

Faculty Senate Minutes
9 March 2023

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 Stovall presiding.

I. Recognized Proxies

Amanda Hitt for Sen. Tabitha Blasingame
Melanie Looser for Sen. Ann-Marie Irons
Michael Curtis Johnson for Sen. Bryan McHenry

Members in attendance

Alejandra Alvarado-Brizuela, Lisa Ann Blankinship, Miranda Bowie, Dan Burton, Corey Cagle, Gabriela Carrasco, Justin Carter, Chiong-Yiao Chen, Jian Chen, Helen Coronel, Chris Cottingham, Frank Diaz, Terri Garrison, Anissa Graham, Einar Gudmundsson, Felecia Harris, Betsy Heckert, Achini Herath, John Hodges, Andrea Hunt, Faith Kelley, Lauren Killen, Leshan Kimbrough, Kelly Latchaw, Ian Loepky, Thomas Lukowicz, Jennifer Maddox, George Makowski, Janna Malone, John McGee, Jason Price, Chris Purser, Lindsey Sherrill, Kevin Stoltz, Jessica Stovall, Angel Tomlinson, Jason Watson, Gretchen Windt

Members not in attendance (without proxy)

Jordan Miller, Craig Robertson, Patrick Shremshock, Pete Williams

II. Approval of the Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Sen. Malone, 2nd by Sen. Cottingham. No discussion. Agenda approved by acclamation.

III. Approval of Minutes from the 9 February 2023 Meeting

No changes were suggested for the February 9th minutes. Minutes approved as presented.

IV Remarks from Dr. Ken Kitts, UNA President

Due to technical difficulties, President Kitts was not able to share his remarks. Dr. Alexander presented an update for President Kitts:

- 2023 Alabama State legislature session began on 3.7.2023 with Gov. Ivey moving the legislature to a special session to decide allocation of \$1.1 billion ARPA funding.
- The updated State budget is expected to be released during the regular legislature session beginning on 3.21.2023.
- Current State appropriations is \$45 million with a request for recurring funding for \$10.5 million in FY2024.

V. Remarks from Dr. Ross Alexander, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Provost Alexander commended the Parental Leave Policy Review committee for their work in proposing a Parental Leave Policy. (Updates on the policy are provided in Section VIII.b.ii.)

VI. Remarks from SACSCOC Team

Provost Alexander, Dr. Joy Borah (Sr. Vice Provost for Academic Affairs), Dr. Lorie Johnson (SACSCOC Liaison), Dr. Chris Klein (QEP Director) – The SACSCOC Team presented a reminder of the QEP initiative: Preparing the Pride- Experiential and Work based learning and that the SACSCOC on site team would be present next week (March 13-16). Faculty were encouraged to be ready to share the QEP if asked by SACSCOC representatives.

VII. Remarks from Dr. Jessica Stovall, Faculty Senate President

President Stovall provided the following updates:

- Of the 41 faculty on the old Promotion and Tenure Policy, all have tenure and most have reached their highest promotion or will in the next few years. Therefore, updates to the Promotion Policy as approved at the February 9, 2023 meeting do not impact these 41 faculty. The old Promotion and Tenure Policy will not contain updates.
- Pres. Stovall requested a courtesy email to be sent to the faculty when the University shifts to the hyflex model.

VIII. Reports

a. Standing Committees

1. Faculty Affairs (Sen. Carter) – No updates.
2. Academic Affairs (Sen. Cottingham) – Reviewing Online Proctoring Services (FS) – A report to Faculty Senate will be forthcoming.
3. Faculty Attitude Survey (Sen. Purser) – The survey is being prepared for Qualtrics.
4. Faculty Handbook Oversight (Sen. Robertson) – No updates.

b. Other Committees

1. Faculty Senate Constitution Review (Sen. Watson) – No updates.
2. Parental Leave Policy Review (Sen. Hunt) – President Stovall stated that the Board of Trustees will need to approve the Parental Leave Policy. If approved, Faculty Senate will need to revise Faculty Handbook Section 3.1.3 to accommodate leave policy.

IX. Unfinished Business

1. Tabled: Proposal for Updated Weapons and Firearms Policy (SGEC:FS) – Sen. Makowski motioned to bring the proposal off the table. Motion seconded by Senator Alvarado-Brizuela. Vote: 36Y:0N:1Abs. Motion passes.

Sen. Cottingham made a motion to accept the updated Weapons and Firearms Policy. Seconded by Sen. Makowski. No discussion. Vote: 30Y:1N:6Abs. Motion passes.

X. New Business

1. Proposal to Remove Teacher Education Council from Faculty Handbook (SGEC:FS) – Motion to accept proposal made by Sen. Bowie with second by Sen. Sherrill. No discussion. Vote: 37Y:0N:1Abs. Motion passes.

XI. Information Items

1. Nominating Committee – Pres. Stovall requests that senators think of potential members for this three-person committee to be nominated at the April Senate meeting. Current officers or those senators interested in serving as an officer in AY2023/2024 are not eligible to be on the Nominating Committee. Self-nominations are welcomed.

XII. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made by Sen. Makowski and 2nd by Sen. Carrasco. Motion passes.
Meeting adjourned at 4.05pm.