# FACULTY SENATE MEETING

# NOVEMBER 13, 2018 – 3:30 PM – SERC #1013

# APPROVED MINUTES

**ABSENT WITH ALTERNATE:** Gwenetta Curry/Seth Bordner, Donna Meester/Kelley Schoger, Regina Range/Hilary Green, Cecil Robinson/ Robert McKinney, Joy Burnham/Mike Esco, Edward Sazonov/Keith Williams, Carla Blakey/Tiffany Hylton,

**ABSENT WITHOUT ALTERNATE:** Steve Bunker, Julia Cartwright, Joe Weber, Peter Johnson,Ray Stewart, Peter Jensen, Angela Benson, Janie Hubbard, Andre Denham, Adam Knowlton, Mirit Eyal-Cohen, Leah Cheatham, Dominic Yeager.

**GUESTS:** Jackie Northrup, Professional Staff Assembly Representative; Cresandra Smothers, Strategic Communications; Ed Enoch, The Tuscaloosa News, Shashi Nambisan, Justice Smyth, Seth Polansky.

Roll call and quorum check by Faculty Senate Secretary Barb Dahlbach.

The Faculty Senate meeting minutes of October 16, 2018 were approved.

Amber Capell, Director of External Engagement, Division of Student Life, gave a review of qualifications and other information concerning the six Premier Awards with nine total recipients. The six awards are: **William & Estan Bloom Award** ($5,000 one student recipient); **Judy Bonner Award** ($3,000 one student/faculty/staff/department recipient); **Morris Mayer Award** ($1,000 one student and one faculty); **Catherine Randall Award** ($1,000 one student recipient); **John Ramsey Award** ($6,000 and $5,000 for tour abroad one student recipient); **Algernon Sullivan Award** ($1,000 one male student, one female student, one faculty/staff). These are some of the highest awards given at The University of Alabama recognizing UA students, faculty, and staff exhibiting the highest standard of scholarship, leadership, character and service. The recipients are recognized and receive a monetary award at a banquet held in February. All portions of the student application, including letter of reference, are due by December 1, 2018.

Dr. Shashi Nambisan, UA Transportation Institute Director, presented information concerning the planning, research and policy resources available to advance to a 21st century transportation system. Modes of transportation have an effect on almost all the population involving work, education, shopping, health, and recreation. Access and mobility is crucial in our society using multiple transport modes every day. Transportation provides freight movement which stimulates economic growth. Roads and bridges must be maintained with funding being the pivotal issue. Seventeen of sixty-seven Alabama counties do not have four-land roads. Some of their roads have been abandoned to dirt roads only because financial resources are not available for paving. UA has a Traffic Management Center operating 24/7-365 days a year – the only institution in the nation to have a center located on campus. Mercedes Benz has not had a delivery of materials delayed since the inception of this resource (delayed deliveries costs Mercedes Benz $10,000 a minute). There are common factors related to transportation such as funding, demand, technology and demand and supply. Trucks are bigger, have more emissions, fuel economy concern, road damage and larger loads. Resources and infrastructure have not kept up with the population or the economy. A number of factors enter into infrastructure decisions such as economics, efficiency, energy, environment, equity, ethics and expediency. Considerations at the forefront of transportation development include communication, operation, management, cyber systems, data support and analytics. The heart of everything done and the priority of UA’s Transportation Institute is safety. ATI’s investments include faculty support during academic year/summer, build on existing efforts, pursuing new ventures, document efforts and outcomes, scholarship and dollarship initiations. Research efforts include post-doctoral scholars, research economists/engineers/scientists/geographers, non-tenure eligible faculty members, “matching” graduate assistantships, top-off fellowships for graduate students, visiting scholars, equipment and other resources and bridge funding. Conferences, seminars and symposia will be vital in developing the goals set by the Transportation Institute. ATI affiliated centers include Transportation Policy Research Center, Center for Sustainable Infrastructure, Center for Advanced Vehicle Technologies, Center for Business and Economic Research, Center for Advanced Public Safety, University Transportation Center for Alabama, Alabama Center for Insurance Information and Research and others.

**President’s Report –** *(Rona Donahoe)* The “Resolution on the Implementation of the Weekend Parking Permit” passed by the Faculty Senate at the October meeting was forwarded to administration. The implementation of the parking permit has been suspended. Vice President Fajack will organize a parking committee to conduct an in-depth study of parking on campus and bring forth a five-year parking plan. Faculty Senate representatives on this committee will be Matthew Hudnall and Joe Weber.

The “Proposal: Commission on Race, Slavery, and Civil Rights at The University of Alabama – A Proposal” received a good response. Dr. Christine Taylor, Vice President for Diversity, will spearhead this project. UA will join the Universities Studying Slavery consortium, a group of 45 universities across the nation, which was founded in 2014 by the University of Virginia. The mission is to organize collaborative efforts to facilitate mutual support in the pursuit of common goals around historical and contemporary issues dealing with race and inequality in higher education and in university communities as well as the legacy of slavery in modern American society.

The “Resolution on Placing a Menorah at Rose Administration” response from administration working with the Interfaith Initiative Counsel, Crossroads and Vice President for Community Affairs, Samory Pruitt, is to develop an inclusive campus and community wide holiday celebration. Hopefully this will be implemented this year.

Dr. Russell Mumper is the new Vice President for Research and Development and will begin in this position in January of 2019.

The time to respond to the Research and Service Committee survey was extended resulting in greater participation. Hopefully the written question responses will provide specific information to be used in compiling recommendations coming from the Faculty Senate going to the new Vice President for Research and Development, Dr. Russell Mumper.

There are three dean searches either underway or in the initial stages. The vacancies are for Continuing Studies, College of Community Health Sciences and Arts and Sciences.

The joint Brewer-Porch service project in collaboration with the Professional Staff Assembly and the Office, Clerical and Technical Staff Assembly will have work days on December 3 and 4 (9-noon and 1-4 PM). Volunteers are needed to work on installing a salsa garden plot for the clients and staff at their facility.

The Board of Trustees meeting was held on November 9th at the Bryant Conference Center. This was UA’s institutional meeting and Faculty Senate President Rona Donahoe spoke giving a summary of Faculty Senate activities. There was no update on the chancellor’s search so President Donahoe will contact members of the Board of Trustees for a status report.

November 15th at 11:59 PM will end the open, active benefits enrollment period. Inaction will result in no health care coverage.

**Vice President’s Report –** *(Chapman Greer)* No report.

**Secretary’s Report –** *(Barb Dahlbach)* No report.

**IT & Strategic Communications –** *(Matthew Hudnall & Dan Meissner)* The committee reached out to Strategic Communications concerning usage of UA’s logo. There is ambiguity in usage rights and particularly the UA name. Anything printed by a third party must go through Strategic Communications for approval. The committee will continue to work on clarifying the approval process and exactly what materials should be submitted.

**Research & Service –** *(Ajay Agrawal & Mike Kreger)* The Research and Service Committee survey is completed with good participation. The OIRA will send the results to the committee within a couple of weeks when the committee will analyze and organize the data. They are looking forward to working with the new Vice President for Research and Development, Dr. Russell Mumper.

**Faculty & Senate Governance –** *(Ibrahim Cemen & Janie Hubbard)* Janie Hubbard will serve as co-chair of this committee while Angela Benson is on sabbatical.

The election for Commencement Marshal in December will be Pamela Payne-Foster. Caryl Cooper and Stacy Allen will serve as commencement Marshal in May. The election for the August commencement Marshal will be held in January.

Mediation Committee calendar was changed last spring to terms served during the academic year. There are six faculty members appointed by the Faculty Senate with normal elections held in November for two expiring terms in December to take office in January. Joy Burnham and Stephen Hobbs were asked to extend their terms until August of next year when they would rotate off and elections would be held next March to fill the two vacancies.

The Faculty and Senate Governance Committee have no role in the University Committee on Committees.

**Faculty Life –** *(Julia Cartwright & Andrea Glenn)* The Faculty Life Committee is working on a parental leave policy beginning with nine-month faculty. The goal is for adoption to be added to the policy. The committee will have a resolution soon and welcomes any feedback. It is the hope that the policy will be included in the revised Faculty Handbook.

**Academic Affairs –** *(John Vincent & John Petrovic)* The Faculty Senate Steering Committee has completed the review of Chapter Two of the Faculty Handbook revisions. The Academic Affairs Committee will have a special meeting following the Thanksgiving holiday. Those revisions will be reviewed and discussed in the Faculty Senate Steering Committee meeting on December 3 and forwarded to Associate Provost Jennifer Greer and to Norma Lemley in the System’s Office of Counsel. The Faculty Handbook Task Force will bring the Handbook back to the Faculty Senate at the beginning of next year. Some policy changes to student academic misconduct were given to the task force this week. Other proposed changes will be reviewed by the task force.

**Diversity, Equity & Inclusion –** *(Mirit Eyal-Cohen & Osiris Molina)* The committee met with Dr. Christine Taylor, Vice President and Director of Diversity, to discuss several issues. One of the items discussed was group meetings based on “Walk a Mile in My Shoes” giving an opportunity to sign up for specific affinity sessions beginning in the spring semester.

The Birmingham Holocaust Association will be on campus for a lecture on March 25 and April 1, 2019.

Curriculum reform is being discussed with the General Education Task Force heading up this project.

It is mandatory that first-year students watch the diversity video and Dr. Taylor will send a link for the Faculty Senate to view the video.

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

**Reports from Other Committees –**

The newly formed parking committee is focusing on a proposed five-year campus-wide parking and transportation plan. A consulting group will be brought in to evaluate and make recommendations concerning parking and transportation on campus including continued growth and projections for the future. The Faculty Senate has representatives serving in this committee.

The General Education Task Force will be getting to know each member since this is a long-term committee. Beginning next semester the task force will engage in benchmarking and materials reviews. It is a diverse group with representatives from all disciplines. Any suggestions should be emailed to the General Education Task Force.

Questions from the Faculty Senate floor included the status of administration in relation to the Machine (student group controlling student elections and politics), eliminating dead week, Board of Trustees seventy-year age limit term eliminated by amendment vote and the removal of the Secretary of Education on the board and froze congressional districts, and the chancellor’s replacement process.

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be December 11, 2018.

Meeting adjourned 4:45 PM.