

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

December 2, 2008

The Faculty Senate of the University of North Alabama met December 2, 2008 in the Faculty/Staff Commons of the University Center at 3:30 p.m.

President Bates called the meeting to order and recognized the following proxies: Dr. Peggy Campbell for Senator Davidson from Secondary Education, and Ms. Jill Englett for Senator Bunn from Human Environmental Sciences. The agenda was approved by consent. Senator Richardson moved the approval of the November 6, 2008 meeting minutes. Senator Flowers seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice-President Warren stated that all retiring and resigning faculty are being replaced. He reminded the faculty that the twelve percent budget cut would hopefully not filter down to the faculty. The campus is in the midst of interviewing the candidates for the Associate Vice-President and Executive Director of International Programs. There will be an item presented at the next Alabama Council on Higher Education (ACHE) concerning our biology program. UNA is making plans for the SAC self-study for 2012. Graduation is next Friday, December 12, at 7:00 p.m.

REPORTS:

- A. Standing Senate Committee Reports:
 - 1. Faculty Affairs will present their work when completed.
 - 2. Academic Affairs – Senator Figueroa reported that the committee is looking into information concerning conditional admission.

- B. Ad Hoc Committees
 - 1. Dr. Peggy Campbell reported for Senator Davidson that the search for the VPAA is going well. The committee will meet December 10 to begin looking at applications.

 - 2. Senator Adams reported from the Ad Hoc Committee for Faculty Portfolio Review. He stated that they are looking at how other institutions make up their University wide review committee and where it should be placed within the process. They will meet after the first of the year and solicited input as to what should be the makeup of the committee and its placement in the process.
 - 3. Senator Richardson reported from the Ad Hoc Committee for Shared Governance Review. The committee has met three times. Senator Richardson was elected chair. The committee is looking at determining if any clarification or changes in the process should be made. The method of how the Shared Governance structure should work, does work, and how it was envisioned to work are being studied. He stated that the faculty senate is mentioned in the Shared Governance document twice and does not save anything of substance. The committee appointment recommendation is the only charge for the senate.

The second charge of determining if policy changes may result without going through the faculty senate was also discussed. Senator Richardson presented a document showing the organizational structure as well as the steps for making changes at UNA (See Attachment A). The committee concluded that yes, policy can be changed without going through the faculty senate. With the support of the senate, he requested the charge be expanded to continue to find recommended changes which should be included within the Shared Governance Document. A final report is forthcoming. The expanded charge passed.

C. Shared Governance Committees

1. Senator Richardson reported from the Shared Governance Committee. A sample survey has been sent out for input. If anyone would like to send comments, they can be sent directly to Senator Richardson and he will take them to the committee by the time of our return, January 5, 2009.
2. President Bates reported that he met with the Research Committee concerning the \$2000 grant limit removal. Hopefully that vote will take place at the next meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. Academic Affairs presented recommended changes in the Promotion Policy for the Faculty Handbook items 3.5.1 and 3.5.3 last month. Senator Adams moved to table the vote until work from the Ad Hoc Faculty Portfolio Review Committee as well as the assessment instrument comes to completion, and then attack the wording to reconcile the documents during this academic year. Senator Flowers seconded. The motion passed 20-16.
- B. The following were nominated for the Ad Hoc Committee for Faculty Senate Constitution Review: Tim Carter, Pat Roden, Darlene Townsend, Cynthia Stenger, and Charlotte Cramer.
- C. Faculty Handbook 4.13 was presented for some suggested changes and possible feedback especially related to the issue of student evaluations.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Proposed changes to the Freshmen Admission requirements were presented. Senator Turner moved these be sent to the Academic Affairs Committee. Senator Adams seconded. The motion passed.
- B. Senator Robinson moved that the consideration of changing the Faculty Handbook 3.3.1 concerning the voting rules for new faculty hiring be sent to the Faculty Affairs Committee. Senator Darby seconded. The motion passed.
- C. President Bates reported that he will mail out a beta web site and asked for review and response.

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