

FACULTY SENATE STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES

JUNE 9, 2015 – 3:00 PM - #213 AIME

APPROVED MINUTES

ATTENDING: Reuben Cook, Rona Donahoe, Pamela Payne-Foster, Brian Gordon, Charlotte Herrin, Steven Jones, Mangala Krishnamurthy, Donna Meester, Clark Midkiff, Steve Miller, JoAnn Oliver, Bob Riter, Rainer Schad, Kim Severt, Ed Stephenson, John Vincent, Dominic Yeager.

ABSENT: Steve Burch, Amy Dayton, Chapman Greer, Joanne Hale.

GUESTS: Cresandra Smothers, Dialog.

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

The Faculty Senate Steering Committee meeting minutes of May 12, 2015 were tabled and will be approved at the next Steering Committee meeting.

President's Report – (*Donna Meester*) Chancellor Robert Witt is scheduled to make a recommendation during the June 18 UA Board of Trustees meeting for approval of Stuart Bell to replace Judy Bonner as president of The University of Alabama. Bell comes from Louisiana State University after serving there as executive vice president and provost. Following approval he will take office on July 15th.

Donna Meester, Kim Severt and Amy Dayton will attend the Higher Education Leadership Conference held at the end of July.

President Judy Bonner has invited the Faculty Senate Steering Committee to come to the President's Mansion following today's meeting to recognize the support of the Faculty Senate and the Faculty Senate's Steering Committee during her tenure as UA president.

Dominic Yeager, Theater & Dance Assistant Professor, was introduced as the new Faculty Senate Parliamentarian.

Vice President's Report – (*Ed Stephenson*) The Climate Survey Report is in the process of review for any information leading to identification of the submitter or their department. As soon as the undergraduate, graduate and information technology sections are complete, Ed will forward those to Marilyn Staffo, Director of the Faculty Resource Center. Each member of the Steering Committee was encouraged to review the survey narratives and forward to Ed Stephenson.

Secretary's Report – (*Rona Donahoe*) No report.

Academic Affairs – (*John Vincent & Chapman Greer*) The Academic Affairs Committee continues to wait for the official document clarifying the core curriculum from the Provost's office.

The University of Alabama Personnel Policies, Non-Tenure Track, Renewable Contract (NTRC) Faculty document was reviewed and numerous changes were discussed. John Vincent collected the suggested changes and will send the committee a revised version of the document with all the suggested changes incorporated.

The Academic Affairs Committee will continue to pursue the issue of updating the Faculty Handbook.

Community Affairs – (*Amy Dayton & Kimberly Severt*) No report.

Faculty & Senate Governance – (*Charlotte Herrin & Robert Riter*) The Faculty and Senate Governance Committee met with Kelli Knox-Hall regarding online voting for Faculty Senate elections. The current system used by the SGA for elections was recommended. This process is vetted by OIT and is very secure and reliable. An icon/emblem would be placed as a tab on MyBama available to senators only with a selected password. The return time for election results would be a matter of hours. The committee would like to set up a test election to evaluate the process. The Faculty Senate would provide OIT with a list of all qualified senators. Senators would be able to vote from various electronic devices. A window of time will be determined and bios would be imbedded on the ballot. Automated reminders would be sent.

Faculty Life – (*Brian Gordon & Pamela Payne-Foster*) The Faculty Life Committee met by phone to discuss the Faculty Life Climate Survey and determine the main issues for the committee to address this fall.

Financial Affairs – (*Reuben Cook & Rainer Schad*) No report.

Information Technology – (*Mangala Krishnamurthy & Clark Midkiff*) The Office of Information Technology sent an email stating there is an agreement now in place for a campus-wide End Note license.

Research & Service – (*Steve Burch & Steven Jones*) No report. Animal Care is in the process of checking complaints and reports of misconduct.

Student Affairs – (*Joanne Hale & JoAnn Oliver*) No report.

Reports from Other Committees –

According to the ADA faculty members are responsible for posting notes for students with disabilities on a regular basis.

Academic continuity was discussed.

Any suggestions for speakers for Faculty Senate meetings should be forwarded to Donna Meester.

The Steering Committee usually meets with the Campus Master Plan director during the summer. It was suggested to have the new UA President speak as soon as possible.

Additional bike racks are needed. Reuben will check with the Parking and Transportation Committee on the situation.

The next meeting with the Provost will be June 25th.

Meeting adjourned 4:30 P.M.

The Faculty Senate Steering Committee adjourned to reassemble at the President's Mansion for a meeting with President Judy Bonner.