

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

APRIL 16, 2019 – 3:30 PM - #1010 North Lawn Hall

APPROVED MINUTES

ABSENT WITH ALTERNATE: Ellary Draper/Andrew Minear, Donna Meester/Matt Reynolds, Leah LeFebvre/Miriam Sweeney, Joy Burnham/Nirmala Erevelles, Janie Hubbard/Cindy Ann Kilgo.

ABSENT WITHOUT ALTERNATE: Silas Blackstock, Jolene Hubbs, Jenny Shaw, Sarah Steinbock-Pratt, Vaia Touna, Alan Tidwell, Bharat Mehra, Louanne Friend, Cecil Robinson, Keith Williams, Mirit Eyal-Cohen, Allyson Gold.

GUESTS: Cresandra Smothers, Strategic Communications; Ed Enoch, The Tuscaloosa News.

The new senator orientation was held at 2:30 P.M. in #1010 North Lawn Hall. Prepared informational packets were distributed. President Rona Donahoe and Faculty Senate Secretary Barb Dahlbach reviewed the responsibilities, activities and duties of faculty senators. Faculty Senate accomplishments were reviewed and the importance of meeting attendance was stressed.

Bill Bomar, Executive Director of UA Museums, gave a review of the five museums and three departments included in this UA division. The University of Alabama Museums offers opportunities to broaden knowledge of natural sciences and cultural heritage through collections and quality programs of research, instruction and service. [The Alabama Museum of Natural History](#) offers classes, summer field trips, natural history programs, museum tours, science initiatives and science camps. [Moundville Archaeological Park](#) is a historic landmark site with over 30,000 visitors annually, host of the Moundville Native American Festival, and the site of significant research by UA faculty and students. [The Gorgas House Museum](#) built in 1829 was the original site of the University dining hall and later used as a residence until 1953. [The Warner Transportation Museum](#) serves to broaden the knowledge of transportation related topics and human culture through exhibits and quality programs of research, instruction and service. [The Paul R. Jones Museum](#) is a collection of African American art with over 1,700 pieces and is one of the largest collections of African American art in the world. "Discovering Alabama" is a nature television series produced by The University of Alabama's Museum of Natural History and Center for Public Television and Radio. This series received an Emmy Award in the southeast competition in 2010. The [Office of Archaeological Research](#) provides the highest quality archaeological and historic architectural research available. Their commitment is to the preservation of our non-renewable cultural resources through the facilitation of management strategies, research and education for governmental, academic and private organizations. [The Department of Museum Research and Collections](#) plays a major role in facilitating faculty and student research. The museum staff is actively engaged in directing externally sponsored research. UA Museums serves as a significant research arm in archaeology, paleontology and biodiversity studies. From 2013 to 2018, UA Museums have increased research funding through contracts and grants by nearly 400% (\$522K to \$2 million). Over the last six years, a total of 24 theses and dissertations, 97 conference presentations, and 57 publications have resulted from UA Museums collections based research. There is now a Graduate Certificate Program in Museum Studies available. This is a unique opportunity for newly enrolled students. These museums and departments offer unprecedented amounts of information and education on the UA campus.

A vote of the Faculty Senate unanimously approved the 2019-20 Faculty Senate Standing Committees and the 2019-20 Faculty Senate Representatives to University Committees.

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

The Faculty Senate meeting minutes of March 19, 2019 were approved.

President's Report – (*Rona Donahoe*) The nomination of Bob Riter as Faculty Senate Parliamentarian was unanimously approved by the Faculty Senate.

The nomination and appointment of Sarah Miesse as Faculty Senate Webmaster was confirmed unanimously by the Faculty Senate.

President Donahoe attended the Board of Trustees meeting in Huntsville. Highlights of that meeting were: an artist's rendering of Tutwiler women's only dorm cost \$150 million; Math & Science Education renovation cost \$32 1/2 million; \$9 million dollar construction to correct flooding near Bryant-Denny Stadium; \$3 million softball field renovation; Alston Hall classroom

renovation; performing arts commissioning agent. The Finance Committee agenda items included \$284 new bonds for construction projects and \$149 million existing bonds refinanced.

General Ed Daly from Redstone Arsenal and Dr. Jody Singer from Marshall Space Flight Center spoke regarding the importance of UA system graduates to their success.

Finis St. John was announced as the Chancellor of the UA System.

Ajay Agrawal and Mike Kreger and the Research and Service Committee have done an outstanding job in analyzing and reporting the results of the research survey sent out last spring. The written comments took time to sort out. Recommendations have been forwarded to UA Vice President for Research, Russell Mumper, UA administration and results are posted on the Faculty Senate web page.

The Alabama REACH Program Student Wish List is available at <https://www.amazon.com/hz/dl/invite/0imffSg?ref=w> share. Items for students in need are listed.

ALRI Executive Director interviews: Paul Carney on April 23, 3L:30 P.M., Room #1018 North Lawn Hall.

Year-end committee reports have been from all but two committees.

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

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

The Faculty Senate separated by committees to elect co-chairs which are:

Academic Affairs – Andre Denham & John Vincent

Community & Legislative Affairs – Joy Burnham & Steven Yates

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion – Mirit Eyal-Cohen & Osiris Molina

Faculty Life – Jenni Cox & Andrea Glenn

Faculty & Senate Governance – Ibrahim Cemen & Janie Hubbard

Financial Affairs – Christopher Lynn & Keith Williams

Information Technology & Strategic Communication – Matthew Hudnall & Dan Meissner

Research & Service – Ajay Agrawal & Silas Blackstock

Student Life – Kabe Moen & Amy Traylor

Faculty Senate rules were suspended for a vote on the Faculty Handbook with the following revisions:

Welcome (page 1) - paragraph moved from Chapter 1.IV (page 7)

Chapter 1.I. (page 2) –University Library (corrected to proper name)

Chapter 1.III.N (page 6) – added “clinical”

Chapter 2, II, before A (page 12) – material moved to Chapter 2, II, G (page 21)

Chapter 2, V, A, 4 (pages 33) – reworked to address only the provost's action and to clarify that it only applies in the mandatory tenure decision year

Chapter 2, VII, A (page 36) – added allowing chair to add material to T&P; makes mirror procedure for tenure-track and tenured faculty

Appendix C, VI (page 117) – moved paragraph

Appendix H, VIII, D, (page 150) - change of “instruments” to “originals”

Appendix J, C (page 161) –Note change to “3 years”

The Faculty Handbook with those changes listed above was approved by the Faculty Senate with a unanimous approval vote.

The Office of the Provost is hosting a reception at the University Club on Friday, April 19th from 5:00 until 6:30 P.M. to express appreciation to all those participants that worked on the Faculty Handbook.

There are two members of the Mediation Committee rotating off on August 15th. There are no nominations at this time.

Reports from Other Committees

The Faculty and Staff Benefits Committee considered a bill from UAH Faculty Senate concerning transparency and rebates from pharmaceutical vendors. The University of Alabama does receive rebates contractual agreements from its pharmaceutical vendor of approximately \$2.2 million dollars. The web site “Goodrx.com” offers information comparing prescription medication costs.

Student Loan repayment using 403B money has been proposed as an option to repay student loans. Federal Government would require UA to give matching money to every University employee. The current public service program should let the Benefits Office know that you have been using this plan and it is of value to you.

Parental Leave Policy proposed by the Faculty Senate was forwarded to UA administration and Human Resources. The feedback has been the policies are too ambitious and unrealistic. The hope is to sit down with administration to work out parental leave policies for both nine and twelve month faculty.

Meeting adjourned 5:15 P.M.