a faculty member desires to use textbook(s), laboratory manuals, computer software, or other instructional materials from which he or she receives royalties, the faculty member shall submit this recommendation to the textbook selection committee..."

and

"Decisions on selection of textbooks or other materials from which the faculty member receives royalties, are effective for all semesters beginning in the subsequent 12 months..."

The resolution passed unanimously.

The Senate then considered a resolution from the Financial Affairs Committee. The Committee asked that a revised resolution be substituted for the one in the agenda:

Whereas, after advice and counsel, the University's central administration has withheld \$4.5 million of the current year's operating budget in anticipation of possible proration, and

Whereas these monies must be budgeted for non-recurring expenditures in 1994-95, if not used for proration, and

Whereas the University's central administration, Resources and Priorities Committee, Council of Deans, and other interested groups at the University are in the process of considering possible uses for the withheld funds, if not used for proration, and

Whereas certain of the proposed uses of these funds appear to be mandatory rather than optional, specifically to provide funds of \$760,000 for enrollment shortfall revenue loss (net of budget cuts made in light of the shortfall), and provide funds of \$250,000 needed to comply with physical plant modifications required under the Americans with Disabilities Act,

Therefore be it resolved that, if these monies are not used for proration, the Faculty Senate of the University of Alabama recommends all due consideration be given to the following alternative uses:

Stated in priority order with dollar amounts suggested

1. Provide funds to bolster library resources in the amount of \$680,000.
2. Provide funds of at least \$2.25 million for a bonus to be distributed among all fulltime employees in equal dollar amounts.

After discussion and minor amendments reflected in the above text, the resolution passed without dissent.

The Senate was reminded of its resolution in January that a reasonable maintenance reserve should be part of the budget for all new buildings. There was some concern expressed over whether this resolution was being followed with respect to buildings which will be constructed soon. It was suggested that the Senate President relay this concern to the appropriate parties.

Concern was also expressed that maintenance and the library were not being funded adequately from the regular budget, leading to a large backlog of deferred maintenance and the need to supplement library funding from year-end funds.

There being no further business, the Senate adjourned at 5:18PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcus Brown, Secretary