

## FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

March 10, 2016

**Call to order:** A regular meeting of the Faculty Senate of the University of North Alabama was held in room 330 of the University Commons on March 10, 2016. The meeting convened at 3:30 p.m. with President Sarah Franklin presiding.

**Proxies:** President Franklin recognized the following proxies: Brenda Webb for Richard Statom from Physics and Earth Science; Prema Monteiro for Johnson Ogun from Human Environmental Sciences; Leah Whitten for Felecia Harris from Secondary Education; and Marilyn Lee for Clarissa Hall from Nursing, Traditional.

**Members in attendance:** Shane Banks, Doug Barrett, Will Brewer, David Brommer, Daryl Brown, Amy Butler, Lisa Clayton, Amanda Coffman, Katherine Crisler, Paul Davison, Mohamad Elmasry, Sarah Franklin, Leah Graham, Mark Greer, Dan Hallock, Richard Hudiburg, Scott Infanger, Keith Jones, Lisa Kirch, Lamont Maddox, George Makowski, John McGee, Janet McMullen, Michelle Nelson, Alaina Patterson, Lesley Peterson, Jeffrey Ray, Lee Renfroe, Craig Robertson, Pat Roden, Daniel Stevens, Jessica Stovall, Alexander Takeuchi, Karen Townsend. President Kitts and Vice President Thornell were also in attendance.

**Members not in attendance (without proxy):** Rae Atencio, Michele Derouen, Bob Garfrerick, and Ian Loeppky.

**Approval of agenda:** George Makowski moved approval of the agenda. Doug Barrett seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Approval of minutes:** Doug Barrett moved approval of the minutes of the February 11, 2016 meeting. Marilyn Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Remarks from President Kitts:** President Kitts updated the Senate on the state budget, the proposed change to retirement options, and changes in the advancement area. The state budget was approved by the state House of Representatives. It will next move to the Senate. The proposed base appropriation for UNA is up 4.3% from last year. This could change during the remainder of the budget process. President Kitts also briefly touched on earmarks. He reported on the attempt to fund a forensics lab with earmarks. He reported that it looks like there is not enough support for this. Regarding the proposed changes to the retirement options available for new hires, President Kitts reported that there have been some misunderstandings. This is why he held the campus meetings to allow employees to ask questions. He reported that some people question why this matter has not gone through shared governance. He explained that the university could not even consider making the changes unless the proposed legislation was passed. If the legislation is passed, then the options will be explored through the shared governance structure. President Kitts reported that Dan Hendricks ended his service to the university in February. Dr. Judy Jackson has been appointed Interim Vice President for Advancement. She will be assisted by Deborah Shaw, an alumna who recently retired from Auburn University. Presidents Kitts stated that there will be a gala for the capital campaign on March 22. At this event, he will be announcing an extension and an expansion of the capital campaign.

**Remarks from Vice-President Thornell:** In the absence of questions for him, Vice President Thornell deferred his time to Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Title IX Coordinator, Tammy Jacques.

**Remarks from Tammy Jacques, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Title IX Coordinator:** Dr. Jacques presented information on a speaker, Dr. Jackson Katz, that her office is bringing to campus. He is a nationally acclaimed lecturer on gender and violence. Dr. Jacques asked faculty to encourage students to attend the event and to consider offering extra credit to those students who attend. Dr. Andrea Hunt also endorsed the speaker and stated that the event is a “great learning opportunity for our students.”

### **Reports:**

**Academic Affairs Committee:** No report.

**Faculty Affairs Committee:** No report.

**Faculty Attitude Survey Committee:** Craig Robertson reported that there were 197 valid responses which is an increase over last year.

### **Unfinished Business:**

**Smoke-free and Tobacco-Free Campus:** The motion that UNA Faculty Senate advocate for a smoke-free and tobacco-free campus, which was postponed at the previous meeting, was taken up. The motion carried by a vote of 19-16-2.

Marilyn Lee moved that the issue be referred to the Faculty and Staff Welfare Committee with student involvement to investigate successful implementation at other institutions. Will Brewer seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### **Information Items:**

President Franklin reminded the Senate that the Faculty Attitude Survey closes on March 18. She asked all senators to encourage their faculty to participate.

Staff Senate is sponsoring a Wellness Day in the University Center on March 17 from 11 am. – 1:00 p.m.

In the coming weeks, Senate officers will be looking at Senate representation and any potential reapportionment issues per the terms of the Senate Constitution. Departmental elections for open seats should take place the last week in April. Newly elected Senators should attend their first meeting in May.

Per a request from Catherine White, President Franklin reminded everyone that policies applicable to both faculty and staff, including the Family and Medical Leave Policy, are included in the *Employee Policy Manual and Handbook* rather than the *Faculty Handbook*.

President Franklin asked Senators to consider if they would like to serve on the Nominations Committee. Per the Constitution, this committee will be elected at the April meeting.

**Adjournment:** Marilyn Lee moved adjournment. Jessica Stovall seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Butler  
Secretary  
Faculty Senate

Approved April 14, 2016