

**Approved Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting
June 22, 2016**

Meeting called to order at 2:00 PM by President Dionne Rosser-Mims.

Members Present: Catherine Allard, Joel Campbell, Tonya Conner, Lane Eckis, Trey Fitch, Vijaya Gomba, Margaret Gnoinska, William Heisler, Jeffrey Ickes, John Jinright, Paige Paquette, Trellys Riley, Dionne Rosser-Mims, Michael Slobodchikoff, Jonathan Taylor, Zhiyong Wang, Gina Mariano, Kelly Johnson, and Ronald Shehane.

Members Absent: Kerri Outlaw (no notice), Jeff Simpson (notice), Michael Stewart (notice), Dianne Eppler (notice), Gary Manfready (notice).

Others Present: Lee Vardaman, Sherrionda Crawford, Dabney McKenzie.

Reports Committees

I. Executive Committee: Dr. Rosser-Mims

- a. As the outgoing president, Dr. Dionne Rosser-Mims welcomed all newly elected and reelected senators present at the meeting. She emphasized that although she had no official report, she wanted to share her reflections on the work and accomplishments of the Senate during her two-year tenure. Prior to this, Dr. Rosser-Mims stressed that the Executive Committee met last week and had a good bit of discussion regarding two resolutions: Resolution 3-2015-2016 (Faculty Handbook Change – Professor Emeritus) and Resolution 4-2015-2016 (Faculty Handbook Change – CRC Composition). She was very pleased with the level of discussion on the topic. *(Both resolutions were passed by the Faculty Senate at 6/22/2016 meeting – see below).*
- b. Dr. Rosser-Mims' reflections on the work and the accomplishments of the Senate during 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 academic years:
 - i. Dr. Rosser-Mims emphasized that two academic years constitute a very good period to set goals and to accomplish goals that were set during her convocation speech back in the fall of 2015.
 - ii. Prior to reflecting on such goals, Dr. Rosser-Mims took the time to thank, and in fact expressed big thanks, to the Senate Leadership: Dr. Lane Eckis and Dr. Margaret Gnoinska, and the chairs of the Standing Committees: Dr. Vijaya Gomba, Dr. Trellys Riley and Dr. Zhiyong Wang, as well as the rest of the Senate membership. She emphasized that lots of meaningful discussion took place on the issues that the Senate worked on in the past two years.
 - iii. Dr. Rosser-Mims reflected on the four major goals for the Faculty Senate that she set in 2015 as the new president. These goals included: 1) the strengthening of shared governance at the University; 2) the introduction of bold and innovative ideas; 3) the introduction of digital solutions to improve the workflow; and 4) the strengthening of communication at the University. She stressed

that the reflections provided below included only highlights and certainly not every detailed activity and the overall hard work of the Faculty Senate. The items that Dr. Rosser-Mims selected as to be particularly proud of are as follows:

1. We invited key administrators to our Faculty Senate meetings to help resolve miscommunication and any confusion. In other words, we made sure that we wanted the faculty to hear from the horse's mouth regarding new policies and changes that were taking place at the University. The faculty had the opportunity to ask questions and engage in a discussion.
2. We administered the Faculty Survey. The discussion around the idea of conducting a faculty survey was initiated by Dr. Maureen Casile. This process began prior to my leadership as the Faculty Senate president. What we did under the leadership of Dr. Vijaya Gompa was to take the idea and devise such a survey. As far as I know, this is the first time that such a survey has ever been devised at Troy University with a purpose of getting feedback from the faculty. The work that the Faculty Senate has done has been tremendous in this area and I thank the senators involved in the process. We have institutionalized two surveys: one to be conducted every year and one to be conducted every two years based on Resolution 1a -2015-2016 and 2a – 2015-2016 (please refer to the Faculty Senate website to view the resolutions at <http://trojan.troy.edu/employees/standingcommittees/resolutions/FS/1a-Resolution-201-2015-2016.pdf> and <http://trojan.troy.edu/employees/standingcommittees/resolutions/FS/2a-Resolution-2015-2016.pdf>)
3. Other accomplishments include the efforts of Dr. Riley and Dr. Wang to initiate and to elevate the conversation to go digital. We have made much progress to go paperless wherever possible to facilitate the workflow. I would like to thank and commend Dr. Greg Price from the Information Technology for his constant support and assistance in this area.
4. The accomplishments also include the Faculty Senate initiated Annual Troy University Student Appreciation Day. I would like to express my thanks especially to Dr. Lane Eckis here for her tireless work in making this endeavor successful two years in a row. And, thank you all, who participated in making the event a great success. We truly served as a connector between students and faculty and the administration.
5. Finally, thank you all for the hard work you have done

during the academic years of 2014-2015 and 2015-2016.

II. Committee on Committees: Dr. Boyte-Eckis

I have served as the Vice President of the Faculty Senate for the past two years. The two years have been very successful in my opinion. Thank you all for your great work.

III. Elections Committee: Dr. Gnoinska

The elections were successfully held and completed for the Faculty Senate and Standing Committees in Spring 2016. There are still some positions that were not filled and therefore elections will be held in Fall 2016 to ensure that the vacant positions are filled to allow for as full representation of the faculty as possible. Again, congratulations to the newly elected and re-elected senators and other members of the standing committees. We are very pleased to have you on board for 2016-2017 academic year and happy to see that several new senators were able to join us for the June 22 meeting. This concludes the Elections Committee report.

IV. Academic Affairs Committee: Dr. Riley

After serving on the Faculty Senate for the past six years, I would like to thank all of my fellow senators, especially Dr. Rosser-Mims, the faculty at the Phenix City who have been very supportive of me and entrusted me with this position, and to the members of the Academic Affairs Committee. Thank you!

V. Faculty Welfare Committee: Dr. Gompa

I would like to express my thanks to my fellow senators. I have been truly honored to have served as the Chair of the Faculty Welfare Committee. I cannot express in words how wonderful this experience was. I would like to thank especially the Executive Committee for their hard work this past year I very much look forward to the next year.

VI. Technology Committee: Dr. Wang

It has been a great experience to work with many colleagues this past year. I have really enjoyed working with my colleagues on the Faculty Senate. We have certainly had many questions for Dr. Greg Price this past year and I would like to express my thanks for his unwavering support and assistance. Again, thank you, everyone! I am looking forward to a new year ahead.

VII. Dothan Campus: Dr. Manfredy

No report.

VIII. Global Campus: Dr. Fitch

Troy University Counseling has been very involved in helping after the Orlando shooting. They are to be commended and their help has been much appreciated. This concludes the report.

IX. Montgomery Campus: Dr. Taylor

No report today.

X. Phenix City Campus: Dr. Paquette

- a. On May 19th Troy Phenix City hosted Mike Howard: A Journey Home Reception and Artist Talk at the Riverfront Campus. This evening was an Open House and Q & A with Phenix City artist Mike Howard and his wife Mary followed by a gallery showing of all the work he has donated to TROY University.
- b. June 7th-9th was Educator on the River Days organized by the Whitewater Stakeholders Group Education Committee chaired by Vice Chancellor David White. Teachers from Phenix City Public Schools, Russell County Schools and Muscogee County Schools participated in two days of professional development training on science, math, and history on the river. On June 9th there was a celebration including a picnic on the pedestrian bridge, whitewater rafting, ziplining, and Segway tours.
- c. Phenix City/Columbus/Fort Benning hosted graduation on June 10th. Approximately 147 graduates received their degrees. State Representative Chris Blackshear was the guest speaker.

XI. Troy Campus: Dr. Mariano

No report.

XII. Old Business

Discussion/Information Items

- a. Resolution 3-2015-2016 (Faculty Handbook Change – Professor Emeritus)
 - i. The resolution passed with 2 senators abstaining
- b. Resolution 4-2015-2016 (Faculty Handbook Change – CRC Composition)
 - i. The resolution passed with 3 senators abstaining
 - ii. Dr. Rosser-Mims mentioned that the changes to the CRC, including the revisions recently received from Dr. Lee Vardaman, were going to be voted on by the Troy University Board of Trustees on June 22, 2016.

XIII. New Business

Discussion/Information Items

- a. Inclusion of Full-time Non-tenured Faculty in Faculty Governance
 - i. Dr. John Jinright suggested that the item be tabled and discussed at the next scheduled senate meeting.
- b. Conversion of Unranked Faculty to Tenure-Track
 - i. Dr. John Jinright suggested that the item be tabled and discussed at the next scheduled senate meeting.
- c. Senate Resolution 5-2015-2016 (2016-2017 Senate meeting dates)
 - i. The resolution passed.

- d. Officer elections
 - i. The Faculty Senate held elections for three executive positions: president, vice president, and secretary via electronic and WebEx ballots.
 - ii. Following the elections, the new officers for 2016-2017 are:
 - 1. Dr. Margaret Gnoinska – president
 - 2. Dr. Michael Slobodchikoff – vice president
 - a. There were two candidates for this position: Dr. Slobodchikoff received 12 votes while Dr. William Heisler received 5 votes.
 - 3. Dr. Paige Paquette – secretary

Meeting Adjourned @ 2:55PM