

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

March 17, 2005

The Faculty Senate of the University of North Alabama met March 17, 2005 in the Faculty/Staff Commons of the University Center at 3:30 p.m.

President Blose called the meeting to order and recognized the following proxies:

Mrs. Charlotte Cramer for Senator Leonard from Nursing,
Mrs. Linda Keckley for Senator Wallace from Kilby, and
Ltc. Atencio for Senator Fennell from Military Science.

The following senators were present: Adams, Adler, Atkinson, Bates, Blose, Brewton, Brown, Crisler, Davidson, Flowers, Foote, Ford, Gaston, R. Gaunder, Holley, Loew, Makowski, Martin, McDaniel, Myhan, Parris, Richardson, Robinson, Rock, Roden, Takeuchi, Thorne, Turner, VanRensselaer, Ward, Webb, and Wilson.

The following senators were absent without proxy: Bruce, Cai, Gorham, Hallock, and Tunell.

Senator Wilson moved the adoption of the agenda. Senator Webb seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Senator Martin moved the approval of the February 24, 2005 minutes. Senator Thorne seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. President Blose reported that he and Senator Makowski attended the ACUFP meeting in Montgomery following the Higher Education Day Rally. The meeting was very informative, having meetings with an ACHE representative, Chair of the President's Council, Gordon Stone, and Richard Lindsey, Chair of the House Finance Committee. There seems to be good news coming out of the budget in Montgomery. They expect the basic education budget to go forward in pretty good shape. It was noted that there is now representation from all levels of higher education at ACUFP from small regional to large research institutions. It was also noted that UNA did not have many faculty at Higher Ed Day. We need to look for ways to encourage faculty to attend. The fall ACUFP meeting is scheduled in Tuscaloosa. Senator Makowski also pointed out that Bill 240 will make it safe to teach creationism in the schools.
- B. Vice-President of Academic Affairs Newson reported that President Cale is moving forward with the investigation and improvement of our ADA policy. He has identified an attorney to come and conduct a workshop for a small group of faculty and administration.

- C. Vice-President Newson reported that Senator Brewton has been selected as Honor Program Director. He stated that he is hopeful that we can recruit several students for the first year of the program. The details of the residence hall have not been finalized. They are investigating what types of “perks” can be given as incentive. The ACT cut-off has been set at 28. Senator Brewton stated that if we are successful, we will be bringing in good students which will in turn help change the perception of UNA. He requested support. There will be need for faculty to teach and direct senior projects. Vice-President Newson reported that we have a starter curriculum which will be coming to the University Curriculum Committee. There are no interdisciplinary or team teaching courses. There will be a part-time secretary hired for the program.
- D. At the Board of Trustees meeting, President Cale requested and received \$100,000 for Academic Affairs, with \$30,000 of that added to promotions. There were fourteen names on the promotion list. The remaining \$70,000 will be used for faculty development projects, major concerts, speaker series or workshops. Vice-President Newson is engaged in discussion with the academic deans about ideas.
- E. The Strategic Planning and Budget Committee approved a release of \$225,000 with \$100,000 released for travel and supplies. Fifty-eight percent will go to academics.
- F. Dr. Wakefield is working to get the Task Force for Recruitment and Retention and Learning Communities together.
- G. Vice-President Newson has gotten approval to search for a Dean of Graduate Studies and Continuing Education. He reported that this is similar to what other schools are doing. He stated that we need a presence in Montgomery concerning graduate programs. He will be asking for additional funding at the Strategic Planning and Budget Committee. He is currently working on the details of the job description and how this person will report to the appropriate Shared Governance Committees. Dr. Newson was questioned why this issue was not brought through any committee of faculty. He stated that he thought that since it was not a new position, just an adjustment, that it was not necessary. Senator Makowski quoted the Shared Governance document. “Shared Governance is a means of University management in which each chief group in the University community participates in decision-making. This participation must be real and based on the principles that each group has the largest influence in matters that concern it most and that decisions made by shared governance bodies must have actual influence in University decision making.” He went on to point out that creation of an administrative position certainly falls under this statement.

- H. President Blose reported from the Board of Trustees meeting. There was a sense of change. President Cale had visited 3 science departments and was visibly disturbed by the condition of Floyd Science. The Board of Trustees has postponed building a Bus barn due to the estimated cost. President Cale listed academic needs, echoing what the faculty has been saying.
- I. President Blose reminded those senators whose term expires at the end of April: Atkinson, Cai, Foote, Gorham, Leonard, Makowski, McDaniel, Parris, Roden, Tunell, Turner, and VanRensselaer. Elections are to take place during the final week of April.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Senate Committee Reports:
 - 1. The Academic Affairs Committee is working on modifying the Readmissions Policy and in the process of revising the Final Exam schedule.
 - 2. Dr. Robertson reported that the Faculty Affairs Committee has not met since last month. They are waiting for feedback from the senate.
 - 3. Dr. Robertson reported that the Faculty Attitude Survey Committee put out the survey on March 7 and then found an error on March 8, took down the survey and repaired it. They sent information to Department Chairs to give to those who had a full email account or who do not have access to email. They hope to have the survey completed by March 24. They plan to have a report by the next meeting. He urged senators to encourage their colleagues to respond. President Blose thanked the committee for their work thus far.
- B. Shared Governance Committees:
 - 1. The Shared Governance Committee is continuing to look at the document and procedures, cleaning up the language. They are negotiating with the senate, students and staff concerning the Academic and Student Affairs committee reorganization into two committees. President Blose reported that he has discussed the concerns with President Cale.
 - 2. Senator Webb reported that the Strategic Planning and Budget Committee is working on strategies for additional funds for salaries. She recognized President Cale's dedication to areas of academic need like promotion, travel and supplies.

3. The Academic and Student Affairs Committee has not met.
 4. Senator Ward of the International Programs/Offerings Committee reported that Powers Hall will be rededicated tomorrow.
- C. Senator R. Gaunder moved that we accept the proposed withdrawal policy with the phrase “exceed the university or instructor’s” inserted. Senator Robinson seconded.

No further action could be taken as quorum was lost. The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.