

MINUTES OF UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE MEETING

Date: Monday, April 19, 2010

Place: BSS 101

FACULTY SENATORS IN ATTENDANCE

Executive Committee

Robin Snyder, Chair, presiding
Mike Floyd, Vice Chair
Steven Epley, Secretary
Jon Clemmensen, At-large Member

Arts

Mark Castle
Kathryn Fouse

Arts and Sciences

Millicent Bolden	Doug Clapp
Theresa Davidson	Steve Donaldson
Mike Janas	Andy Montgomery
Julie Steward	James Strange

Business

Jennings Marshall
Doug Smith

Divinity

M. Sydney Park

Education and Professional Studies

Jonathan Davis
Robb Hensarling

Law

Joseph Snoe

Library

Della Darby
Becky Hutto

Nursing

Terri Cahoon

Margie Findlay
Wendy Kendrick

Pharmacy

David Luthin

GUESTS

Mary Sue Baldwin, Associate Provost
Buck Brock, Business Affairs
Kristie Chandler, Chair, Curriculum Committee
Brad Creed, Provost
Charles Ford, Chair, Academic Affairs Committee
Greg Kawell, Chair, Athletics Committee
Cynthia Lohrke, Chair, Business Affairs and Faculty Welfare Committee
Dr. Pattie Neill, School of Education and Professional Studies

Call to Order: Chair Robin Snyder called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Invocation: Chair Snyder delivered the invocation.

Approval of Minutes: Jennings Marshall moved that the minutes of the March 22, 2010, meeting be approved. Jon Clemmensen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The chair announced that the motion to approve the minutes of the Feb. 22, 2010, Senate meeting was not properly seconded according to the rules of the Senate at the March 22, 2010, meeting, because a non-Senator seconded the motion. Chair Snyder asked for another motion to approve the Feb. 22 minutes. Jennings Marshall made the motion, which was seconded by Julie Steward. The motion passed unanimously.

Report by Provost: Brad Creed said that the Trustee Executive Committee recently met and took action on promotions and tenure decisions, sabbaticals, and endowed professorships. He added that faculty contracts for the next school year, expected to contain a two percent across-the-board pay increase, should be mailed April 30. The timetable for paying twelve-month faculty will be changed beginning September 1. Nine-month faculty will not be affected, and the fiscal year will still begin on July 1. Dates for 2010 Faculty Institute have been set for August 23 and 24, with plans to hold a Provost's Forum on May 4 to discuss the university's academic affairs strategic plan and the capital campaign. The provost is reviewing a proposal for the chairman and secretary of the Senate to receive a one-course-per-semester release from teaching duties while holding office. The Provost reminded faculty that each dean is provided \$750 per year for each full-time faculty member to use for faculty development.

Report by Associate Provost: Mary Sue Baldwin said that May 1 is the deadline for department chairs to submit assessment reports to her office and that five-year program reviews will be completed this summer for some departments. She promised to send an official email to all faculty explaining the federal government's guidelines for textbook orders and the timetable

for ordering textbooks and supplemental supplies that the university has established to comply with those guidelines.

Report by Vice President for Business Affairs: Buck Brock said that the committee searching for a new Chief Information Officer has met and set a target date of fall 2010 to fill the position. He added that work has begun on developing a new budget system. Mr. Brock reported the university's deficit at \$1.5 million, an increase from the \$800,000 reported earlier. Business Affairs has adopted the "Hold It and Fold It" policy, according to which any monies not used during the year by a unit of the university will not be lost by that unit but will be folded over into its budget for the next year.

Report by Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management: Phil Kimrey was not present, and no report was submitted from the Undergraduate Admissions Committee/Strategic Enrollment Management Committee. No update was provided on the Dean of Students search and the Dean of Admissions search or on student recruitment, retention, and scholarships. Concern was raised by several members of the Senate that Mr. Kimrey was not present and had not submitted a report. Some called for better communication on his part. Provost Creed reported that the administration is considering several options for restructuring the Dean of Students position and its responsibilities.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (Minutes of committee meetings are posted on the Faculty Senate website)

Academic Affairs: Chair Charles Ford said that a new option to allow athletes to take certain courses on a pass/fail basis is being discussed in committee. The grading scale is an issue. The Senate took no action on the issue.

Academic Technology and Learning: Chair Grace Simms was not present, but committee member Cynthia Lohrke reported that alternative systems to replace the Blackboard system are being reviewed and will be narrowed down to two choices.

Business Affairs and Faculty Welfare: Chair Cynthia Lohrke lauded the news, announced earlier by Provost Creed, that there will be an across-the-board salary increase of 2 percent effective in the fall. There is an allotment of \$750 per faculty member for faculty development. The year-end report on the pension plan is "good" since the market is up. Faculty service award nominations will be accepted in the fall, and efforts are under way to endow the award with a special fund. She encouraged faculty to give money to help endow the award when making their contributions to the Charity Campaign. She also encouraged faculty to provide data on average salaries for their disciplines so that a salary adjustment plan can be formulated for Samford.

Campus Life (formerly Student Affairs, Religious Life, and University Relations): Chair Scott McGinnis reported that Mark Castle is chairing an ad hoc committee that is developing a website for the posting of information on sexual violence on campus.

Curriculum: Chair Kristie Chandler reported that April 30 is the deadline for curricular proposals in advance of the committee's last meeting of the academic year, scheduled for May 7. She strongly encouraged faculty to attend committee meetings at which their proposals are being presented.

Diversity: Chair Jonathan Davis presented a resolution from the committee concerning a program to help faculty and staff deal with issues of diversity, specifically involving LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) issues. Following discussion, the resolution was withdrawn, and the matter was returned to the committee for additional study.

Elections: Chair Kim Benner noted that nominations for vice chair and secretary of the Faculty Senate will be accepted until April 30, and elections for those positions will be held May 6.

Ad Hoc Committee on General Education: Chair Doug Clapp said that faculty will soon be asked to take a short survey consisting of seven questions designed to elicit perceptions about general education at Samford.

Ad Hoc Faculty Advisory Committee for International Studies: David Shipley, director of international studies, said that the committee met for the first time this month to select a chairman and discuss the group's purpose.

Announcements: The final Full Faculty Meeting of the academic year will be May 6 at 10:00 a.m. at Brock Forum. Chair Snyder asked outgoing committee chairs to prepare a binder containing minutes of the year's meetings and other pertinent information and present the binder to the incoming chair.

There being no further business, the chair adjourned the meeting at 4:27.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Epley
Secretary