

FACULTY SENATE MINUTE

March 20, 2003

The Faculty Senate of the University of North Alabama met March 20, 2003 in the Faculty/Staff Commons of the University Center at 3:30 p.m.

Senator Barrett moved the adoption of the agenda. Senator Himmler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

President Makowski recognized the following proxies: Dr. Craig Christy for Senator Adler from Foreign Languages, Dr. Jacqueline Osborne for Senator J. Wilson from Human Environmental Sciences, Dr. Larry Adams for Senator Atkinson from English, Dr. Janice Myhan for Senator Webb from Elementary Education and Dr. _____ for Senator Stokes from Education.

The following senators were present: Allan, Barrett, Blose, Butler, Figueroa, Foote, Haggerty, Himmler, Holley, Keckley, Leonard, Loew, Makowski, McDaniel, Menapace, Osborne, Parris, Roden, Ruebhausen, Smith, Thorne, Tunell, Turner, VanRensselaer, Warren, and P. Wilson.

Senator Blose moved the approval of the February 27, 2003 minutes with the amendment to change Mr. Brett King to Dr. Brett King in the proxy list. Senator Barrett seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Makowski reported that tomorrow is the last day to get the Faculty Attitude Survey returned. He urged the senators to encourage their colleagues to return their surveys.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. President Makowski presented the language to be added to the handbook concerning the years to tenure policy. Senator Blose moved the approval of the language. Senator Barrett seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. In the Fall the Faculty Affairs Committee was charged with looking at the job description of the Assistant to the President for Minority Affairs, rewriting it to reflect the true nature of compliance with the Knight case. President Potts was presented with the senate's recommendation. Two months later, President Potts stated that he needs someone in the position and will appoint using the old description. President Potts has after discussion agreed to appoint Dr. Davidson with the understanding that the job description will be rewritten in consultation with Dr. Davidson. Concern that this issue was not taken to a Shared Governance Committee. Senator Thorne moved that the Faculty Affairs Committee and Dr. Davidson sit down and work together to resolve these issues. Senator Osborne seconded. The motion passed

unanimously.

C. Committee Reports:

1. Senator Osborne reported from the Academic Affairs Committee. Dr. Fernstrom has resigned as chair of the committee and Senator Osborne has agreed to serve as interim chair. The committee requested that two new members be appointed. The issue of the support of faculty to receive a terminal degree was discussed. There is a procedure for the distribution of research and development money. The only text in the handbook relating to university support for advanced degree concerns the time commitment. Dr. Garry Warren, Interim VPAA, reported that in the last few years, the money from unfilled faculty positions was used for this purpose. Senator Osborne stated that the handbook is at variance with what is being done. It is not clear what criteria is being applied. The policy is not well known so that people can apply. Two principles which need to be address are:
 - a. A specific requirement to show that completion of the advanced degree serves some need of the university.
 - b. A specified time requirement.
2. Dr. Craig Robertson reported from the Faculty Affairs Committee. The committee is working on the faculty assessment instrument. They are working on putting together a broad outline and hope to have it ready for the next senate meeting.
3. Senator Thorne reported that the Budget Review Committee has analyzed the information concerning the University Foundation and is ready to go back for more data. They hope to have a report for the next meeting.

D. The Strategic Planning and Budget Committee of the Shared Governance organization reported that they have learned that they must be very specific concerning asking for information. The flow of data is getting better.

E. The Search Committees for the Dean of the College of Education and the Dean of the College of Business reported that they are calling references and making telephone interviews.

F. The Search Committee for the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost reported that they may not make the August 1 deadline originally established.

G. President Makowski reported that the March 13 ACUFP meeting worked well in coordination with the Higher Education Day. There were speakers from the Four Year Presidents Representative, the Partnership from Higher Education, and ACHE. When the Higher Education information was presented to the House,

President Makowski was asked to be present. Concerns were expressed that the legislators do not believe the people of Alabama value Higher Education.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. President Makowski presented the State Plan for Alabama Higher Education which was given to ACUFP March 13 to be given to the Faculty Senates for consideration. President Makowski needs comments on this draft by March 31. These comments will be assembled and transmitted to ACUFP and forwarded to ACHE.
- B. Senators VanRensselaer, Figueroa, and Osborne were elected to the Nominating Committee.
- C. President Makowski stated that he wants to assemble a set of goals for the next year for the senate. He asked that the senators start thinking about issues and to convey them to a member of the Senate Executive Board.

ADDITIONAL ISSUES:

A question was raised whether the senate was consulted about the edict to do away with out of state travel. They want a justification of the true cost savings. Dr. Warren stated that as far as he was concerned, it was still available.

Senator Thorne moved the meeting be adjourned. Senator Roden seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.