

## **Approved Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting**

**October 25, 2017**

Meeting called to order at 2:02 PM by President Margaret Gnoinska.

**Members Present:** Jennings Byrd, Doug Davis, Dianne Eppler, Patrick Faircloth, Trey Fitch, Margaret Gnoinska, Bill Heisler, John Jinright, Rob Kruckeberg, Gina Mariano, Dabney NcKenzie, Charles Mitchell, John Roufagalas, Michael Slobodchikoff, Danush Wijekularathna

**Members Absent:** Brittney Armstrong (notice), Alberto Arteta (notice), Sherrionda Crawford, George Crowley (notice), Kelly Johnson (notice), Gary Manfredy, Paige Paquette (notice), Jeff Simpson (notice), Joe Teng (notice)

**Others Present:** Dr. Earl Ingram (Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs)

Opening Comments by Dr. Margaret Gnoinska.

- a. Dr. Gnoinska apologized for the hardware problems that prevented a visual connection for the meeting. She also noted that every college would have a homecoming tent and encouraged faculty to participate in the events.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **IV. Executive Committee (Dr. Gnoinska)**

- a. The CCFA college-wide elections for Faculty Senate and Graduate Academic Council will be held this week from Tuesday through Friday via anonymous electronic ballots. Special thanks to Dean Blocher and Dr. Paquette for helping with this.
- b. The Annual Faculty Survey result are in. The Faculty Senate Executive Committee is working to analyze the results in order to present them as an aggregate to the faculty. The survey was sent out to 2,078 email addresses and received 445 responses. We hope to present results in early 2018.
- c. Foreign Languages at Troy University
  - a. Dr. Gnoinska wondered why Troy University, as an international university does not have a foreign language requirement
  - b. Dr. Ingram noted that Troy University offers many foreign language classes in many different languages and that every department has the ability to require language classes as part of their degree. He noted that Troy has different campuses and that degree programs have to be applicable to all campus and not all campuses have the same ability to offer language classes. Dr. Ingram also noted that all students are free to take language classes as part of their electives.

V. Committee on Committees (Dr. Paquette)

- a. **The Undergraduate Academic Council** met this month. Four new classes were approved for the Political Science Department: Politics in the Digital Age, Politics and Culture, Elections, and Terrorism and Counterterrorism. A new Humanities minor and a Greek and Roman Culture course were approved for the College of Communication and Fine Arts. Several prerequisites were changed for courses in the School of Journalism and Communication, and an additional course, Introduction to Advertising, was approved for the Communication Studies Track. The committee approved changes to the Psychology Major in the School of Education, and the Leadership Development Concentration will now be housed in Psychology. Any changes for the Fall 2018 catalog must be approved by the UGAC before January, so if any faculty members would like to request curricular changes, they should send the requests soon.
- b. **The IRB Committee** is continuing to work on updating its training, quiz, and policies to comply with new Federal regulations regarding research on human subjects and to ensure that the training and assessment addresses appropriate material. The goal is to have everything completed by January. Those who are currently certified will not have to retest until their certification expires. They will be grandfathered in. However, all faculty will be informed of the changes to the regulations.

VI. Elections Committee (Dr. Kruckeberg)

- a. CCFA Special Elections Update for October
  - a. The College of Communications and Fine Arts will be holding special elections from 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 25 until 11:59 p.m. on Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. The CCFA will be voting to fill the Graduate Academic Committee and Faculty Senate positions that were left vacant during the Spring elections. (Dr. Paquette is handling this.)

VII. Academic Affairs Committee (Dr. Heisler)

- a. Based on feedback from faculty, Drs. Heisler and Gnoinska will be scheduling a meeting with Dr. Deb Fortune to discuss options for use of the syllabus template in Canvas..

VIII. Faculty Welfare Committee (Dr. Jinright)

- a. The Faculty Welfare Committee has been investigating concerns about a reduction in teacher's retirement deductions from faculty paychecks. We are waiting on more detailed information from those faculty who expressed concerns, but it may have stemmed from a new line on faculty pay advices found underneath the Teachers Retirement line that says "Balance." Faculty contributions to RSA are capped at 120% of base pay. The balance number gets smaller as an employee's contributions get closer to the cap. By the end of the year, one may notice that balance is zero and nothing is being deducted, but that is because of the cap. If anyone has any other evidence that their

contributions to RSA last year were suspiciously smaller than previous years, please let John Jinright know so that the investigation may progress further.

- b. The Faculty Senate Survey data is in and analysis has begun. We received 492 responses, which were classified as follows:
  - a. Full Professors 9%
  - b. Assoc. Prof. 21%
  - c. Assist. Prof 18%
  - d. Instructor/Lecturer 19%
  - e. Adjunct 27%
  - f. Prefer not to say 6%
  - g. We captured 63 pages of qualitative data which will be condensed and organized in a meaningful way.

#### IX. Educational Technology Committee (Dr. Arteta)

- a. Dr. Arteta has talked to Dean Reeves about named parking spots of people who are no longer affiliated with the university. Dean Reeves is aware of the situation and is currently working to remove named spots of people no longer attached to Troy University. They are also considering ways to increase the number of faculty/staff spots in current parking lots after the new parking lot is opened.
- b. VisionPoint Marketing has been hired to work on the Troy University Web site.

#### X. Ad Hoc Student Appreciation Day Committee (Dr. Faircloth)

- a. Dr. Faircloth will be meeting with Dr. Connor on November 3 to discuss the timelines for Student Appreciation Day. And then meet with Dr. Rosser-Mims.

#### XI. Dothan Campus (Dr. Manfready)

- a. No report.

#### XII. Global Campus. (Dr. Fitch)

- a. Global campus faculty were contacted to identify their main issues for faculty senate this year. The concerns were:
  - a. Lack of any support staff at some locations
  - b. Hiring approval process time is extremely lengthy
  - c. Lack of appropriate technology for support of communication among campuses
  - d. Grant writing support staff/expertise needed
  - e. Website continues to be a major problem for recruiting

#### XIII. Montgomery Campus (Dr. Roufagalas)

- a. October 26, 2017, there will be a celebration of Troy's 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

- b. The Accounting club will have a food drive on November 17. And there will be a blanket drive for the homeless on November 20.

#### XIV. Phenix City Campus (Dr. Crawford)

- a. National Cyber Security Awareness Month
  - a. Wednesday, 25 October 2017, Troy IT will host a mobile device check-up booth. IT will be located on the Phenix City Campus – 8:00 AM – 6:30 PM, Riverfront lobby
  - b. Bring your mobile devices and have your questions answered on the best ways to secure your devices. IT representatives will review a checklist of safeguards (such as "enable auto-lock", set pin/password, enable erase data function and enable block pop-ups).
- b. The Troy University Center for Water Resource Economics, the Tri Rivers Waterway Development Association and the Georgia Association of Water Professionals will present the fourth annual Regional Water Conference at the Courtyard Marriott adjacent to the Phenix City Riverfront Campus from Oct. 23-25. The interstate meeting is intended to expand knowledge and understanding among water professionals and build relationships that foster collaboration and respect.
- c. Halloween Candy Drive (October 13-31) all donations will be provided to children of the Phenix City Housing Authority

#### XV. Troy Campus (Dr. Faircloth)

- a. Homecoming week: there are events going on throughout the week, culminating in the Homecoming Game against Georgia Southern on Saturday at 2:30
- b. The Office of Civic Engagement is hosting an Anti-Bullying Summit on Thursday 11/9
- c. The Troy campus library is hosting the traveling “Native Voices: Native Peoples’ Concepts of Health and Illness” exhibit through 11/21.

#### XVI. Old Business

- a. Dr. Heisler will be talking to Deb Fortune about the Canvas syllabus issue.
- b. The Study Abroad Fair was successful with many faculty members participating.
- c. International Education Week and Faculty Senate Sponsored Events.
  - a. Revolution and Memory: The Centennial of the Russian Revolution, November 13 (HALL, 1:00 pm)
  - b. Faculty Study Abroad Workshop, November 15 (PAT 330, 10:00 am)
  - c. American Downfall about Russian interference in the American election, November 8
- d. Alabama Supreme Court will hold an official session in Crosby Hall, November 8

#### XVII. New Business

- a. Communication via Canvas Hubs

- a. Dr. Gnoinska mentioned that the College of Arts and Sciences has a very good Canvas hub for communicating with its faculty. Dr. Waldner (Associate Dean for Strategic Innovation in CAS) has said she would be happy to be available to discuss the Hub design for other colleges that may be interested.
- b. Special Elections
  - a. Dr. Gnoinska noted that in the past special elections were handled by individual colleges but will now be handled directly by the Faculty Senate to ensure faculty governance and that everyone participates and has the right to vote.
- c. Faculty Survey Results
  - a. The Executive Committee is still processing the data and hopes to make the information available at the beginning of the year.

Adjourned at 3:10 pm.