

Minutes
Faculty Council Meeting
Wallace Hall

Date: February 26, 2008

Time: 3:03 PM

Members present:

- Dr. Scout Blum (T)
- Dr. Sam Shelton (T)
- Dr. David Hollingsworth (PC)
- Dr. Dianne Eppler (UC)
- Dr. Alyssa Martin (Lib)
- Dr. Dick Williams (D)
- Dr. Timothy Buckner (T)
- Mr. Jim Davis (T)
- Dr. Al Glover (T)
- Dr. Bud Borders (D)
- Dr. James DeLoach (M)
- Dr. Larry Fogelberg (T)
- Dr. Jim Ryan (PC)
- Dr. Mark Walker (T)
- Dr. Andrew Creamer (T)
- Dr. Frank Hammonds (T)
- Dr. Chan Roark (T)
- Dr. Jeanne Wright (T)

Members Absent:

- Dr. Steven Taylor (T) – with notice
- Dr. Sandra Harris (M)
- Dr. Cindy McCoy (T)
- Dr. Allen Dennis (T) – with notice
- Dr. Nirmol Podder (T)
- Dr. Tish Matuszek (M) – with notice
- Dr. Catherine Allard (T)
- Dr. Sue Hayden (T) – with notice

1. Role was called by Sam Shelton.

2. The minutes from the November meeting were reviewed. Mr. Jim Davis was mistakenly not listed at all, and “0-year history” in Item 5(a) should be “10-year history.” Dr. James DeLoach moved approval as amended; Mr. Jim Davis seconded; approved.

3. Old Business

a. Dr. Eppler presented the Faculty Welfare Report. She hopes the committee can meet during the next week. Dr. Blum circulated some salary data, and the committee will review that information as well as other assignments.

b. Dr. Allard was absent, so there was no Academic Affairs Committee report.

c. Dr. Shelton presented the Elections Committee report. This year we have the opportunity to use an online voting procedure that is used currently for the SGA at the Troy campus. This is a contracted situation, and we are able hopefully to tag on to the contract without any additional or no cost to the council.

We have had cooperation from Dr. Roach and Dr. Vardaman of the Personnel Department to get a list of full-time faculty. The online system requires two unique identifiers for a log-in, so we plan to use the faculty member's Datatel ID and their username. Dr. Shelton requested Dr. Roach's approval to send the information to the deans so that they can confirm the information as well.

There are a total of eight (8) positions that will be up for re-election this year:

- 1-Troy campus at large
- 1-Montgomery campus at large
- 2- College of Arts and Sciences
- 2- College of Education
- 1- College of Communication and Fine Arts
- 1- College of Health and Human Services

Sometime within the next couple of weeks, after Spring Break, there will be an all faculty e-mail requesting people to fill these positions and get the ballot prepared. We hope to hold the elections sometime in April.

Dr. Blum suggested that Dr. Shelton to talk a little about the problems that he has encountered, in case someone has some suggestions on what can be done. The most significant problem is that the faculty in University College are not listed by colleges. Since the online system can present only the offices for whom a faculty member is eligible to vote, University College faculty may receive an entire ballot of everyone that is running for all of the positions. Dr. Shelton thinks that through communication in advance and identifying on the ballot what subjects are included in which college that we can avoid most of those concerns.

If anyone has any suggestions about how to work the UC ballots, please contact Dr. Blum or Dr. Shelton. Dean Richardson noted that Vice Chancellor Ingram of University College had provided him with a list of University College faculty associated with the College of Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Shelton thanked Barb Patterson of the Troy Campus, who works with the SGA and other campus organizations and has been very cooperative with helping us out with the elections. He also thanked Dr. Roach and Dr. Vardaman for their assistance in providing lists of faculty at all locations.

d. Dr. McCoy was absent, so there was no Committee on Committees report.

e. Dr. Blum updated the Faculty Council on the work on the faculty salary and Vision 2010. An Ad Hoc committee was formed to study the salary issue. The Vision 2010 document on of the goals of the University includes the goal to raise the faculty salary to the southeast average. The committee has met once to discuss what they needed to gather and they have the information together now, and they have a list of each faculty member and their salaries along with other information. They will be meeting next week. At some point we are going to generate a report which they will distribute to the Faculty Council on what the committee recommends are for that process. We will be discussing this report at the March meeting and finalizing it before sending it on to Dr. Roach.

f. Dr. Blum noted that since the new Constitution was approved almost three years ago, it might be a good time to review and see if we need any amendments or changes for the Constitution. One particular issue may be a standard for determining when a faculty council member's position is considered vacant. This is not specifically defined with in the Constitution as to what that means and we might need to consider adding an amendment to be a little more specific. Anyone interested in serving on an Ad Hoc Constitution Committee should contact Dr. Blum. Dr. Walker expressed an interest in serving on this committee.

g. Dr. Blum noted that the Faculty Council had passed a resolution supporting the adoption of a +/- grading system for Troy University. She spoke briefly with Dr. Roach about this, and he has asked her to attend the Steering Committee's next meeting and to discuss it with the Committee. Dr. Blum hopes to have an update next month on this issue.

4. New Business

a. Liz Scroggins, a Troy student, wanted to be at the meeting to talk about the Higher Education Rally scheduled for March 6, but she felt as if she was coming down with the flu and went to the doctor. She sent Dr. Blum the handouts that she wanted to discuss. Dr. Blum sent these documents out to the council members. Ms. Scroggins just wanted to hand those out and remind everyone about the rally and encourage participation. The rally will start at 11:00 am on the steps of the Capitol.

b. Dr. Buckner discussed the difficulties he has experienced in trying to plan an event at the Troy Campus, such as making reservations and coordinating technology. He had planned an event and at that event the audio did not work. The technicians that we suppose to be there was not on time and the guest speaker had

to wait until they got there and fixed the audio before he could start his speech. Later, Dr. Buckner found out that the techs were playing basketball with one of the fraternities. While reserving the Crosby Theatre, he was told that he had to reserve the lobby separately; he was later told that he did not have to reserve the lobby separately. There appear to be different people responsible for different aspects and the information sometimes conflicts. Since this does not look good for the University, some central person or office to help coordinate these items might be beneficial.

Dr. Cochran explained that you have to make the reservations online and wait until they send you a confirmation for the date and time you requested. The office has both Josh and Jonathan working over there, but it is a lot for them to handle. The position is too big for one part-time employee or a student worker to handle.

c. Dr. Blum noted that there will probably be some changes regarding the Faculty Council webpages. The old website has been maintained by Dr. Steven Taylor on Spectrum. It is outdated and needs to be updated. Dr. Roach has created a Faculty Council webpage within the Standing Committee's website. All of the committee members listed along with their term start and end date, their email addresses, the Council's meeting schedule, and approved minutes for this year. Dr. Roach would like for the Faculty Council to attach onto this website and have one website instead of multiple sites. Dr. Blum wants everyone's comments and suggestions on what should be done and what information should be on the site. She hopes the web address will not be difficult to access, so she spoke with Dr. Roach and Keith Sessions about it. Mr. Sessions assured her that the address would be accessible, such as something like www.troy.edu/facultycouncil. It would have it's own web address The web site will be updated soon and you will be receiving a request for comment email from Dr. Blum. If anyone is interested in helping or working on the website, please let Dr. Blum know.

5. Other Issues

a. Dr. Fogelberg noted that there have been a number of expensive overhead projectors stolen at Bibb Graves. A number of female faculty members and staff have expressed concerns about their safety when working late hours in that building. They feel that there should be some kind of surveillance. Dr. Roach assured the Council that the University is serious about employee and student safety and would look into the camera idea.

If anyone feels unsafe, please call Herb Reeves or the Campus Police. The Campus Police can escort the persons from the building to their cars.

6. The meeting Adjourned at 3:30 PM.