

Minutes of the Full University Faculty Meeting

Date: Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2009

Place: Wright Fine Arts Center

Presiding: Robin Snyder, Chair, Faculty Senate

Chair Snyder called the meeting to order at 11:47 a.m.

She introduced the members of the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate, which includes herself (Arts) as chair, Mike Floyd (Law School) as vice chair, and Steven Epley (Arts and Sciences) as secretary. Two Senators need to be elected as at-large members of the Executive Committee.

Kim Benner, chair of the Elections Committee, presented the names of faculty who have agreed to serve as chairs of standing faculty committees.

Jennings B. Marshall moved that the faculty approve these persons as committee chairs. Roger Lander seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Betsy Dobbins moved that the minutes of the full faculty meeting of May 7, 2009, be approved, with one change in spelling: the new secretary's name is Steven Epley instead of Stephen Epley. Jennings B. Marshall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Sarah Latham, vice president for operations and planning, reported that various administrative functions have been consolidated, resulting in considerable savings. Planning for a possible H1N1 pandemic is in full swing, with faculty encouraged to consider using Blackboard and e-mail in case class meetings have to be cancelled.

Buck Brock, vice president for business affairs, said that Samford's financial picture is much better than that of other universities that are having to take drastic measures because of the financial downturn. He asserted that good financial stewardship and high academic quality are not contradictory but "inextricable."

Randy Pittman, vice president for university advancement, said fund-raising is going well, and he asked faculty who are raising funds to address particular needs to inform him or Ron Wilson so that they can assist in coordination or in any other fashion.

Phil Kimrey, vice president for student affairs and enrollment management, said that the Student Handbook has now been put on line, resulting in savings between \$10,000 and \$12,000. He also reported on searches for a new Dean of Admissions and a new Dean of Students. A committee invited two candidates to campus to interview for the former position, but neither was hired. Jason Black has been named acting dean of admissions while the committee continues to look for a permanent dean. The latter search committee has conducted a few meetings and is continuing its work. (The members of both search committees are listed on the Faculty Senate webpage).

Vice President Kimrey also reported that the old University Admissions Committee is in the process of being transformed into a new Strategic Enrollment Management Committee that will have a broader charge, including issues of retention, statistical analysis, goal-setting, and academic policies and protocols involving admission.

Brad Creed, provost, reported that Samford is trying to use the on-going accreditation process overseen by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools as an opportunity for the university to improve rather than simply do what has to be done to be recertified. He added that

conversations about General Education at Samford continue to be held, and he encouraged faculty involvement in the discussion. The provost also thanked President Andrew Westmoreland, who addressed the faculty and answered questions during the Faculty Workshop that began the previous day,

Paul Aucoin, Dean of Academic Services, said that the upcoming university convocation, with faculty marching in full regalia, would be held on Tuesday, Aug. 25.

There being no further business, with no committees bringing forth actions that needed to be voted on by faculty, Chair Snyder adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Steven Epley
Secretary