

**SAMFORD UNIVERSITY
FACULTY MEETING**

Tuesday, August 22, 2006

Wright Center

11:15AM

Call to Order: Don Sandley, President of the Faculty Senate

Invocation: Don Sandley

Approval of Minutes: Minutes for the May 11, 2006 meeting were approved as posted on the faculty senate web page. Motion for approval was made by **Jennings Marshall** and seconded by **Paul Blanchard**.

The following represents a summary of what was discussed at the meeting. See the full transcript on the next page for details about the topics below:

Motions Passed:

1. Faculty proclamation of welcome to the new president
2. Request that the speakers from the faculty workshop (**Nancy Whitt, Tom Woolley, and Fisher Humphreys**) submit their remarks for publication on the faculty senate web page

Old Business:

1. Parking issues still exist for the east side of campus.
2. Faculty salaries

New Business:

1. Solicitation for two members to be nominated and elected to the faculty senate executive committee
2. Deans/chairs – please post your senate members clearly on the website. Please keep this up-to-date with your current senators.
3. Faculty senate meetings will be held in a new location this year: Bonnie Bolding Swearingen (formerly LSW) Room 101. Fall meetings will continue to be held on a Friday. Spring meetings will be held on a Monday. The full schedule was included (pink sheet) in the faculty workshop handout packet.

Announcements:

1. Call for AAUP membership
2. University Writing committee proposal deadline clarification

Adjournment

See next page for transcript with details.

Transcript

Don Sandley opened the meeting by saying that he wants to see faculty take responsibility for governance this year. Then he listed the following issues that we are going to address this year:

1. *Academic calendar* – Is Jan-term gone? The issue is not settled yet.
2. *Pension* – Congress passed the Pension Reform Act of 2006. This may have an affect on Samford's pension plan. The Faculty Senate will have a chance to weigh in on this issue as it is discussed.
3. *Communication* – We are going to try to keep you up-to-date with the facts of decisions that are being discussed and made.
4. *Handbook revisions* – We need a clear, workable statement of academic freedom.

Don then brought forward the first action item: the election of two faculty senate members to serve on the senate executive committee. If you are interested, or if you want to nominate someone for this job, then please email **Don Sandley**. **Cynthia Lohrke** asked if the candidates had to already be a member of the faculty senate. **Don** responded that yes they did.

Don then encouraged the deans and chairs to please post your senate members clearly on the website. Please keep this up-to-date with your current senators.

Don Sandley then asked if there was any *old business*.

An unidentified man commented that there are 150+ faculty members fighting for 90 marked spaces on the east side of campus. More than ½ of the slots are designated for students.

Paul Blanchard asked if there were any plans to do anything with the study completed in 2003 on faculty salaries. Are we going to look at [that study] as part of the strategic plan? **Sarah Latham** responded that an annual update and a five year re-evaluation were also part of the plan. For 2004 and 2005, the annual update has been presented to the faculty senate. **Paul** requested that the salary study be posted to the faculty senate website.

Don Sandley then moved us on to *new business*.

Don indicated that the first order of new business was to move the monthly faculty senate meetings to the first Monday of every month because it is difficult to get good work done on a Friday afternoon. For the Fall 2006 semester, the faculty senate will continue to meet on a Friday once a month; but for the Spring 2007 semester, the faculty senate meeting day will be change to a Monday once a month. The time will remain the same (3 pm), but the location will change starting this fall to Bonnie Bolding Swearingen (formerly LSW) Room 101 – the arts appreciation classroom.

Robin Snyder then made a motion that the faculty make a proclamation expressing welcome to the new president and indicating that we are looking forward to working with him. This motion was seconded by **Nancy Whitt** and then passed by oral vote without discussion.

Don Sandley then opened the floor for any announcements. The following announcements were made:

Hugh Floyd made his annual plea for the AAUP. First, he indicated that there is a reduced membership fee for new faculty still seeking tenure, and that joining is worth the investment. Many of the issues discussed at the workshop relate to the interests of the AAUP. Contact **Hugh** or **Morgan Ponder** if you are interested in joining.

Kathryn Fouse cleared up the proposal deadline for the University Curriculum Committee (UCC). The UCC is accepting proposals on its normal schedules. 16 copies of the proposal are due by the first Friday of the month.

Tim Banks made a motion that that the speakers from the faculty workshop (Nancy Whitt, Tom Woolley, and Fisher Humphreys) submit their remarks for publication on the faculty senate web page. This motion was seconded by **Paul Blanchard** and then approved by oral vote.

There being no further announcements, **Don Sandley** adjourned the meeting with a few comments about how we're at a place where we can make some major changes. Faculty governance and the associated committees provide a chance to have the dialogue and discussion that has been talked about during this faculty workshop. **Don** encouraged us to engage in the process.