FACULTY SENATE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
June 11, 2019 – 3:00 PM - #213 AIME

APPROVED MINUTES

ATTENDING: Barb Dahlbach, Rona Donahoe, Chapman Greer, Andre Denham, Joy Burnham, Osiris Molina, Jenni Cox, Andrea Glenn, Rainer Schad, Matthew Hudnall, Dan Meissner, Ajay Agrawal, Amy Traylor.

ABSENT: John Vincent, Steven Yates, Mirit Eyal-Cohen, Ibrahim Cemen, Janie Hubbard, Christopher Lynn, Si Blackstock, Kabe Moen, Past president Donna Meester.

GUESTS: Cresandra Smothers, Strategic Communications.

The Faculty Senate Steering Committee meeting minutes of April 9, 2019 were approved.

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

President’s Report – (Rona Donahoe)

- Board of Trustee meeting announcements
  - Final approval for new degree programs were approved in:
    - Hospitality Management (MS)
  - Other new degree programs in various stages of approval
  - The budget for Bryant-Denny Stadium renovation has increased, as has the budget for the Mal Moore Athletic Facility Renovation
  - The budget for Rhoads softball stadium remains the same for the additional concession stand and the Umpire locker room
  - The appropriations from the State have increased by 8.63 %
- President Donahoe is participating in the State-wide Faculty Senate Presidents’ Association
  - Articulation remains a concern as to what classes are transferable
  - More faculty input is needed in degree expansion
    - As degrees expand, few are eliminated. Degree proliferation is a concern of all
- Governor’s Workforce Development
  - Requires that any new degrees will support this initiative
  - Attempts to keep out-of-state students in Alabama to contribute to the economy
- Third-Grade Literacy Program
  - New initiative out of the Governor’s office
- The Faculty Senate website is under review and reorganization to meet Accessibility standards
  - Sarah Miesse, Olivia McMurrey (Strategic Communications), and Rona Donahoe are working on this project
  - Most files will be moving to UA Box
- The HEP STARS conference will be August 7-9 in Destin, Florida
- Speakers for the August Senate meeting will be UA President Stuart Bell and Provost Kevin Whitaker
Vice President’s Report – (Chapman Greer)

- Attended the Institute on General Education & Assessment in Vermont
  - Over 50 Institutions were in attendance
  - The R (Reasoning) E (Expression) A (Analysis) L (Learning) Education Model from Radford University was of particular interest
- Issues faced by UA include:
  - 800 Core classes available
    - We don’t know the number of students in each class
  - UA requires 53 General Education credit hours when SACS requires just 30 – most schools have just 30-40 required General Education credit hours
- The UA Gen Ed Task Force has identified 16 learning outcomes, but these need to be reduced to 4-7
- Students will be involved in the fall of 2019 to help with creating an understanding of why Gen Ed classes are necessary to the overall curriculum
- The Task Force is not including online courses in their evaluation at this time
- The current Core Curriculum requirements were created in 1982. In 1992, there was a review of the requirements, but recommended measures failed to get adopted

Secretary’s Report – (Barb Dahlbach)

- The Secretary thanked the members of the committee who contributed to the composition of the 3 proposals for the Capital Campaign
  - UA Childcare Facility Proposal-written primarily by Jenni Cox
  - Graduate Student Fellowship Proposal-Written primarily by Amy Traylor, Sara Kaylor, Leah Cheatham and Carla Blakey
  - Research Equipment and Instrumentation Proposal-written by Ajay Agrawal, Si Blackstock and Rona Donahoe
  - And thanks to those who made comments and edits

Academic Affairs – (John Vincent & Andre Denham) - No Report

Community & Legislative Affairs – (Joy Burnham & Steven Yates) - No Report

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion – (Mirit Eyal-Cohen & Ozzy Molina) - No Report

Faculty Life – (Jenni Cox & Andrea Glenn) - No Report

Faculty & Senate Governance – (Ibrahim Cemen & Janie Hubbard)

- A call for nominees to the Mediation Committee has been made. The position will become empty August 15th. The preferable candidate is from the College of Business.
Financial Affairs – *Christopher Lynn & Rainer Schad*

- Insurance rates will be increasing in January, though the exact amounts have not been determined.
- The group with the highest insurance expenses are spouses. The premiums for the groups that include spouses may increase more than that for others.

IT & Strategic Communications – *Matthew Hudnall & Dan Meissner*

- Web page development/creation will revert to the use of WordPress.
- There will be specific standards (shells) for web pages.
- The use of UA Logos on certain types of materials will need approval.
- The committee members found nothing objectionable about the new standards.

Research & Service – *Ajay Agrawal & Si Blackstock*

- The final report on the 2018 Research Survey has been completed and will be posted on the Senate web page.

Student Life – *Kabe Moen & Amy Traylor*

- A short description of the REACH Amazon wish list will be written and distributed to the Steering Committee to be used on social media.