

Faculty Senate Minutes
September 12, 2024

Call to order:

A regular meeting of the University of North Alabama's Faculty Senate convened via MS Teams Video Conferencing at 3:30pm with President Hunt presiding.

I. Recognized Proxies

Dr. Justin Joseph for Senator L. Graham
Mr. Patrick Seward for Senator Gudmundsson
Senator Danny Burton for Senator Makowski
Mr. Patrick Shremshock for Senator O'Neal

Members in attendance

Lisa Ann Blankinship, Sidney Blaylock, Miranda Bowie Charles Brooks, Keli Brothers, Danny Burton, Corey Cagle, Gabriela Carrasco, Justin Carter, Jian Chen, Freda Coleman-Reed, Helen Coronel, James DaSambiagio-Moore, Frank Diaz, Ravi Gollapalli, Anissa Graham, Mark Greer, John Hodges, Rebecca Hopkins, Andrea Hunt, Jason Imbrogno, Ann-Marie Irons, Faith Kelley, Lauren Killen, Kelly Latchaw, Tom Lukowicz, Stephanie Montgomery, Andrea Nate, Gary Padgett, Andrew Potter, Chris Purser, Robert Rausch, Suzanne Reese Mills, Beverly Russell, Justin Scott, Angel Tomlinson, Darlene Townsend, Christina Volz-Stomackin, Wendy Wang, Gretchen Windt, Ping Zhao,

Members not in attendance

Wael Al-Kouz, Michael Conner

II. Recognize guests

Dr. Audrey Bailey, Dr. Allison Berkowitz, Dr. Stephanie Coker, Dr. Amy Crews, Mr. Ben Flippo, Dr. Stacy Lee, Dr. Ian Loepky, Dr. Matt Price, Dr. Ansley Quiros, Dr. Patricia Sanders, Mr. Craig Witt

III. Approval of the Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Sen. Carrasco and seconded by Sen. Killen. Motion was approved by raised hand (35Y: 0N).

IV. Approval of the Minutes from May, 2, 2024

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Sen. Blaylock and seconded by Sen. Greer. Motion was approved by raised hand (28Y:0N).

V. Remarks from President Kitts

President Kitts provided updates to the Faculty Senate:

- Enrollment – record Summer 2024 enrollment; Fall 2024 census data is in October but current enrollment is higher than last year; growth is mostly traditional (on campus) students
- Live Lions – A Special Committee on Live Lions (SCLL) has been created in August 2024. Updates on this committee will be provided via the Campus Digest

- Campus Construction Projects – new Computer and Mathematics Building (open), Bank Independent Stadium (underway), new residence hall (begin this year), Engineering Building (planning phase), Art and Music facility (sourcing funding opportunities)
- Strategic Plan – “Pride in the Gold Standard”; Minnette Ellis has been appointed Executive Director of University Priorities
- Municipal Elections – upcoming next year (2025)

VI. Remarks from EVPAA/ Provost Smith

Provost Smith addressed the faculty senate and answered senator questions.

- Student success is driven by a combination of scholarship, teaching, and community engagement
- Questions for the Provost should be collected by the Deans, Faculty Senate, or departments can ask Provost Smith to attend a meeting.
- Senator concerns included:
 - hiring schedule (dependent upon budget)
 - parking on campus (question for Facilities)
 - faculty webpages (currently working on interface with Faculty Success/ Watermark)
 - admin assistant sharing (more information was requested)
 - timeline for Arts & Music building
 - student dorm conditions (FS President Hunt working on this)
 - CASE Dean search process (more information forthcoming)

VII. Remarks from Faculty Senate President Hunt

- FS President Hunt has met with President Kitts and Provost Smith.
- Reminder: Senate is a leadership position more than service and that senior faculty should help support junior faculty
- Senator Makowski will serve as parliamentarian.
- Parking concerns can be sent to FS President Hunt

VIII. Elections for Committee Vacancies

- a. Food Service Committee (Faculty-at-large representative for 2024-2027) – Dr. Helen Coronel elected.
- b. Multicultural Advisory Committee (CASE, 2024-2025) – Dr. Alejandra Alvarado-Brizuela elected.

IX. Reports

- a. Standing Committees
 - i. Faculty Affairs (Chair Chris Klein) – no report
 - ii. Academic Affairs (Chair John Hodges) – no report
 - iii. Faculty Attitude Survey (Chair Michael Floren)
 - 1) Presentation of Faculty Attitudes Survey (FAS) results – Motion to accept FAS was made by Sen. Carrasco and seconded by Sen. Scott. Discussion. Vote to release FAS to faculty (36Y:0N).

- iv. Faculty Handbook Oversight (Chair Melanie Looser) – Report presented by Sen. Blankinship. Committee recommends guidance for lecturer/ Senior Lecturer reappointment process and transition of Instruction to Tenure tract position (ACONHP). Motion to discuss Sen. Carrasco and seconded by Sen. Gollapalli. Motion to send to Faculty Affairs was made by Sen. Carrasco and seconded by Sen. Killen. (35Y:0N)

X. Unfinished Business

a. Update on Copyright Policy – Motion to discuss was made by Sen. Scott and seconded by Sen. Carrasco. Discussion. Motion to accept policy with editorial updates made by Sen. Carrasco and seconded by Sen. Killen. (35Y:0N)

b. Parental Leave Policy – Motion to discuss was made by Sen. Scott and seconded by Sen. Brothers. Discussion. Motion to send to Faculty Affairs then Handbook Oversight was made by Sen. Carrasco and seconded by Sen. Scott. (35Y:0N)

XI. New Business

- a. Proposed Revision to Section 5.1 Zero Credit Hour Policy – Motion to discuss was made by Sen. Carrasco and seconded by Sen. Montgomery. Discussion. Motion to table to get clarification was made by Sen. Killen and seconded by Sen. Scott. (35Y:0N)
- b. Travel and per diem – Motion to table discussion until senators could get feedback from their departments about how faculty are impacted by current practices was made by Sen. Carrasco and seconded by Sen. Chen. (35Y:0N)
- c. ACT scores for admissions – Motion to table discussion until senators could get departmental feedback was made by Sen. Carrasco and seconded by Sen. Killen. (35Y:0N)
- d. Faculty Senate Survey – Motion to discuss a survey was made by Sen. Gollapalli and seconded by Sen. Carter. Discussion. Sen Carter motions for a taskforce to be formed to build survey of senators and report back findings. Seconded by Sen. Carrasco. (32Y:0N)

XII. Information Items

- a. Interim Free Speech and Assembly Policy – Policy Review was conducted by Student Affairs. No Faculty Senate action required.
- b. Campus transportation to McKinney Building and East Campus – This issue is currently being addressed. No Faculty Senate action required.
- c. Voting software – If a senator is willing to run the voting software (vote.unafaculty.com) please let FS president Hunt know.

XIII. Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn at 5:11pm by Sen. A. Graham and seconded by Sen. Scott. Vote. (32Y:0N)