

Approved Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting

January 31, 2018

Meeting called to order at 2:03 PM by President Margaret Gnoinska.

Members Present: Alberto, Arteta, Brittney Armstrong, Jennings Byrd, Sherrionda Crawford, Doug Davis, Dianne Eppler, Patrick Faircloth, Trey Fitch, Margaret Gnoinska, Bill Heisler, Kelly Johnson, John Jinright, Rob Kruckeberg, Jon Lewis, Gina Mariano, Dabney McKenzie, Charles Mitchell, Paige Paquette, John Roufagalas, Carolyn Russell, Jeff Simpson, Michael Slobodchikoff, Joe Teng, Danush Wijekularathna

Members Absent: George Crowley (notice), Gary Manfready (no notice)

Others Present: Dr. Hal Fulmer (Associate Provost and Dean of First Year Studies)

Opening Comments by Dr. Margaret Gnoinska.

- a. Dr. Gnoinska noted that she had asked Dr. Fulmer to address the Faculty Senate to discuss the Faculty Development Committee's application process, possible collaboration between the FDC and Development Office, as well as the University Research Council, to increase funding, challenges to first year students, especially conditionally-enrolled students, and any resources available to help them.
- b. Dr. Gnoinska also noted that Dr. Porter's retirement reception was that afternoon.

Guest Speaker Dr. Hal Fulmer (Associate Provost and Dean of First Year Studies)

- a. FDC
 - a. The FDC attempts to subsidize faculty research and paper presentations. The budget is \$100,000. Of that, 70-80% goes to conference presentations. There has been no attempt to delimit who gets funds for papers. Faculty Development is restricted to faculty who hold rank, but lecturers have been allowed to apply with a letter of support from their dean.
 - b. The FDC also is meant to support instructional improvement. This has historically been for tech devices to be used in the classroom but has increasingly morphed into requests for iPads. This is something that needs to be rethought.
 - c. The remaining money is intended for research and summer grants. The FDC doesn't want to turn anyone down, and the FDC tries to help everyone even if that means cost sharing with deans.
- b. FDC Budget
 - a. Dr. Fulmer encourages the chancellor to increase the budget every year. We may need to consider making the FDC a more competitive process with research grants in which some people may be declined.
- c. The University Research Council
 - a. The URC is under the auspices of Dean Mary Ann Templeton, Dean of the Graduate School. It is meant to address general issues of research.
- d. The Development Office
 - a. This is outside of academics and the Senate should talk to Walter Givhan directly.

- e. Paperwork
 - a. The FDC is working on making all of the necessary paperwork going through echosign.
- f. First Year Studies
 - a. This is more of an issue on the Troy campus in which there is the growing problem of college readiness. 51% of new students at the Troy campus are in at least one developmental class, and 25% of those are in both developmental classes. Troy University is committed to college access and is not an elite university.
 - b. One of things Dr. Fulmer would like to see is that all developmental students be advised by the Center for Student Success. He hopes to implement a “daily touch” program in which students would have their developmental classes meet more frequently to reinforce learning. He also noted that developmental students had special considerations when advising them. For example, students in developmental English probably should not be taking humanities classes that are heavy in reading and writing. He also noted that many universities require developmental students to attend a summer program, which is something Troy should consider.
- g. Questions/Answers
 - a. Dr. Arteta asked about whether or not the FDC could be used for international faculty who might want to hire editors to proofread for English usage.
 - i. Dr. Fulmer said this would be worth considering.
 - b. Dr. Faircloth asked about FDC support for sabbaticals.
 - i. Dr. Fulmer said that the faculty handbook governed sabbaticals and that supervisors had to approve it. He noted that Troy is quite flexible with sabbaticals.
 - c. Dr. Slobodchikoff asked whether there would be a reduction in the number of scholarships awarded to students.
 - i. Dr. Fulmer noted that this was not part of his portfolio and could not say.
 - d. Dr. Gnoinksa asked if conditional students met our standards for enrollment then why are they conditional.
 - i. Dr. Fulmer noted that conditional students meet part of our requirements. Unconditional meet all of our requirements. He noted however, that we do have unconditionally enrolled students who are also in developmental classes.

Committee Reports

- V. Executive Committee (Dr. Gnoinska)
 - a. Dr. Gnoinska was invited to a meeting on January 23 of the Alabama Faculty Senate Presidents in Montgomery organized by the Alabama Commission of Higher Education (ACHE). She was unable to attend due to illness but will share the official minutes when she gets them. She does note that the state of Alabama wants to create a strong workforce and therefore undergraduate programs in STEM and Technology will likely see greater funding. She also notes that the governor’s office proposed budget, which includes a 3.5% increase for Higher Education.

VI. Committee on Committees (Dr. Paquette)

- a. It appears several Standing Committees had meetings scheduled for the week we had the snow. Hopefully, a more detailed report will be available in the February meeting.

b. Athletic Advisory Committee

The AAC met Dec. 8 to approve all athletic schedules for the spring. There were no major problems. Jeremy McClain, the athletic director, provided an update of the current state of the athletic program. Highlights from last semester were beating LSU and also winning the New Orleans Bowl.

c. Faculty Development Committee

The deadline for Faculty Development grants for Spring 2018 is Friday, February 2nd. The Faculty grants are for Paper Presentation, Research Grants, and Summer Research Grants are available for full-time, tenure track/tenured faculty. Pending availability of funds, fulltime lecturers, with established research activities and permission of dean may apply for Paper Presentation Grants. This is the only Faculty Development Grant available to a lecturer. The committee will meet later in February.

d. Graduate Academic Council

Prior to the holidays, the Health and Human Services Masters of Social Work position was vacated. The position is currently available, and self-nominations are still being accepted.

e. Institutional Effectiveness Committee

The Institutional Effectiveness Committee appointed a representative from the Faculty Senate as a member of the committee. Dr. Paige Paquette, Vice-President of the faculty Senate was appointed to the position. The committee's next meeting is scheduled for March 5th.

f. Undergraduate Academic Council

The Council met on January 10th. Titles were changed for TROY 1102, now called *Major Exploration and Planning* and TROY 3300, now called *College to Career*. The council also decided on title changes to current courses and additional new courses for the Interdisciplinary Studies Curriculum. The Council approved changes to the Aviation Operations Minor and the removal of the Liberal Studies program. The Council passed motions for the removal of the Forensic Accounting Concentration and Certificate, the Managerial Accounting Concentration, and prerequisite changes for Economic and Finance courses. The Council approved the removal of prerequisites for several psychology courses and also the addition of two new courses to the psychology curriculum. The Council passed a motion to change the ASN program requirements and to combine some of the nursing classes into one course. The Council approved the removal of the physical activity course requirement in HSTM, the changes in

prerequisites for some of the program's courses, a change in course description for a course, and the addition of a Practicum course to replace a Current Issues course.

- g. There are many Standing Committees that have not updated minutes from previous meetings in a long period of time. The Faculty Senate is requesting that all Standing Committees update their minutes and assure continued updating as the committees meet. It is important that the minutes from these committees are available on the Standing Committee website.

VII. Elections Committee (Dr. Kruckeberg)

- a. We are starting the groundwork for the upcoming Faculty Senate elections.

VIII. Academic Affairs Committee (Dr. Heisler)

- a. According to Jessica Kimbro, the Director of Graduate Admissions, the Graduate Recommendation form is now available to students in the Admissions "Recruiter" system. The form which is now provided in the Graduate Admissions Application process gives students the option to waive their right to review faculty recommendations for graduate school. However, the previous echo-sign version is also available separately online and students have the ability to use either version. Therefore, if a student requests a letter of recommendation from a faculty member, the faculty member will have to suggest that the student use the form provided in the Graduate Admissions Application process when applying to the Graduate School if the faculty member wants the student to be able to waive the right to review the recommendation.
- b. Last November, the Senate passed a recommendation to give faculty members a number of options for posting their syllabi in online Canvas courses. The recommendation had 3 parts: use the syllabus template in the Canvas course shell, add a traditional syllabus as a pdf attachment under the Canvas syllabus tab, or do both. The text of the recommendation is in the Senate minutes for November. The recommendation was forwarded to Dr. Cavin for presentation to the Academic Steering Committee. The ASC did not meet in December; however, Dr. Fortune will present the Senate's recommendation at the February meeting.

IX. Faculty Welfare Committee (Dr. Jinright)

- a. The Committee is working on analyzing the Faculty Survey results.

X. Educational Technology Committee (Dr. Arteta)

- a. There were some questions by faculty members about the weighted grade column in Canvas and whether or not it functioned properly.

- b. It was also noted that there are some Web sites that provide quiz and assignment answers for online courses. Greg Price noted that it might be possible to block them but that it would likely be ineffectual as other networks would simply pick it up.

XI. Ad Hoc Student Appreciation Day Committee (Dr. Faircloth)

- a. Has confirmed that the Chancellor will make an annual address for Student Appreciation Day. The committee will be meeting soon to discuss things further.

XII. Dothan Campus (Dr. Manfready)

- a. No report.

XIII. Global Campus. (Dr. Fitch)

- a. No report.

XIV. Montgomery Campus (Dr. Roufagalas)

- a. No report.

XV. Phenix City Campus (Dr. Crawford)

- a. Troy University Phenix City welcomed the Chongqing Normal University faculty to our campus and community on yesterday (Tuesday, January 30). The visit featured visits to the Riverfront Campus, Phenix City Schools Career & Technical Education Programs and our state of the art STEM lab. The visit concluded with a stop at Pitts Hall providing TROY and CNU faculty a time to visit.

- b. Suicide Awareness 101: What More Can You Know?

When: Thursday, February 15th @ 6:00PM CST

Where: Troy University, Montgomery Campus

Rosa Parks Auditorium

Description: Students are invited to join a conversation to learn about suicide, who it affects and what can be done to

prevent it. Sponsored by the Trojan Suicide Prevention Program in conjunction with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and Chi Sigma Iota.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/suicide-awareness-101-what-more-can-you-know-tickets-42542410495>

Point of Contact: Dr. Kanessa Miller Doss @ kmdoss@troy.edu

- c. Suicide Awareness 101: What More Can You Know?

When: Wednesday, February 21st @ 5:30PM EST

Where: Troy University Phenix City Riverfront Campus

Room #216

Description: Students are invited to join a conversation to learn about suicide, who it affects and what can be done to prevent it. Sponsored by the Trojan Suicide Prevention Program in conjunction with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, Psychology Club and Chi Sigma Iota.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/suicide-awareness-101-what-more-can-you-know-tickets-42514423786>

Point of Contacts: Dr. Sherrionda Crawford @ scrawford@troy.edu or Dr. Shelley Reed @ sreed36535@troy.edu

- d. COE Research Symposium- Thursday, march 29 from 8:00-5:00 CST
 - A. Keynote speaker and breakout sessions focused on navigating the IRB process, Research Design (Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods), as well as additional sessions focused on academic writing and the publication process.

XVI. Troy Campus (Dr. Crowley)

- a. The Student Services Office and Troy University Police has been offering a series of “Run, Hide, Fight” seminars this week (Jan. 29-Feb. 2) on the Troy Campus. These are trainings around the topic of how to respond to emergency situations on campus. Space is apparently limited, so if interested in this training folks need to register by emailing the Student Services office. An email went out on this earlier in the month from Herbert Reeves’s office.
- b. The long-awaited new Trojan Fitness Center had its official groundbreaking and its construction is underway in what was the parking lot next to Sartain.
- c. The Office of Career Services and the Schmidt Center for Student Success announced the “Career Closet” which will provide professional clothing for students to use for interviews, career fairs, etc. They are soliciting donations of professional dress (suits, shirts, ties, shoes, skirts, dresses, etc.) to stock the closet, which will be located on the 3rd floor in Bibb Graves Hall. Donations can be dropped off at Eldridge Hall, or they will pick them up if you contact the Office of Civic Engagement.
- d. As part of the 2018 Leadership Conference Celebrating African American History Month, Rep. John Lewis will be on campus to give an opening address on Friday Feb. 2 in Sartain Hall. Rep. Terri Sewell will also be part of the conference program on Feb 3.

XVII. Old Business

- a. See committee reports.

XVIII. New Business

- a. Elections
 - i. Please encourage your colleagues to run.
- b. University Stand Committees
 - a. There are 16 committees on the Troy campus. Less than half are active. Some have not met in years. Dr. Gnoinska will reach out to make sure that all committees are active.
- c. Faculty Excellence Award
 - a. Please nominate lecturers for this award which will be recognized at the Honor's Convocation. The nominations are due by April 1 and you can find the forms on the Faculty Senate Web Site.
- d. Student Athletes
 - a. Encourage faculty to fill out that academic progress reports to help student athletes.
- e. Other
 - a. Dr. Faircloth mentioned the possibility of exploring free parking.
 - b. Dr. Faircloth also inquired as to whether or not faculty would have free membership or discounted membership to the new fitness center.

Adjourned at 3:34 pm.