

MINUTES
TROY UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE MEETING
30 March 2011

1. Dr. Shelton called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.
2. Mr. Jim Davis completed the roll call for the meeting. Attendance was as follows:

a. Members present:

- Catherine Allard
- Tammy Esteves
- Tom Kolasa
- Marty Olliff
- Brian Webb
- Scout Blum
- Jim Davis
- Regina Gaillard
- Govind Menon
- Ben Robertson
- Sam Shelton
- Bill Heisler
- John Irwin
- Bob Kitahara
- John Jinright
- Johanna Alberich
- Frank Browning
- Michael Burgan
- Eddie Clark
- Debra Lett

b. Members absent:

- Kris Ross (with notice)
- Lane Eckis (with notice)
- Richard Voss
- Mary Ann Hooten (with notice)
- Mary Battaglia (with notice)

3. Dr. Gaillard pointed out a typographical error in paragraph 5Fi. of the February minutes. As per a note from Dr. Olliff, a sentence in passive voice was corrected (Strike that; say instead, Mr. Davis corrected a sentence that he had written in passive voice). The minutes were approved as amended.

4. Annual Presentation to the Faculty Senate: Chancellor Jack Hawkins, Jr.

Dr. Hawkins began by commenting that it has been estimated that the University saves \$25,000-50,000 in travel expenses per year by holding meetings such as the Faculty Senate via v-tel as it does.

Dr. Hawkins stated that since 1980, the state education budget has been in proration 12 times. There have already been in this legislative session, budget changes that will make future revenues more predictable, though not more numerous.

Dr. Hawkins started with the strengths of the University. He said that academically, the University is as strong or stronger than it has been in his 22years here. The facilities have never been better. All campuses have plans for growth. Financially the University is strong. Dr. Hawkins reiterated that the move to Division I in athletics was never about athletics, but about exposure for the University, and in the long term it has worked well. Our athletic department has a strong commitment to academics. We currently have 169 student athletes with a GPA of 3.0 or better, and student athletes graduate at a higher rate than the student body as a whole. He also reported on a study by Texas A&M University that rated Troy as one of the top ten athletic programs in terms of return on investment, both financially and in the classroom.

Dr. Hawkins congratulated Dr. Dew on the University's receiving the Alabama Quality Award, the first time such an award has gone to a university. High rankings in various external sources such as Forbes Magazine and Princeton Review, plus achievements such as the Geomatics program winning a competition in Las Vegas, all reflect the high quality of the University.

However, these are indeed challenging times. On 1 October we will lose \$5 million in federal stimulus money. The state relies on regressive means for funding education, unlike most states that rely on property taxes. In 1987 state support accounted for 44% of Troy's budget, whereas today less than 17% of our budget comes from the state. Population projections predict that though Alabama's population will increase in the future, the number of traditional college-aged students will decrease. The state's two-year college system is attempting to aggressively broaden its student base by moving into areas now served by four-year colleges. Increased admission standards raise the quality of our students, but shut out potential tuition-paying clients. It is estimated that 475 students who enrolled last fall will not meet the standards next fall. The good side to this is that 322 of those students were transferring to Troy from other institutions where they had a GPA of below 2.0, but this could potentially lower tuition income by up to \$7 million. All of these economic forces combine to force us to be better stewards of our resources.

Where does this put us in 2011? Dr. Hawkins and Dr. Ingram participated in the World Universities Congress in Turkey, where the Chancellor talked about the future of higher education. He spoke first of technology as the road to the future. He complimented Greg Price and the TROY IT department for the amount of high-quality work they do with the limited staff they have. Distance Learning served more than 15,000 students last year. About 10% of our students are purely e-campus students, but the majority of our students are blended, combining online classes with classroom classes. Many students take e-campus classes in their dorm rooms and then come to classes. Students want options. Many new programs and majors will come online as distance-learning programs this coming Fall. All of our 70 majors are to be available online by 2015, but only 22 are available now.

The second dimension of the University of the future is to be international. Today we serve about 850 international students on campus, with the goal of 1200 by 2015. Our presence abroad is growing constantly. Dr. Ingram recently attended our first graduation in Viet Nam. But the international growth must be able to pay for itself. The deans have embraced the goal of having 10 study abroad trips per college per year by 2015. These opportunities are essential to our students' growth.

The third dimension is "the high touch." TROY has not only a substantial online component, but also the high touch, the brick-and-mortar contact with students. The chairman of the SACS committee praised Troy for having a "culture of caring," which the Chancellor embraced as high praise. We serve 23,000 students. Last year we awarded almost 2300 graduate degrees, 800 in-state, which was the fourth-highest total among in-state universities. Dr. Hawkins recounted the history of University Park as an example of forward-looking development bringing jobs and improved infrastructure to the area. He listed the new buildings and other improvements to the campus, including the Confucious Institute and the Manley Johnson Center for business development in the new Bibb Graves Hall. He announced the plan to ultimately have an amphitheater built in the ravine behind the Janice Hawkins Park. Also, the new arena is coming in under budget, and will be a superb complex conferences, graduations, and sports. The first basketball game will be played in the facility in Fall 2012 against Mississippi State. The first commencement in the new arena will be no later than December 2012, and possibly in August 2012.

The new state-wide system of online access for high school students was developed here at Troy, and now 44 school systems in our region are served by the support center here at TROY. Also, all College of Education graduates from TROY are now trained to teach reading and are certified in the Alabama Reading Initiative (ARI), which increases their marketability.

Dr. Hawkins praised the car tag program and those who participate. TROY has reached its goal of \$1.5 million in its scholarship pool and is now beginning to award these scholarships.

Dr. Hawkins discussed the future challenge of getting the state law changed that capped the tuition increases for students under the PACT program for all universities except Alabama and Auburn. He said that if left unchanged that law would cost TROY \$25 million dollars over the next 20 years.

In terms of goals for the future, Dr. Hawkins said we want to enroll 50,000 students by 2015, with 35,000 enrolled in ecampus, 10,000 on the Troy Campus, 3,000 at Dothan, 4,000 at Montgomery, and 2500 at Phenix City.

The Foundation funds continue to climb toward our goals. Last week the Botts estate left TROY a bequest of \$1.4 million, \$800,000 to establish a professorship in Accountancy, and \$600,000 to the Geomatics program.

The hiring freeze will save \$5 million. Dr. Hawkins praised Dr. Henry Stewart, Dean of Libraries, for his many cost-saving measures and decisions. Dr. Ingram is significantly reshaping Global Campus, closing 24

teaching sites overseas, saving as much as \$2 million. The change of moving the English Department to CCFA is part of this restructuring, leading in the next few years to a new School of Science and Technology.

Dr. Hawkins left with these points: Serve our students, be proactive in leading into the future, and to maintain a vision of the future. The only thing that will sustain us is quality.

5. President's Report

A. President's Correspondence

- i. Dr. Shelton stated that he had sent to Senior Vice-Chancellor John Dew and Interim Senior Vice-Chancellor Earl Ingram the "2015 Goals Report," as voted on by the Senate at the last meeting.
- ii. Dr. Shelton reported that he had sent a letter of appreciation for his service in the Senate to Dr. David Hollingsworth of the Phenix City Campus. His unexpired term will be filled during the Spring elections.

6. Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee—Dr. Shelton reported that the Executive Committee met last Wednesday to discuss the items for today's meeting and approve the agenda.

B. Committee on Committees—Dr. Allard reported that the Graduate Academic Council discussed the discontinuation of several programs and locations, a proposal to limit the number of times to reapply to a graduate program to two, and a proposal to require registration in a class before attendance.

C. Elections Committee—Mr. Davis reported that nomination period for the consolidated elections was over, but that three races still had no nominees, and Dr. Shelton would be sending out emails targeted only toward those schools which still had opening, extending the nomination period for those races. Those positions still needing nominees are the School of Education and School of Health and Human Services for the GAC, and the Sorrell College of Business for one of its openings on the UGAC. Dr. Shelton will send the lists of nominees to the Deans by next Monday for verification of eligibility. Dr. Shelton said that he would be sending out advance emails explaining the process, telling everyone that they will need their TROY email username as the username, and their datatel number as their password. Each voter will receive only those ballots for which he or she is eligible to vote. Effusive thanks were forthcoming from Dr. Shelton and Mr. Davis to Barbara Patterson for her many time-consuming and labor-intensive efforts in helping the Senate with these elections.

D. Faculty Welfare Committee—Dr. Kolasa reported that the Lecturer Report is done and has been distributed to the Senate in a draft state. The Senate will now be asked to consider the information in the report in order to make suggestions as to how the Senate would like to move forward in terms of making recommendations to the Administration. Dr. Heisler commented that the definition of the duties of lecturers is very unclear and definitely needs further study. Dr. Blum moved that the FWC or someone appointed by Dr. Shelton develop and distribute a survey of lecturers, based on the eight areas of discussion identified on page one of the report. Dr. Heisler proposed an amendment to the motion to limit the FWC to developing a survey questionnaire that would then be discussed and approved (or not) by the full Senate. Dr. Blum accepted the amendment. The motion passed.

G. At this point Dr. Shelton asked (and was granted) permission to move the SGA Liaison reports up in the agenda. He introduced Darrayel Laster, the incoming president of the Troy Campus SGA, who was present at the meeting and wished to address the Senate. Mr. Laster stressed the importance of Higher Education Day in Montgomery on April 7, and reminded faculty to please be tolerant of students who missed class to attend Higher Ed Day.

Dr. Shelton reviewed the history of the Faculty Senate/SGA Liaison from its first suggestion by Dr. Blum to the efforts of Mr. Davis, Dr. Olliff, and Dr. Kolasa in establishing the program on their individual campuses, and thanked Mr. Laster for working to carry on the liaison program.

Mr. Davis reported that the SGA's efforts to obtain Wi-Fi access in all academic buildings on the Troy campus have been successful, that the broadcast units have been ordered and will be installed during the summer.

Dr. Olliff reported that he had met with the Dothan campus SGA last month, and that the SGA was holding a student forum yesterday and today gathering student concerns. This is an annual event. They will also be attending Higher Ed Day in Montgomery. The Dothan SGA is also taking part in the campus Heritage Week April 18-22, planning the luau on Wednesday. Dr. Olliff is working with the SGA to help them coordinate their yearly schedule with the professors.

Dr. Kolasa reported that five students have been recruited on the Montgomery campus to look into creating an SGA. Vice-Chancellor Ray White is very interested. They are looking at what model to follow in creating an SGA.

E. Campus Reports

i. Dothan Campus—Dr. Olliff reported that Dr. Jee Hae Lee hosted the first annual Yes We Can Speak Out Contest bringing 15 essayists from Dothan high schools. "Yes We Can" is a public education advocacy group. The math department hosted Math-Fest, with funding from NSF on Saturday 26 March, with 80 participants for a full day of math research presentations. College of Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research Forum will take place Sunday 10 April to mark the beginning of National Undergraduate Research Week on 11-15 April. Dothan campus Heritage Week will take place 18-22 April with a variety of events and entertainments, culminating in Honors Convocation on 22 April.

ii. Global Campus—Dr. Esteves had lost electronic contact with the Senate, but probably would have had an interesting and entertaining report.

iii. Montgomery Campus—Dr. Kolasa reported that February's Friday night movie was *The Blind Side*, which was coordinated with Black History Month committee. Campus Security has been improved by the constant presence of security officers in outlying parking lots at later hours. The History and Social Sciences Association will be visiting the Hyundai plant.

iv. Phenix City Campus—Dr. Burgan reported that Dr. Andrew Creamer, Chair of the Psychology and Counseling Department at Troy campus, is now interim chair at Phenix City as well.

v. Troy Campus—Dr. Allard reported that Greek philanthropy projects are always in full swing in the Spring. Campus preview day was the previous Saturday, with more than a thousand students visiting campus. Many students tried out for scholarships in the music and theater departments. On Thursday 31 March Patty Duke will deliver the Helen Keller Lecture. The Larry Blakeney Roast will be in Montgomery on 16 April to raise money for additions to the football locker room complex

vi. Library—Mr. Webb had no report.

F. Constitution Review—Dr. Allard introduced a resolution, "Faculty Senate Policy on Attendance," that allows for those Senators who have legitimate or authorized reasons for extended lack of attendance of Senate meetings—such as Family Leave, Sabbatical, or military service—to be temporarily replaced by an appointment by the President with consent of the Executive Board. The purpose of the resolution is to quickly replace Senators in these cases so that their constituents will not be without representation while they are gone, not to exceed six months.

Dr. Shelton said that this resolution will be introduced as New Business.

H. Chronicle Survey Review Committee: Dr. Blum reported that the survey sent to all faculty has been completed, and results of the survey will be discussed at next week's meeting.

- I. Faculty Senate Excellence Award—Dr. Blum reported that there are 6 or 7 applicants, and asked for volunteers for the committee to chose a winner. Dr. Shelton asked for volunteers, especially encouraging members from outside Troy campus.

7. Old Business—there was no old business.

8. New Business

- A. Dr. Shelton introduced a draft resolution that gives the president authorization to assign moneys from the Senate’s Foundation account (for the payment of the honorarium to the Faculty Senate Excellence Award winner in particular) with approval of the Executive Committee and with notification to the Senate. The resolution was approved.
- B. Dr. Shelton introduced the resolution pertaining to temporary appointment of replacement Senators, as discussed by Dr. Allard in her Constitution Review report. There was no discussion and the resolution was passed.
- C. Dr. Ingram elaborated on the plans to create a School of Science and Technology within the College of Arts and Sciences. There is a strong movement in place to develop the School to concentrate on real-world application of science and technology. Computer technologies and the environmental sciences are good examples of subjects that can be made to connect with “the outside.” Two other departmental changes are imminent—the creation of a Department of Computer Science separate from math and geomatics to stand up this fall, 2011. Similarly, Criminal Justice will become a separate department this fall.

Dr. Blum asked for clarification of the administrative structure within the College of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Ingram said that the plan right now, subject to modification, is to have within A&S History and Social Sciences departments with chairs who report directly to the dean as they do now. There would also be, within A&S, a School of Science and Technology with a director who reports to the dean, just as the School of Journalism now has a director who reports to the Dean of CCFA. Those disciplines that relate to Science and Technology would fall under the umbrella of the new School. Dr. Shelton asked Dr. Ingram if he would report to the Senate on the reorganization of Global Campus at the April Senate meeting. Dr. Ingram said that the plan is still in the process of being shaped, and he will be glad to report on it once it takes a final shape and is approved by the chancellor.

- D. Dr. Shelton reminded the Senate that the move of the English department to a different college would affect the organization of the Senate, moving one representative from A&S to CCFA. This will have to be addressed by the Senate in the near future.
- E. Dr. Shelton sent out an early call for candidates for the officer elections to be held in June.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 3:49 pm.