

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

October 12, 2006

The Faculty Senate of the University of North Alabama met October 12, 2006 in the Guillot University Center at 3:30 p.m.

President Loew called the meeting to order and recognized Charlton James, proxy for Senator Green and Ed Foote for Senator Crandon from Communication and Theatre.

The following senators were present: Adams, Atkinson, Bates, Bradford, Bruce, Bunn, Crisler, Davidson, Dumas, Fennell, Ferry, Flowers, Gaston, Gaunder, Gossett, Hallock, Hurren, Leonard, Loew, Mauriello, McDaniel, Myhan, Richardson, Robinson, Roden, Statom, Summy, Takeuchi, Turner, Wallace, and Williams.

The following senators were absent without proxy: Adler, Brown, Lindsey, Makowski, Underwood, and Ward.

Senator Richardson moved the adoption of the agenda. Senator Flowers seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Senator Statom moved the approval of the September 21, 2006 minutes. Senator Gaunder seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

President Loew reported that President Cale is in Tuscaloosa at an induction ceremony for the Business Hall of Fame for Trustee Robbins.

Vice-President Newson announced that the Enrollment Management Task Force has been named and have a meeting scheduled for October 24. He also reported that the Strategic Plan has developed into a five year plan. President Cale outlined five areas of institutional goals. Subcommittees are now meeting. When the plan is completed, it will be submitted to President Cale and to the faculty.

President Cale expressed a desire at the last meeting to have permanent representation at the Graduate Committee on the State Level. Vice-President Newson has asked Dean Jacobs of the College of Education to serve and will have her title changed to Dean of the College of Education and Coordinator of Graduate Studies. This will not give her any more power but will allow her to represent UNA in Montgomery. He reported that the other deans were agreeable to this change.

Gordon Stone representing the Higher Education Partnership which attempts to carry our concerns to the State House encouraged everyone to go and vote. He reported that thirteen counties with higher education institutions had fifty-two percent of the vote in the last election. He stated that he was pleased with the results we have had from these past four years and our relationships with our lawmakers. He encouraged everyone to show the strengths in numbers and to express their opinions. He pointed out the proposed constitutional amendment to raise property taxes to at least 10 mil. He expressed his

concern with the proposal of a tax cut by a certain party, a proposal which might be coming related to legislating tuition and the issue of two-year schools hiring legislators and family members and the negative public perception because the general public is not aware of the distinction between two and four year institutions. He thanked UNA for the support of the Higher Education Partnership and reported that the Higher Education Day will be on April 5 this next year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. President Loew reported that the Faculty Affairs Committee has met and received the charge concerning the Faculty Development Leave which will be returned to the senate in November.
- B. There were no senate committee reports.
- C. Shared Governance Reports:
 - 1. The Strategic Budget and Planning Committee has sent its minutes to President Loew.
 - 2. Senator Adams reported from the Infrastructure Committee. The university will not receive funds for the Science Building this year. The Transportation Facility has been moved to Powell School since the proposed site of the Science Building was determined to be inappropriate. Work on Collier Library is going according to plans. Work on Willingham Hall is beginning for asbestos abatement and correction of problems concerning drainage, humidity and mold. The Rogers Hall Project is being supported with private funds and has a built in deferred maintenance fund. New transformers are being installed all over campus. Some buildings may need to be without power for up to two days. There is a proposal of bringing in generators for some of the buildings. The buildings will be given an advance notification of power outages of at least a week. Vice-President Newson reported that there is a walk-through scheduled for the Science Building to get an outline of what needs to be done as a short-term solution until the new building is built. He stated that he hopes to get started in January. This includes aesthetics as well as function.
- D. President Loew reminded the senators of the webcast on Friday, October 13 at 11:30.

OLD BUSINESS:

President Loew reported on the request for creating a current use account fund through the UNA Foundation. One department already has such a fund. Others had negative response to the idea. Some requested more information as to how it would be administered and if there were any hidden costs.

NEW BUSINESS:

Senator Adams moved that we conduct as e-business the nomination and voting on the two members for the University Advancement Search Committee. Senator Richardson seconded. Senator Richardson moved that motion be amended to state that the nomination be concluded by October 25 and the vote called for. Senator Flowers seconded. The amended motion passed unanimously.

ADDITIONAL ISSUES:

- A. Senator Hurren reported that several students had conveyed their difficulty in getting on the computers in the library due to other students playing games and using email. Vice-President Newson reported that Dr. Warren is looking at ways of extending the hours in either the library or the ARC.

- B. Senator Richardson asked whether any effort to correct the handbook to make sure that the issue of the denial of tenure which resulted from looking at grade distributions or any other criteria not stated in the handbook is being conducted. It was reported that the Faculty/Staff Welfare Committee has a workgroup looking at the Tenure and Promotion Policy. This workgroup consists of the members of the Faculty Affairs Committee of the Senate. It was stated that whatever is produced by this workgroup will be given to the senate for consideration first.
Senator Richardson stated that we need something in writing which clearly states the rules which all administrators must follow. This is an issue which is before us right now. Does the Senate need to make a request that we need to know what actual rules will be used to evaluate for tenure and promotion decisions? Vice-President Newson offered to work with President Cale to get something to the Senate by next week. A sense of urgency was expressed.

- C. The issue of the parking by students in faculty spaces was also raised. The low fines seem to result in students being willing to pay for the privilege to park in faculty spaces. The delay at the beginning of the semester of issuing fines seems to allow the students to get in the habit of parking illegally.

Senator Richardson moved the meeting be adjourned. Senator Roden seconded. The motion passed unanimously.