FACULTY SENATE MEETING

March 19, 2019 - 3:30 - # 1010 North Lawn Hall

APPROVED MINUTES

**ATTENDING WITH ALTERNATE:** Silas Blackstock/Robert Findley; Jenna Stiffler/Sarah Miesse; Michelle Hales/Cecile Komara

**ABSCENT WITHOUT ALTERNATE:** Elliot Blair, Steve Bunker, Gwenetta Curry, Ellary Draper, Adam Hauser, Joe Weber, Daniel Bachrach, Peter Johnson, Jay Waters, Mirit Eyal-Cohen, Mark Siciliano

**GUESTS:** Cresandra Smothers, Strategic Communications/ Ed Enoch, The Tuscaloosa News; Donald Gilstrap, University Libraries

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

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

**Dean Donald Gilstrap** of the University Libraries began the meeting with a presentation on “Journal Costs and the *Big Deal.*” His presentation slides can be found at <http://facultysenate.ua.edu/files/2019/03/Journal-Big-Deal-Presentation-03192019.pdf>

Points made by the Dean are:

1. He is in discussion with the Provost about the unsustainability of the large publisher packages such as Elsevier, Wiley, and Springer
2. Libraries just signed a 3-year contract with Elsevier that includes institutions within the Network of Alabama Academic Libraries, which is part of ACHE.
3. Scholarly publication pricing does not follow the normal supply and demand economic model; scholarly publishers increase their prices with higher demand.
4. Purchase of the Big Deal gives access to all titles from a specific publisher, instead of selected titles.
   1. The benefit is access to a large number of titles.
   2. Consequences:
      1. Pay for titles we don’t use
      2. Inflation rate of 5-15%
      3. Cannot cancel individual titles not used to lower cost
      4. Cost become unsustainable very quickly
5. Question: Why are costs rising when faculty do all the research, all the peer reviewing, all the editorial work and serve on the review boards *pro bono*.
6. Use of the titles do not match the cost associated with the Core (top tier) journals vs the Freedom Collection journals from Elsevier. There is greater use of the Freedom Collection than the Core titles, which brings into question what is defined as top tier journals.
7. The more of the budget that is spent on “Big Deal” packages, the less there is to purchase books, University Press, and society journals.
8. The big publishers are purchasing smaller, library friendly publishers and societal publishers and then applying their current pricing models to these titles. This increases the cost of titles that were previously reasonable in cost.
9. The entire University of California System has cancelled its subscription to Elsevier. They are exploring other title-by-title models, as well as open access publishing. They have also ask faculty to no longer serve as reviewers, serve on editorial boards or to publish in Elsevier journals. Other universities have or are considering taking the same steps.
10. Discussions need to take place at all levels at UA to address the cost of journal subscriptions and what the consequences to faculty might be if they did not have continued access to some journals. Tenure and promotion as well as grant applications could be affected.

**President’s Report** *(Rona Donahoe)*

There is no truth to staff rumors that Spring Break and the Winter Holidays will be cancelled as paid leave. This rumor started in January. VP for Financial Affairs recently addressed the OCTSA to quell this rumor. If faculty continue to hear this, please try to dispel this rumor.

Shane Sharpe has announced he will step down as Dean of Honors College, effective June 1.

State Budget announcements:

Governor Ivy proposed transferring CHIP to the Education Trust Fund at a cost of $30M. The State Medicaid budget had a $40 million rollover from last year, which should help support the General Budget in this budget cycle.

A proposal for a State Lottery is expected. Additional revenue is needed to support the prisons and courts.

Neighborhood Partnership meeting

There is a fundraiser for the SAFE Center on March 31. Cost: $60 per person. This event is organized by “Not on My Campus.” Contact Rona ([rdonahoe@ua.edu](mailto:rdonahoe@ua.edu)) before March 27th, if you are interested in attending the banquet.

SGA is proposing that classes start 2 days earlier in August so students can have the entire week of Thanksgiving off.

The Counseling Center’s telephone number is now on the back of student ACT Cards

There continue to be a large number of construction/renovation projects on campus

The “We are UA” campaign continues through April 11. Contributions made to the Faculty Senate/PSA/OCTSA Joint Service Project Fund (access at: <https://crowdfunding.ua.edu/project/13929>) will be matched by Bryant Bank.

Committee reports are due to Rona by April 15.

**Vice President’s Report *(Chapman Greer)***

The General Education Task Force is having an open forum on March 29 in room 205 Gorgas Library. The purpose is to gain input from faculty about what they want a UA graduate to be, upon graduation. The Task Force has been meeting with deans and department chairs to get acquainted and ask for input.

**Secretary’s Report** *(Barb Dahlbach)*

Senate and ombudsperson election results are starting to come in. Committee preference surveys will be sent to each Senator via email.

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

Senate Officer Elections were held. The results were:

Rona Donahoe - President

Chapman Greer – Vice President

Barbara Dahlbach - Secretary

**Faculty Life** *(Julia Cartwright & Andrea Glenn)*

Twelve-month Parental Leave Resolution was introduced and discussion.

The rules of order were suspended in order for this to be voted on during this Senate session.

The resolution was passed with 1 opposition vote and 4 abstentions.

<http://facultysenate.ua.edu/files/2019/03/12-month-faculty-parental-leave-policy.pdf>

**Research & Service** *(Ajay Agrawal & Mike Kreger)*

They had a meeting with VP Russ Mumper. Items discussed were:

He has been tasked with writing a 5-year Research Office strategic plan by June1, 2019.

The Cyber Institute is being reimagined and may even drop the term Cyber

Future research institutes may be created using an RFP from faculty model

**Community & Legislative Affairs** *(Amy Dayton & Steven Yates)*

There will be a reception with our State Legislators on Monday, April 1st, 4:00-6:00 PM in Gorgas House. Senators, please try to attend.

**IT & Strategic Communications** *(Matthew Hudnall & Dan Meissner)*

A UA Cyber Summit will be held.

There is a lack of coordination of all things “cyber” on campus.

Duplication of efforts between the Cyber Institute, the MIS program, Criminal Justice,

and other units.

The SGA has expanded the Executive Committee to include an Information Technology VP.

**Student Life** *(Alan Tidwell & Haley Strickland)*

April 11th – A Financial Literacy Program will be given by Committee co-chair, Alan Tidwell, at monthly dinner for Alabama REACH students.

The REACH Program is creating an Amazon wish list of items needed by its students. Donors can order items from list and they will be delivered directly to the REACH Program Office. More information will be forthcoming.

**Financial Affairs** *(Peter Johnson & Rainer Schad)*

A short study of faculty salary comparisons was presented.

There are some general trends that UA is keeping up with our peers.

Further study of the data is needed.

Graduate student stipend and Post-doc salary data will be gathered and studied in the near future.

**Academic Affairs** *(John Vincent & John Petrovic)*

Elections for Graduate Council and for the newly approved Undergraduate Council will occur before the end of this semester.

Announcement:

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 16th – 3:30 – 1010 North Lawn

New Senator Orientation: 2:30 – 3:15 PM

Speaker: Bill Bomar, Executive Director, UA Museums