

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

February 4, 2010

The Faculty Senate of the University of North Alabama met February 4, 2010 in the Banquet Hall of the University Center at 3:30 p.m.

President Statom called the meeting to order and recognized Keith Sellers, proxy for Senator Carnes from Accounting.

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

Senator Richardson moved the approval of the January 21, 2010 minutes with the change of the word "Govern" to "Governor" and the addition of the phrase "There is" before the sentence beginning "An interesting bill" on page one. Senator Lee seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

President Cale discussed the BC/BS health insurance. The calendar of changes for the policy is in March. The cost increases are becoming unmanageable. The Faculty/Staff Welfare Committee met with BC/BS representatives to search for ways to mitigate the rates going up. They looked at what we can do with the current plan by changing the deductible structure, the doctor visit co-pay and the hospital stay co-pay in order to prevent loss of current benefits. President Cale encouraged the faculty to use Bennett Infirmary to handle acute care issues. Cindy Woods will hold an information session to inform the faculty of uses for the Infirmary.

Vice-President Thornell reported that he had received questions concerning the breach of student information for approximately 240 students in the College of Nursing. He reported that the employee involved had been reprimanded and an investigation is continuing in an effort to prevent this from happening again.

REPORTS:

Senator Richardson reported that the Shared Governance Executive Committee is hearing from committees which have reviewed their charge and membership. He encouraged any other committees which have not completed this task to do so. He presented a document concerning the procedure for ensuring the archive of the Shared Governance Document (See Attachment A).

He also shared a document which describes how a proposal flows through the Shared Governance structure (See Attachment B). He solicited comments from the faculty related to both documents. He has already received approval from the Staff Senate.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. Senator Stafford moved the support of the Proposed Smoking Policy as presented by the Staff Senate. Senator Loeppky seconded. The motion failed. Senator Richardson moved the support of the Faculty/Staff Welfare Policy. Senator Adams seconded. Questions were raised concerning the enforcement of such a policy and the costs for signage and other outdoor shelters. There was also concern expressed related to the placement of ashtrays in inappropriate locations. The motion passed 23-8-1. The information concerning the Faculty Senate vote will be conveyed back to Shared Governance.
- B. President Statom requested written comments concerning the IT policy which he will compile for the March meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

President Statom presented a proposal concerning the Faculty Handbook related to the creation (or revival) of the Faculty Handbook Committee or giving the task to the Faculty Affairs Committee (See Attachment C).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. President Statom reminded the senators that the next meeting will be in Floyd Science Building FSB 102.
- B. President Statom announced that the Faculty Senate Nominating Committee will be elected at the regular April meeting.
- C. President Statom introduced Maj. Jonathan Stewart who will be taking Senator Atencio's seat from Military Science.
- D. President Cale is looking for Grievance and Due Process Committee slates from which to draw members if a hearing is needed. President Statom will compile a list of names from which a committee may be formed if needed. Anyone willing to serve was asked to let him know.

Senator Adams moved the meeting be adjourned. Senator Roden seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:38 p.m.



UNIVERSITY
of NORTH
ALABAMA

Florence, Alabama 35632-0001

Faculty Senate 2/4/2010
Item IX.A.

ATTACHMENT C

Memorandum

To: Faculty Senate

From: Richard Statom
President, Faculty Senate

Date: February 3, 2010

Re: Faculty Handbook Issues

It has come to light recently that the Faculty Handbook has not been periodically reviewed for completeness and accuracy, nor is there a standing committee that is charged with this task. The Faculty/Staff Welfare committee' charge # 3 states: "To ensure the complete, accurate, and timely placement of policies and policy changes in the Faculty Handbook and the Staff and Service Employees' Personnel Handbook.", but this does not provide for a periodic review. Also, as the content of the Faculty Handbook is strictly a faculty issue, it has been suggested that the Faculty Senate should take "ownership" of the process of reviewing, updating, and general maintenance of the document, and that up to date copies be kept by the Faculty Senate and the VPAA's office.

Therefore I propose two possible solutions. One solution would be to create (or revive) a Faculty Handbook Committee. This would be a standing committee of the Senate, with five (5) members to be chosen by the Faculty Senate President to serve for one-year terms. The charge of this committee would be to conduct annual reviews of the document and provide an annual report to the Senate as to the need for changes, craft changes to the document as directed by the Senate, and assure that accurate copies are provided to the Faculty/Staff Welfare committee, the VPAA, and to the faculty via the University website. The second solution would be to take the charge described above and make it a permanent charge of the Faculty Affairs committee in addition to their other duties.