

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

November 8, 2007

The Faculty Senate of the University of North Alabama met November 8, 2007 in the Faculty/Staff Commons of the University Center at 3:30 p.m.

President Turner called the meeting to order and recognized the following proxies:
Linda Blount for Senator Hurren from Secondary Education,
Joy Borah for Senator Crisler from Social Work, and
Brenda Webb for Senator Statom from Elementary Education.

Senator Loeppky moved the adoption of the agenda. Senator Richardson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Senator Richardson moved the approval of the minutes with the following changes:

1. Remove “interim” from the title of the chief academic officer.
2. Under Old Business D. “Senator Gaunder moved that the senate be provided...”
3. Under Old Business F. “Nondiscrimination Policy which was circulated by email be forwarded for legal review”

Senator Summy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

President Cale gave Vice-President Warren the floor for his comments.

Dr. Warren stated that the National Association of Schools of Art and Design has given feedback concerning their recent visit which was very positive. The Master of Science in Nursing is undergoing an accreditation visit. Dr. Warren reported that he met with fifteen to twenty faculty concerning campus issues recently. He encouraged other to attend the next meeting to give feedback and discuss concerns.

Gordon Stone from the Higher Education Partnership presented information related to the next legislative session. He shared what the partnership has been doing and what they hope to do. They have completed ten years of working as an advocate for higher education in the state of Alabama. He stated that we are constantly on a roller coaster for educational funding. It is exciting to see how the partnership has advocated for higher education. Who knows what the next ten years will hold! He stated that he hoped that we have a sense of encouragement because our issues have a way to be presented to the legislature.

He further stated that as we all know, the economy has hit a rough spot. Because of some of the expansion of the auto industry and others in the state, perhaps it will not be too bad. Because higher education funding depends on sales taxes, we may see a problem next year. The good news is that we do have a proration protection account. We will probably see level funding this year. He stated that there does not appear to be any hope in changing the manner in which higher education is funded. The last three years have been at best level funding.

Mr. Stone encouraged students, faculty, and alumni to get involved to make sure that the local leadership in the legislature knows the concerns of UNA. March 6 is the date for the next Higher

Education Day, a pep rally to make an impression on the minds of those participating in the legislative decisions for education. This year will be particularly important. He encouraged the faculty to please consider not scheduling a test for this date.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Turner stated that Whitney Wood, membership development for Higher Education Partnership at UNA, requested that the faculty avoid scheduling a test for March 6, Higher Education Day, and asked if anyone would be available to conduct a tour in Montgomery on March 6 to provide an educational component to the trip.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Committee Reports:
 - 1. Academic Affairs had no report.
 - 2. Faculty Affairs had no report.
- B. Shared Governance reports – none
- C. President Turner reported that the addendum to the Promotion and Tenure Policy passed by the Senate on May 2005 is now in the hands of the Faculty Affairs Committee.
- D. President Turner reported he had contacted Alan Medders with University Advancement to determine a manner to use the Shared Governance Fund of the Senate at Regions Bank. He has not yet received any information.
- E. The Nondiscrimination Policy wording has been forward to Tammy Irons for legal review.
- F. President Turner presented a paper trail of the Office Hours Policy. He asked if the senate wants to send the proposed policy from 2005 forward or to prepare a revision since the teaching world has changed technologically since then. Questions were raised concerning whether the number of hours should be reduced and whether there is a need to schedule office hours on days when no classes are taught by the instructor. Senator Richardson moved that the issue be sent back to the Faculty Affairs Committee for revision of the Office Hours Policy after soliciting input from the faculty by an email questionnaire with a deadline of the February meeting for a report from the committee. Senator Bates seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

It was called to the attention of the senate that the internet courses listed as TBA in the schedule book is misleading to the students. It was requested that Dr. Warren convey this problem to the

Registrar. Senator Maynard, member of the Distance Learning Committee, will discuss this issue with the committee.

Senator Dumas pointed out that the timeline for the Promotion process is inaccurate according to what the senate voted.

Senator Loew moved that the meeting be adjourned. Senator Roden seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.