

Samford University Faculty Senate

MINUTES, Committee on Academic Affairs

DATE OF MEETING: November 14, 2000

TIME: 3 p.m.

PLACE: Room 308, Divinity North

Voting members present: Profs. Norfleete Day (Divinity), William Ellison (Law), Pat Hart (Education and Professional Studies), Greg Jeane (Arts and Sciences), Roger Parker (Pharmacy), Suzanne Peterson (Library/Staff), Marlene Reed (Business), Perry Tompkins (Arts and Sciences), and Steven Epley (Arts and Sciences, presiding as chair)

Voting members absent: Profs. Sherry Lawhon (Music), Jane Martin (Nursing)

Ex officio member present: Paul Aucoin (Registrar), Emily Thompson (student representative, who was not present when student requests for action were considered)

I. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

II. Prof. Reed opened the meeting with prayer.

III. Prof. Ellison moved that the minutes of the meeting of Oct. 3, 2000, be approved as submitted. Prof. Reed seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Prof. Epley reported on the previous week's meeting on Faculty Development Grant proposals. Dr. Epley said he was preparing a letter to send to Dr. Lewis reflecting the committee's consensus on how much funding, if any, to recommend for each of the 26 requests brought to it by faculty. [The letter was subsequently sent to Dr. Lewis, with copies going to committee members, on Nov. 27, 2000.].



OLD BUSINESS

V. The committee took action on two requests from students. Because of the need to protect confidentiality, the students' names are not recorded in this set of minutes. However, because a complete official record must be submitted, it will be deposited with the Provost's Office. Only those with a legal "need to know" the student's names may consult this set of minutes.

One student asked that an F grade from fall 1999, which originated as a grade of Incomplete, be removed from his/her record and replaced by the grade received for the same course (offered under a slightly different name) when the student took it in spring 2000. Prof. Tompkins moved that the student's request be granted, and Prof. Ellison seconded the motion. The committee voted in favor of the motion by a margin of six to two, with one abstention.

Another student asked that a grade of F, which resulted when an Incomplete was not completed within the allowed time, be removed from his/her record. Prof. Parker moved that the student be granted an extension until the end of spring 2001 to complete the work in the class and remove the F from his or her record. Prof. Reed seconded the motion, which then passed unanimously.

VI. Prof. Ellison formally presented his proposal for mediation of certain academic dishonesty charges. After discussion that centered on the issue of where official records should be housed--in the appropriate dean's office, in the Student Affairs' office, or both--Prof. Ellison was asked by the chair to meet with Values Advocate David Nichols, Dean of Students Richard Franklin, and Values Council Chair Roger Parker to discuss how to integrate the proposed mediation process into the existing values process.

NEW BUSINESS

The committee took up no new business, but it was suggested that in the future the committee consider proposing an Honor Code and a grade replacement policy.

The chair adjourned the meeting at 4:50 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, Dec. 5, at 3 p.m. in Divinity North 308.**



Signed, Steven Epley

Chair, Academic Affairs Committee