

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

October 21, 2004

The Faculty Senate of the University of North Alabama met October 21, 2004 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: Ms. Loraine Glasscock for Senator Holley from Accounting and Business Law, Ms. Natasha Lindsey for Senator Thorne from Marketing and Management.

The following senators were present: Adams, Adler, Atkinson, Bates, Blose, Brewton, Bruce, Crisler, Fennell, Foote, Ford, R. Gaunder, Hallock, Leonard, Loew, Makowski, McDaniel, Myhan, Parris, Richardson, Robinson, Rock, Roden, Takeuchi, Tunell, Turner, VanRensselaer, Wallace, Ward, and Wilson.

The following senators were absent without proxy: Brown, Cai, Davidson, Gaston, Gorham, Martin, and Webb.

Senator R. Gaunder moved the adoption of the agenda. Ms. Glasscock seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Senator R. Gaunder moved the approval of the September 23, 2004 minutes with the following amendments: replace Roush for Raush in the second paragraph; under Old Business B.3. add the word Committee after Student Affairs; and under New Business B replace Keckly with Keckley. Senator Brewton seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Blose reported that he had discussed the question of the University ADA policy with Interim President Warren. It was agreed that an Ad Hoc Committee be established to seek outside counsel. Dr. Sue Wilson, Dean of Enrollment Management, Mr. David Cope, Dr. Barry Morris, and Dr. Bill Huddleston were appointed. Anyone else interested in serving on the committee was encouraged to notify President Blose.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Committee Reports:
 - 1. Dr. Janice Nicholson, chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, reported that the committee met October 7 following a meeting with the department chairs. Cynthia Burkhead took the concerns involving the planning of the third and fourth year of the honors program to the Honors Program Steering Committee. This steering committee along with the Academic Affairs Committee will be

planning the first two years of the honors program and the academic departments will plan the final two years.

2. Dr. Craig Robertson reported that the Faculty Affairs Committee is gathering information from peer institutions concerning promotion and tenure policies.
 3. Dr. Craig Robertson, chair of the Faculty Attitude Survey Committee, stated that he thought that Dr. Todd Stanfield made a convincing presentation concerning the use of an on-line survey. The committee is taking a look at last year's instrument. Issues pertaining to how many of last year's questions concerning administrators need to be removed are being discussed. The committee is looking at a final return date of March 25.
 4. Senator Makowski reported that the State Political Relations Committee had met with the membership secretary of the Higher Education Partnership. The Senate will fund associate membership for all senators. Everyone will soon be receiving information. The committee is also working with the fall ACUFP meeting and studying lobbying.
- B. Shared Governance Committee Reports:
1. Past-President Barrett reported that the Shared Governance Committee is looking at each committee's charge, considering recommended changes to some committee structure and monitoring whether committees are meeting.
 2. Senator VanRensselaer reported that the Strategic Planning and Budget Committee is developing a process to access the non-technology equipment funds which now total over \$900,000. Each year \$190,500 has been set aside but not used for non-technology equipment replacement.
 3. The Academic and Student Affairs Committee minutes are available on the Vice President for Academic Affairs website. Issues being address include the ADA policy and the policy for hiring students. It was recommended that every student have access to every job opening.
 4. Dr. Craig Robertson reported that the Research and Development Committee is working on a request to have funds restored in the budget.
- C. Past-President Barrett reported from the Presidential Search Advisory Committee. Information will shortly be forthcoming.
- D. The resolution which was presented from the SGA last month concerning Veteran's Day class dismissal passed with a vote of 24-5-3.

- E. Senator Wilson moved to instruct the Faculty Attitude Survey Committee to administer the survey on-line. Senator Makowski seconded. The motion passed with a vote of 23-3-6.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Dr. Newson reported on the process of retroactive withdrawals. The current practice has been to allow the deans make the decision and submit to the Registrar's office. Dr. Newson presented a draft of a policy statement for the Faculty Handbook which he has been working on with the Senate Executive Committee.(See Attachment A) In his investigations he found that no grade had been changed to another letter grade. He presented a log of the retroactive withdrawals from the past year. (See Attachment B) Dr. Newson recommended that he work with the Academic Affairs Committee of the senate to finalize the policy of retroactive withdrawals. He expressed a great concern about the violation of current stated policy which states all grade changes for other than clerical or recording error must be reviewed and approved by the VPAA.

Another area of concern has to do with the removal from a student's record of the fact that the student actually enrolled and attended a class. Several senators voiced the desire for a student's record to truly reflect what the student has attempted. Senators expressed the necessity of consulting with the faculty member before a grade is changed to a withdrawal. The question of how the action affects financial aid was also raised. Senator Makowski moved that this issue be sent to the Academic Affairs Committee. Senator Bates seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- B. A resolution concerning empowering the Faculty Senate on issues of academic matters was presented.(See Attachment C) Senator R. Gaunder moved to consider the resolution. Senator Adler seconded. The resolution will be considered next month.

Senator Roden moved that the meeting be adjourned. Senator Turner seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.