

## FACULTY SENATE MEETING

APRIL 21, 2015 – 3:30 P.M. - #110 AIME

### APPROVED MINUTES

**ABSENT WITHOUT ALTERNATE:** Sky Shineman, Merinda Simmons, Jim Brown, Walt Robbins, Meredith Bagley, Ed Back, Lori Greene.

**ABSENT WITH ALTERNATE:** Andreas Piepke/Dean Townsley, Peter Schulte/Jennifer Shoaff, Todd DeZoort/Jessica Crew, Grace Lee/Susan Lyons.

**PRESS:** Cresandra Smothers, Dialog.

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

The Faculty Senate meeting minutes of March 24, 2015 were approved.

Faculty Senate officers for 2015-16 – President Donna Meester, Vice President Ed Stephenson and Secretary Rona Donahoe met with the newly elected senators for orientation. Information packets were distributed and senator responsibilities were reviewed.

A presentation was made to Steve Miller in honor and appreciation of his service as president of the Faculty Senate for 2002-03 and 2012-2015.

The committee assignments for 2015-16 Faculty Senate Standing Committees were approved.

The committee assignments for 2015-16 Faculty Senate representatives to University Standing Committees were approved.

Each committee met in individual groups to elect co-chairs.

#### **Committee reports—**

**Academic Affairs –** (*John Vincent & Patricia Parmelee*) John Vincent and Chapman Greer are the co-chairs for the Academic Affairs Committee. The Academic Affairs Committee continues to address the Core Curriculum issue and waiting for an official announcement stating the confirmed core curriculum for the University from the Provost's Office.

**Community Affairs –** (*Kim Severt*) Kim Severt and Amy Dayton are the co-chairs for the new Community Affairs Committee. The Higher Education Day was held April 9 in Montgomery. This committee will be looking at methods to publicize and improve attendance for this event.

**Faculty Life –** (*Pamela Payne-Foster & Ed Stephenson*) Brian Gordon and Pamela Payne-Foster are the co-chairs for this committee. The Faculty Life Committee will continue to pursue the Faculty Life Climate Survey project to its conclusion with the results being made public.

**Faculty & Senate Governance –** (*Charlotte Herrin & Marilyn Handley*) The new co-chairs are Charlotte Herrin and Robert Riter. The Faculty and Senate Governance Committee will continue to research ways to

conduct Faculty Senate elections electronically. The construction of Faculty Senate Bylaws will be reviewed. Meetings will be held with new administrators as they come on board regarding Diversity Task Force recommendations.

**Financial Affairs** – (*Reuben Cook & Rainer Schad*) The current co-chairs are continuing – Reuben Cook and Rainer Schad. The Financial Affairs Committee will be meeting with Dr. Lynda Gilbert, UA Vice President for Financial Affairs.

**Information Technology** – (*Mangala Krishnamurthy & Clark Midkiff*) Co-chairs, Mangala Krishnamurthy and Clark Midkiff, will continue with this committee.

**Research & Service** – (*Steve Burch & Andreas Piepke*) The Research & Service Committee announced their new co-chairs – Steve Burch and Steven Jones.

**Student Affairs** – (*Joanne Hale & JoAnn Oliver*) The committee co-chairs for Student Affairs, Joanne Hale and JoAnn Oliver, will continue. The recommendations of the Faculty Senate Diversity Task Force will be the focus for this committee in the coming year. Graduate Student representation by an independent organization will be pursued.

Vice President Ed Stephenson is the Faculty Senate Web Master and requested someone volunteer to serve with him in this capacity to provide a smooth transition in the future.

Past Faculty Senate President Steve Miller gave a report on the progress of the presidential search for The University of Alabama. The number of candidates has narrowed. The search committee members have been vocal in expressing their opinions concerning the qualifications each candidate possesses. The search has been transparent as much as possible. The search committee has paid particular attention to the faculty survey conducted by the Steve Miller and the Faculty Senate.

Reuben Cook is a member of the Vice President for Advancement search committee. The report stated the number of candidates has been narrowed and eleven interviews were conducted in two days. Final selection will probably be made by the soon-to-be announced new president of The University of Alabama.

Meeting adjourned 4:35 P.M.