

FACULTY SENATE MEETING AGENDA
March 24, 2020
(Meeting Cancelled due to the COVID-19 Emergency)

Speaker (cancelled):

- **Nancy Lawrence**, Senior GIS Specialist, Alabama Counts! 2020 Census, ADECA
The intended presentation will be posted on the Faculty Senate website.

Approval/Corrections to the Minutes for January 21, 2020 (*Barb Dahlbach*) – Postponed

President's Report – (*Rona Donahoe*)

- Provost Search Update – The Search Committee interviewed 14 applicants at the Atlanta airport on March 11-12. President Bell accepted the Search Committee's recommendation to pursue the applications of six of these candidates; one of the six candidates has recently withdrawn to accept a Provost position at another institution. Academic Search is now conducting due diligence checks on the remaining 5 candidates. Invitations for on-campus interviews are expected to be issued at the end of next week, with on-campus interviews scheduled during April.
- Resources for the Transition to On-line Instruction:
 - 'Adapting Quickly to Online Instruction' Harvard University webinar recording and other useful links are available at:
http://academic.hbsp.harvard.edu/webinar_quickly_adapting_to_teaching_online?cid=email%7Celoqua%7Crecording-for-quickly-adapting-teaching-online-3-20%7C602838%7Cother-email%7Cattendee%7Cwebinar%7C202003201738
 - Magna Publications Taking Your Teaching Online Program Collection:
https://www.magnapubs.com/online-courses/taking-your-teaching-online-program-collection-15317-1.html?st=pmail;s=mocQO20EA-1687-200316e1&utm_source=ActiveCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Taking+Your+Teaching+Online+Program+Collection&utm_campaign=1687+200316+Taking+Your+Teaching+Online+Program+Collection+e1
Use the code: COLLECTION at checkout to receive this video collection free.
 - UA Center for Instructional Technology Office resources: cit.ua.edu
 - [About Zoom](#)
 - [Link a Zoom meeting to your Blackboard Learn Course](#)
 - [Learn to use Zoom](#)
- Faculty Handbook Change (pdf: <https://facultyhandbook.ua.edu/>) – Faculty Senate representatives (Donahoe, Vincent, Greer and Denham) met with Council of Deans representatives (Karr and Usdan) and Associate Provost Brauwer on 3/10/20 to discuss the Handbook change proposal unanimously passed by the Faculty Senate on 2/18/20 to provide promotion guideline grandfathering to Associate Professors applying for promotion to Full Professor. We await a response from the full COD.
- Committee Final Reports – Please submit reports to rdonahoe@ua.edu by May 8, 2020.

Vice President's Report – (*Chapman Greer*)

- General Education Taskforce Report – The Taskforce is making progress on models.
The Senate's approval of, and comments about, the GET Purpose, Guiding Principles and Learning Objectives statements as guiding documents are requested

before Noon on Tuesday, March 24th at: [Approval of General Education Taskforce Statements](#)

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

Senate Committee Reports:

Academic Affairs – (*John Vincent & Andre Denham*)

- Graduate Council Graduate Faculty Status Proposal - The AA Committee met with Aaron Kuntz from the Graduate Council and faculty representatives from Nursing and Social Work to discuss changes to the policy regarding graduate faculty status that would allow clinical professors to chair terminal degree projects. Dr. Kuntz shared with the Committee the changes to the policy that addressed the AA Committee's concern that those chairing these projects have a Ph.D.
- Proposed Diversity Syllabus Statement - The AA Committee discussed the proposed change to the online syllabus template sent by the DEI committee. The AA Committee discussed the wording of the text and concluded that while we agree with the sentiment of having a DEI statement in all syllabi, the wording of the proposed text could possibly do more harm than good. The AA Committee also recommended that the DEI committee share with Dr. Taylor (who sent the original text to them) that it might be better to slightly tweak the UAct statement that is already in the syllabus.
- GET Statements - AA discussed the Purpose, Guiding Principles and Learning Objectives statements sent to us for review by the General Education Taskforce. The AA Committee agreed that this working document is ready to go to full Senate for affirmation as working documents so that the GET can continue its work.
- Faculty Handbook Change Proposal Deadline - AA is fine with the proposed December 31st deadline for submitting changes to the Handbook.
- Meeting with COD Reps - AA co-chairs Vincent and Denham, along with Senate president and Vice President met with representatives of the Council of Deans and Associate Provost Brouwer to discuss the proposed change to the Faculty Handbook that would allow associate professors with tenure to use the Tenure and Promotion guidelines of their academic unit for up to seven years after the year they were promoted. The meeting helped to find out where the confusion lay between the senate and COD. The text was rewritten for clarity and brought to the Steering Committee for approval. It has also been forwarded to the Provost; we are awaiting feedback from the COD on the new wording.

Community & Legislative Affairs – (*Joy Burnham & Steven Yates*)

- Legislative Reception - Charlie Taylor from the UA System Office and Alabama State Legislature Representatives Bill Poole, Rodney Sullivan, and Kyle South attended the Legislative Reception held at the Gorgas House on March 9. Approximately 30 Senators attended the event and enjoyed the delicious food and drink arranged by Linda Knowles.
- 2020 Census - Jeremy Crawford is working closely with the UA 2020 Census Committee. Nancy Lawrence was scheduled to talk about the State's Alabama Counts! census effort at the March 24th Faculty Senate meeting.
- Service Project - A Brewer-Porch Faculty/Staff Appreciation Luncheon is still planned for May 5th.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion – (*Mirit Eyal-Cohen & Ignacio Rodeno*)

- Affinity Groups - An e-mail address has been created for people to contact if there is an interest in creating an Affinity Group: affinity@ua.edu. Two news articles have appeared (one in Crimson White: <https://cw.ua.edu/62759/news/committee-encourages-formation-of-new-affinity-groups/> and UANews: <https://www.ua.edu/news/2020/03/faculty-senate-seeks-to-create-new-affinity-groups/>). The latter article included the new Affinity Group email address.

Prior to the measures with regards to Coronavirus, the DEI Committee expected to have a final push towards the creation of more Affinity Groups by inviting interested persons to the Crossroads Networking for Inclusive Campus Engagement Breakfast in April.

- Task Force Open Forum - Several DEI Committee members attended the Forum. It was a good mix of faculty, staff, and graduate/undergraduate students. Some of the activities were revealing of the perceptions about campus culture as well as areas of campus that are perceived to be safe/less safe. Interested individuals could also record their stories/thoughts. There was group discussion during part of the activity; groups were divided according to UA affiliation: faculty, staff, and students. We are looking forward to another forum being organized by the Taskforce, ideally at a different time, so other people can attend, and eager to see the Taskforce's report on the Forum(s).
- Syllabus Diversity Statement - The Committee discussed the proposed syllabus Diversity Statement. Discussion was active, and the resulting draft was forwarded to the Academic Affairs Committee with the proviso that, given our discussion in committee and the fact that we still had several issues regarding the proposed statement (among others its standing vis-à-vis the current UAct statement), members of the DEI committee would be willing to attend the part of the AA committee devoted to discussion of this statement.

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

Faculty & Senate Governance – (*Ibrahim Çemen & Janie Hubbard*)

- Faculty Ombudsperson Nominations and Election - Two candidates are running for Faculty Ombudsperson: Laurie J. Bonnici, Associate Professor, College of Communication & Information Sciences and Janie Habburd, Associate Professor; College of Education. The election is being run by all Colleges at the same time that Faculty Senate elections are held.
 - Mediation Committee - An election was held in December; Stacy Allen (A&S: Theater and Dance) won the election. Adam Lankford's term on Mediation ends August 15th, so it would be best to identify his replacement at the April Faculty Senate meeting to prevent a vacancy on the Committee before the Senate meets in August. Adam is from A&S, and we already have a new member from A&S (Stacy Alley), so Ramada Reedy from the Engineering College was nominated for the position. He would be perfect as Adam's replacement. We would like to request the Senate appoint him as Adam Lankford's replacement by acclamation. Please let us know if you have any objections for appointment of Ramada Reedy to replace Adam Lankford in the mediation committee
- Senate Officers Election - A Qualtrics survey has been set up for the Faculty Senate Officer election: [Vote for: Faculty Senate Officers](#)

The Candidates are:

- Rona Donahoe President of the UA Faculty Senate (running unopposed)
- Chapman Greer; Vice President of the UA Faculty Senate (running unopposed)
- Barbara Dahlbach; Secretary of the UA Faculty Senate (running unopposed)

Please register your votes before the ballot closes at Noon on Tuesday, March 24th:

Financial Affairs – (*Christopher Lynn & Rainer Schad*) – No Report

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

- DUO - We are working with OIT on a proposed policy for DUO two-factor authentication on all UA devices. It is anticipated that we will have a proposal to present to the Steering Committee within a month and then to the full Senate in August.

Research & Service – (*Ajay Agrawal & Si Blackstock*)

- The R&S committee met on March 25th to discuss our recent meeting with Dr. Mumper held on Feb. 28th. The Committee was generally very impressed by the recent accomplishments and upsurge in research at UA, especially in terms of many new research activities being funded by appropriations at Federal and State levels. There were some significant new items reported, including the growth and development of UA's primary research institutes. There remain some concerns about what is being done to support and grow research at the smaller project levels, especially in the Arts and Humanities. The Committee discussed some areas where the VPRED Office might be able to help, especially in terms of identifying small funding opportunities to maintain and enhance professional training and project development, and to increase the visibility of these research programs. It was decided that the Co-chairs will solicit further input about UA research status/needs at the FS Steering Committee meeting and then arrange a meeting with Dr. Mumper to communicate these issues to him and continue our ongoing dialog with him and his office.

Student Life – (*Kabe Moen & Amy Traylor*) – No Report

Reports from Other Committees

- **Parking and Transportation Committee** - The five-year planning committee presented its recommendations to the full committee earlier this month. Significant changes were proposed, such as a new tiered faculty/staff parking tag system whereby persons making less than \$36k would be in tier-1, \$36-100k in tier-2, and \$100k+ in tier-3. Tier-1 prices would go down significantly, tier-2 up slightly, and tier-3 would go up more than tier-2. No changes would take place for the first year of the new plan as far as current parking rates. Conversion of F/S spaces to pay parking would increase on campus, with the most contentious lot being the North Ferguson lot between McCorvey and 7th Ave. Spaces potentially lost in that lot would be offset by opening up nearby lots that have previously not been accessible. The Bevill lot was given as a potential example of a trade to offset potential losses. Other optimizations as far as bus route planning, communications, and transparency will be taking place at Transportation Services. They are also easing the process for expectant mothers to apply for handicap parking. While a doctor still needs to fill out a form, expectant mothers will not have to go to the local DMV. The process will soon be documented on the Transportation Services website and publicized.

Reminders

- Next meeting: April 21, 2020
 - Speakers: Chancellor Finis St. John and Dr. Tonjana Johnson, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs

Adjourn